

TPS Securing our Future

Topeka Center for Advanced Learning and Careers (TCALC)

TCALC is an innovative high school program created in partnership with business and industry, with concentrations in four strands:

- Engineering and Advanced Manufacturing: Architecture; Robotics; Computer Integrated Manufacturing; Design Process for Engineers
- Bioscience & Biomedicine: Environmental Science and Animal Health; Energy; Molecular Medicine and Bioengineering; Bioscience Research
- Business Technology and Media: Global Economics, Marketing and Business; Technology Solutions; iMedia; Filmmaking; Interactive Design
- Human Services: Teacher Education; Sports Medicine; Foundations of Medicine; Law and Public Safety; Emergency and Fire Management

TCALC is all about students solving real-world problems, with real tools, used by real professionals, being mentored by real employers... leading to real contributions in the professional arena.

Students fast-forward into their future as if they already have a college degree and are fully immersed in a professional culture. They use industry-standard tools, which lead to substantial growth and learning during the formative high school years. And, students learn from global and local leaders, such as Stormont-Vail HealthCare, Westar Energy, Valeo Behavioral Health, and Meals on Wheels, who have all chosen to partner with Topeka Public Schools and share the program's commitment to educate the future leaders of America.

TCALC is an example of partnership between business, community and public education. These partnerships educate tomorrow's workforce through personalized learning experiences in preparation for high-skill, high-demand jobs. Early career professional skills like project management, business ethics, time management, teamwork, and creativity are instructed, modeled and measured.

Topeka Center for Advanced Learning and Careers is not a vocational program. It is a program that provides students with opportunities to deeply explore professions of high interest through a profession-based, inquiry learning method. Local and global business partners participate with highly skilled instructors to provide authentic exposure and skill acquisition in high-demand, high-skill 21st century professions.

Topeka Public Schools 624 SW 24th Street, Topeka, Kansas 66611-1294 785/295-3000

Requirements for enrollment:

- Attained junior or senior status
- Desire to work in a profession-based, real-world environment with other TPS high school students
- Be willing to comply with business ethics (e.g. attendance) and dress codes as determined by the type of TCALC focus
- Be willing to spend 2.5 hours a day away from their home high school
- Be able to coordinate transportation – either through the district or personally – to TCALC and business partnership sites



**Topeka Center for Advanced Learning and Careers
USD 501, Topeka Public Schools**

The Topeka Center for Advanced Learning and Careers (TCALC) is an innovative high school program created in partnership with business and industry concentrating in four areas: Engineering and Advanced Manufacturing; Bioscience & Biomedical; Business, and Human Services. The Center is all about students solving real problems, with real tools (used by real professionals), being mentored by real employers, and leads to real contributions in the professional area.

Students enrolled in the Topeka Center for Advanced Learning and Careers Program, fast forward into their future as if they already have a college degree and are fully immersed in a professional culture. Students use industry standard tools which lead to substantial advanced contribution during the formative high school years. Students learn from global and local leaders, such as Westar Energy, Valeo Behavioral Health, Stormont Vail, and Meals on Wheels who have chosen to partner with the district and share the program's commitment to educate the future leaders of America. The Center is an example of how business, community and public education can partner to produce personalized learning experiences that educate the needed workforce of tomorrow, especially in high skill, high demand jobs. Early career professional skills like project management, business ethics, time management, teamwork, and creativity are learned through instruction and modeling.

TCALC is not a vocational program. The Topeka Center for Advanced Learning and Careers provides students the opportunity to deeply explore professions of high interest through a profession-based, inquiry-based learning method. Local and global business partners participate with highly skilled instructors to provide authentic exposure and skill acquisition in high demand/high skill 21st century professions.

Requirements for Enrollment:

1. Attained junior or senior status and on-track towards graduation;
2. Desire to work in a profession-based real world environment with other TPS high school students;
3. Be willing to comply with business ethics (e.g. attendance) and dress codes as determined by the type of TCALC study they are involved in;
4. Be willing to spend 2.5 hours a day (morning or afternoon) away from their home high school; 7:30 am to 10:00 am **or** 12:30 to 3 pm; and
5. Be able to coordinate transportation either through the district or personally to TCALC sites and business partnership sites.

Program Areas and Courses Offered: (Current and Proposed)

TCALC is driven by the changing workforce needs of industry, therefore instructors and TCALC Business Partners co-author all coursework. TCALC curriculum is dynamic, constantly evolving to follow industry trends and market changes using a copyrighted rapid prototyping curriculum development process.

- **Bioscience/Biomedical Strand** – Environmental Science and Animal Health; Energy; Biomedical and Foundations of Medicine; Molecular Medicine and Bioengineering; Bioscience Research;
- **Business Technology and Media** – Global Economics, Marketing and Business; Technology Solutions; iMedia and Interactive Design; Filmmaking;
- **Engineering and Advanced Manufacturing** – Architecture; Robotics; Computer Integrated Manufacturing; Design Process for Engineers; and
- **Human Services** – Teacher Education; Emergency and Fire Management; Law and Public Safety.

The Topeka Public Schools, Unified School District No. 501 is committed to affirmative action and equal opportunity. No person shall, on the basis of age, race, color, creed, religion, sex, sexual orientation, gender, gender identity or expression, disability, national origin or ancestry be denied lawful access to any appropriate educational service, program or activity provided by the school district. The Title VI and Title IX compliance coordinator is the Assistance Superintendent for Teaching/Learning/Administration. The Section 504/Title II compliance coordinator is the Coordinator of College and Career Ready Services. For employment, the EEO/AA officer is the general director of human resources. All compliance coordinators may be contacted at 624 SW 24th Street, Topeka, KS 66611-1294, (785) 295-3000. The clerk of the Board of Education has been designated to receive and redirect or handle inquiries regarding nondiscrimination policies, regulations and procedures. The clerk may be contacted by calling (785) 295-3045 or by writing to 624 SW 24th Street, Topeka, KS 66611-1294.