

# Foster H.S. Engineering Design

4400 FM 723  
Richmond, TX 77406



August 22, 2011

Dear Students and Parents:

## A Sneak Peek

I'm so excited you've signed up for **Principles of Engineering**. This course is the second course in the **Project Lead The Way** sequence but it is way more than IED part 2. This survey course of engineering exposes students to major concepts they'll encounter in a postsecondary engineering course of study. You'll certainly find this course challenging but extremely rewarding as you tackle real-world problems and build crazy contraptions that solve them. This course uses the VEX Cortex robotics system among lots of other exciting and expensive equipment. Projects this year include stressing metal to its breaking point, building a device that can sort different types of marbles, and powering a car with a hydrogen fuel cell. If building cool gadgets and gizmos is something you dig, you're in the right place!

Please know that I take it as a personal challenge to see that your child becomes the best student and person he or she can possibly become. I promise to do my best to teach, motivate, encourage and care for your child as I would my own. I am driven to see your child experience success in my classroom, and look forward to an incredible year.

## Safety First

Strong emphasis is given to safety in the lab. Due to the nature of the class, some projects may require work to be done with small hand and power tools. Each student will receive instruction and must demonstrate ability to operate such equipment before using certain tools on projects. **No student will operate any machine or use any hand tool within the lab without having an emergency form on file.**

## The Stuff YOU Need

This class offers the student the opportunity to learn the CAD software as well as learn hands-on techniques for project and model development. All supplies and materials for projects will be provided. However, there are a few things your child should have:

**Engineering Notebook**  
**Mechanical Pencils**  
**3 Ring Binder**

**Composition Notebook Quad Ruled**  
**.5 and .7 are recommended**  
**1" works great – Used for portfolio**

**Provided for you!**  
**Any Wal-Mart or office supply**  
**Any Wal-Mart or office supply**

*The following are not absolutely required, but highly recommended:*

Flash Drive  
Colored Pencils

At least 1GB – Used to back-up H drive  
Small set of at least 8 colors

Any Wal-Mart or office supply  
Any Wal-Mart or office supply

I thank you again for the opportunity to work with your child. I strongly encourage and request parent involvement and contact during the year. I gladly keep parents posted on student progress and any concerns that may arise. I believe the students at Foster High School are the best and I love to brag on them. **If you have any questions or concerns, please contact me through the school office at (832) 223-3800 or by email at [jamurphy@lcisd.org](mailto:jamurphy@lcisd.org).** For up-to-date news and information, or to update your contact information, please visit our class website at [www.fostercad.com](http://www.fostercad.com). I look forward to hearing from you soon.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jared Murphy".

Jared Murphy  
Project Lead The Way – Foster H.S.  
[www.fostercad.com](http://www.fostercad.com)

**PS: I hope to meet you personally at Open House August 29<sup>th</sup> to give you a tour of our state-of-the-art lab and classroom!**