



Front row left to right: Lavoyger Durham, Raul M. Ramirez, Crystal Ramirez-Garcia, Kyle Mooney, Robert Mayo, Zachary Franco, Martin Mayo, & Paul Craig May, Patricia Thornton, Boone Umphres, Micah Charping & Krystal Emery. Back row left to right: Aiden Avelar, Vincent Suarez, Daniel Girgan, Joseph Barrera & Jacob Soto

## **Los Mesteños Career Academy, Riviera Independent School District Partner to Create New Summer Program**

Los Mesteños Career Academy (LMCA) this week kicked off its first ever “Summer Youth Program” in partnership with the Riviera Independent School District (RISD). “We are thrilled to be providing 10 students from Riviera ISD with a work-based learning opportunity”, said Crystal Ramirez-Garcia, LMCA Executive Director. The students will be earning a paycheck while learning important lifelong skills. Students will also be taught the importance of financial literacy and will obtain an industry-based certifications with completion of the National Center for Construction Education and Research (NCCER) program.

Said Ms. Ramirez-Garcia, “Thank you, Riviera ISD for believing in our program and to all our supporters, especially our donors who heled make this program possible. I especially want to thank Patricia Thornton, Superintendent of Riviera ISD, for the constant support and to the Riviera staff for helping us recruit students”. She also gave special thanks to Mr. Boone Umphres, the instructor, the Craft Training Center (CTC) in Corpus Christi, and the Rotary Club of Kingsville for its support and financial donation. Los Mesteños Career Academy, along with its sponsoring nonprofit corporation, has facilitated career education and training opportunities throughout rural South Texas for 16 years. “We are excited to be expanding into Kleberg and Kenedy Counties and we look forward

being part of many new partnerships benefitting their people”, said Ms. Ramirez-Garcia. She said that LMCA will also be sponsoring a junior high training program that will begin in a few weeks for students in Premont, Falfurrias and Riviera school districts. Anyone wanting information about that program can reach her at [crystalgarcia@losmestenos.org](mailto:crystalgarcia@losmestenos.org).