I support the new Texas City ISD Industrial Trades Center:

With over 50 years experience in Industrial Training, both through my career with Union Carbide and as an instructor at College of the Mainland for over 44 years, I have seen the value and success of the many students who have received this type of training.

With the onset of skilled workers retiring and the void of skilled workers needed to replace them, the Texas City ISD Industrial Trades Center (TCISD ITC) is an excellent opportunity to deliver the skilled personnel required to help fill that void.

Texas City ISD has an economically disadvantaged student population of nearly 70%, and the poverty level has increased over the last few years. And, with the advent of this Trades Center training, and the education and skills training that the students will receive, this will be a great support for Texas City industries and Texas as a whole.

The Texas City Industrial Trades Center is offering a program that will support students across Galveston County as well as the workforce for industry. Texas City ISD already has partnerships with neighboring districts and support from area business and industry leaders to train students for skilled labor jobs.

The TCISD ITC will offer training in the following trades: Maritime, Construction Trades, Welding, Pipefitting, Instrumentation & Electrical, Machinist & Millwright, and include certification training on Mobile Cranes, Excavators, Bull Dozers, and Fork Lifts.

It takes a lot of resources, both monetary and equipment, to make this program successful, so I invite you to please give it your serious involvement in any way that you can..

I urge local industry and business to support this effort to possibly improve and train the future workforce that might even include your own future employee(s) some day.

Thank you in advance for your support, consideration and assistance.

Pete Rygaard

College of the Mainland Instructor And, Former Mayor of the City of La Marque