

## **Apprentices**

The dilemma facing public education is how to best equip graduates to be college and career ready, possessing both the soft and technical skills necessary to succeed in the STEM workplace or in college. To meet these challenges, Roscoe Collegiate ISD has brought public education and private business into collaborative and mutually beneficial partnerships. These partnerships afford students the opportunity to work in a business as apprentices, thus exposing students to actual workforce problems that require both soft and technical skills.

Apprenticeship opportunities have been established through a collaborative partnerships with the local bar association, Surefoot Studios Edu-Vet, Edu-Drone, and Edu-Weld. These public-private partnerships have provided the opportunity for students to grow in the fields of media production, plant production, large and small animal veterinary work, welding, and drone flight which have very specific and local agricultural applications.

Roscoe Collegiate High School offers students these opportunities during their senior year. In some cases, these are paid student apprenticeships, thus enabling the student to focus their efforts on the apprenticeship rather than working in a part-time job unrelated to student career goals.

## **Externs**

Roscoe Collegiate ISD is excited to offer teachers the opportunity to participate in externships with local industry. Teachers can participate in a 40 hour experience touring, observing, working, and inquiring about local industry. The externship can be divided between two or three local industries. Teacher are required to prepare at least one lesson for students presenting the industry, the education necessary to work within the industry, and the relationship to course content to the industry. Teachers will also be charged with brainstorming with the industry ways that RCHS students could participate in apprenticeships within the industry.