

**Communities**

- ▶ Cedar Hill
  - News
  - Sports
  - Education
- ▶ DeSoto
  - News
  - Sports
  - Education
- ▶ Duncanville
  - News
  - Sports
  - Education
- ▶ Lancaster
  - News
  - Sports
  - Education
- ▶ Grand Prairie
  - News
  - Sports
  - Education

**Features**

- ▶ Classifieds
- ▶ Place An Ad
- ▶ In Common
- ▶ Opinions
- ▶ Letter to the Editor
- ▶ Lifestyles
- ▶ Archives

**Special Sections**

- ▶ AutoworldToday
- ▶ SW Address
- ▶ BSW Real Estate Magazine
- ▶ View All

**Today Newspapers**

- ▶ Subscribe
- ▶ Advertise
- ▶ Policies
- ▶ Contact Us
- ▶ Work for Us
- ▶ About Us
- ▶ Links
- ▶ Guestbook
- ▶ Rack & Dealer Locations

**Archives**

▶ Search Archives

Advanced Search

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**Grand Prairie » News**

**Dubiski Career School lining up courses, kids**

By KIRK DICKEY  
*Wednesday, December 10, 2008 9:24 AM CST*

News Editor

Progress on the Dubiski Career High School at the corner of Warrior Trail and Highway 161 is obvious from almost a mile off.

Walls are going up and construction seems to be going smoothly. But there is more building going on than of the facility itself.

Program organizers are building a buzz about the school and what it will offer, by presenting showcases and parent meetings for students around the district. At the showcases, students get a hands-on experience, learning about computer graphics, emergency medical training, cosmetology and media technology.

Eulisses Joven, an eighth grader who recently attended one of the showcases, proclaimed the school "pretty cool." He is interested in attending, so he can pursue a career as an architect like his father.

He said the showcase gave him a better understanding of the career and he likes the idea that Dubiski is a school of choice, opening up options for him.

The showcases have been going on since mid-November and organizers said by the time they are through, every eighth and ninth grader in the district will know what Dubiski is.

"We want everybody to know, because we don't want anybody to say, 'I really wanted the opportunity, but I didn't know it was time for the application process,'" MarketPlace Facilitator and one of the showcase organizers, Beth Rustenhaven, said.

Rustenhaven and GPISD Career and Technology Director Jim Ziegler are fine-tuning the application process and hope to have applications available for download from the district's website by Christmas break.

Ziegler said that the response from parents and students has been overwhelming. At one parent meeting, where organizers expected just 150-200 people, he said about 500 showed up, so many that people had to stand in the hallway and listen to the presentation through open doors. He said that was about a 30 percent draw of parents, indicating that they are at least interested enough to attend a meeting.

"If that (30 percent) works out to be the number, that will meet our goal of 500-700 full time students in the first year," Ziegler said.

The school is open to all high school students, with juniors and seniors being bussed in from their home high school to attend classes. But the school's programs will grow as students move through its ranks.

Next year's tenth graders will be the first to receive diplomas from the new school, which promises to offer the normal high school experience with the added benefit of career training.

Learn more by clicking on the Dubiski Career High School link at [www.gpisd.com](http://www.gpisd.com).

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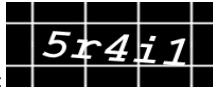


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