



## *Tri-County Early College*

*“Nothing Less Than Success”*

# GROWTH MINDSET

Tri-County Early College has always been about helping students unlock their potential and we believe that the best way to do that is for students to develop a growth mindset. Students with growth mindsets believe their intelligence, talent and skills can always improve. They work hard, they fail, they learn from their mistakes, and therefore, they grow. They become better prepared for the world and more confident of their place in it.

So for TCEC, it is not about teaching students what to think. Instead, it's all about teaching students how to think. Answers are easy to find in today's technological world. It is no longer about just finding answers; it is knowing what to do with those answers once you find them. This process of learning is harder, but our students and faculty understand that hard is good. The more challenges faced in thinking, the stronger our brains grow. The things that were once hard become easier. The struggles lead to deeper learning.

Too often in today's educational institutions, we see a fixed mindset that believes intelligence is set and cannot grow or change. This has led to a test-taking generation who gauge their inherent intellect and worth based on test scores and grades. Tri-County Early College knows that our students need to become lifelong knowledge seekers, not one-time regurgitations of information for a multiple choice assessment. We know that never failing or struggling means not growing and not learning.

The greatest lesson we want to teach our students is this: “If you want to do something worthwhile, it's going to take a lot of hard work. There will be failures and setbacks, but you must use those as steps to your ultimate goal. Understand that strength, resilience, and perseverance will be needed on your road to success. Hard work, strategy, communication, and use of resources will empower you to become who you want to be. And we believe that with the skills you learn at Tri-County Early College, you can truly change the world.”

*-Alissa Cheek*