AEWC Gets a Second "AC²T"

The Division of Adult and Career Education enthusiastically announces beginning this school year the Alternative Education and Work Center (AEWC) program will be redesigned and renamed the "Accelerated College and Career Transition" (AC²T) program. This highly innovative program will continue to focus on re-engaging out-of-school youth and young adults 16-24 years old. Many elements and components of the AEWC program will continue as they are in alignment with the objectives in the LARAEC Regional Plan, which outlines the creation of seamless programs and pathways to workforce and higher education.

Division Administrator, Ms. Dora Pimental-Baxter, is very enthusiastic about the new direction. "We have an opportunity to expand and repurpose AEWC into the AC²T Program. Our focus will be engaging our youth and offering our students hope, possibility and a warm, caring learning environment that inspires them to succeed." Latasha Hawthorne, AC²T Program Specialist, added, "We will continue providing personalized, quality instruction that helps students triumph in spite of their many obstacles-ensuring that they are college-prepared and career-ready!"

Key components of AC²T will include:

- Utilizing specific enrollment criteria (e.g., credits, reading assessment, college and career goals) to determine appropriate placement.

- Offering a standards-based and competency based curriculum, which includes the A-G courses and multiple instructional formats to meet the students' diverse needs (e.g., independent and online study, direct instruction, tutoring, and small group learning).

- Providing enhanced guidance and support for each student through individualized student plans (ISPs).

- Implementing an accelerated learning model in which students work on multiple requirements simultaneously.

- Encouraging students to enroll in pre-apprenticeship, apprenticeship, and/or other Career Technical Education (CTE) training programs while they complete high school requirements.

- Increasing future collaboration with the Los Angeles Community College District (LACCD) to provide opportunities for dual enrollment in college courses.

- Collaborating with the District to facilitate student referrals for non-graduates.

- Supporting the District's vision to provide quality education conducive to student success with an emphasis on students being college-prepared and career-ready.

- Contributing to the District's 100% graduation rate and supporting the Board's Zero Dropout rate resolutions and initiatives.