

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE



Groundbreaking Educational Opportunity

Chico State Construction Management and Civil Engineering Students Learn to Build

Chico, CA – Ditching the computer for dirt and heavy machinery, Construction Management and Civil Engineering students from Chico State recently received an exclusive, on-site experience from the Chico Unified School District's Facilities Team. Soon-to-be college graduates were offered a tour of the infrastructure work underway at the new Inspire School of Arts & Sciences construction site.

Serving as more than just a place for hard hats and heavy machinery—it's an open-air classroom highlighting the power of our K-12 school district, charter school and higher education collaboration to fuel practical, career-ready student learning opportunities in a way that benefits our entire community.

On Friday, September 26, the Chico Unified School District (CUSD) Facilities Team partnered with Modern Building Company, and McGuire and Hester administration teams (*a heavy civil site work and landscape contractor*) to provide a tour of the current construction activities at the new Inspire School of Arts campus located along Fremont Street.

"We are fortunate to live in a community that prioritizes education. Our community has passed bonds to help build educational facilities that our students can be proud to attend. The partnership between our local charter schools, local construction companies and local college community demonstrates our strong commitment to investing in our community. "We're excited to help build future leaders in education and engineering," said Julie Kistle, CUSD's Director of Facilities and Construction. "By opening our construction process to local college students, we're fostering an invaluable experience and real-world exposure that goes far beyond classroom learning alone."

Construction Management and Civil Engineering Students had the opportunity to discuss the planning, budgeting, design and project management necessary for the new school construction. This innovative collaboration is a model for how educational institutions at all levels—K–12 and higher ed—can collaborate to elevate student learning, inspire career pathways, and invest in the next generation of leaders.

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Additional Notes

- *The Inspire construction project is made possible thanks to voter-approved bonds. Learn more about how Chico Unified uses bond dollars to expand student learning. [CUSD bond information.](#)*
- *"Housed in the College of Engineering, Chico State's CMGT program transforms students' curiosity into graduates ready to join a high-profile team of construction leaders out in the*

workplace.” – [California State University, Chico Construction Management Program \(website\)](#)

- “The Beavers, Inc., a professional construction organization, has a long history of honoring the leaders of today’s heavy construction industry and supporting the people who will shape its future—our students.” – [California State University, Chico website](#)
- Inspire School of Arts and Sciences is building its campus on 9 acres of the Chico Unified School District property along Bruce Road on the south side of campus. [Learn more on the Inspire website.](#)