

Tom Friedemann, Ed.D.
Francis Tuttle Technology Center

Tom Friedemann is superintendent and CEO of the Francis Tuttle Technology Center in Oklahoma City. Francis Tuttle is a premier provider of career and technology education with an enrollment of nearly 35,000 students. With its four campuses in Northwest Oklahoma City and Edmond, the school district provides a wide array of programs and services that include traditional career-tech majors, college-prep career academies, alternative education programs for at-risk students, customized training for industry and instruction for adjudicated youth.

Tom joined Francis Tuttle in 1997 after having served 19 years in the Oklahoma Department of Career and Technology Education, where he held numerous positions including Curriculum Specialist, State DECA Advisor, State Coordinator for Technology Centers, and Assistant State Director for the agency. While at the state career-tech department, he was responsible for the development of ten new career-tech centers located throughout Oklahoma. Prior to that, he served as Assistant Superintendent at Great Plains Technology Center in Lawton, OK. He began his career as a Marketing Education teacher at Putnam City West High School in Oklahoma City where his DECA chapters continually received state and national honors.

He has authored numerous manuscripts on career-tech education that have been featured in state, national and international publications and is a sought after speaker on career-tech. He has served as President of the National Council of Local Administrators, the Oklahoma Council of Local Administrators, the Oklahoma Career-Tech Foundation, Inc., the Administration Division of the Oklahoma Association of Career and Technology Education, and the Oklahoma Technology Centers Superintendents' Association. He is a graduate of Leadership Oklahoma, Leadership Oklahoma City, the Oklahoma Educators' Leadership Academy, and Duke University's Executive Education for Government Officials Academy. Tom has a master's degree from the University of Central Oklahoma and both bachelor's and doctoral degrees from the Oklahoma State University, where his dissertation on correctional education was recognized by the graduate college for research excellence and used as justification for expanding Oklahoma's system of inmate training centers.

For his outstanding contributions to the field of career and technology education, in 2009, Tom received the Arch Alexander Award, presented by the University of Oklahoma which is one of the highest awards given in career and technology education. In 2012 he was presented with the Distinguished Service Award from the National Council of Local Administrators (NCLA) and in August of 2013 Tom was presented with the Dr. Francis Tuttle Career Excellence Award which is given to individuals whose contributions have been of state and national significance. It is the highest honor one can receive from CareerTech. In 2015, he was named one of Oklahoma's Most Admired CEO's by The Journal Record.