



Front row L to R: Jacob Cabrera, Liana Longoria, Miley Barrera, Tanisha Vela, Megan Pineda

Back row L to R: Scott Rogers, Tony Dominguez, Jessica Quintanilla, Josh Rojas, Mason Montalvo, Javier Cadena, Roman Aluizo, Diego Tijerina, Brenda Ballard, Andy Garza, Crystal Ramirez-Garcia & Oscar Galindo.

## **Los Mesteños Career Academy Celebrates the Graduation of Its 17<sup>th</sup> Annual Summer Program Class**

Los Mesteños Career Academy (LMCA) recently celebrated the graduation of 10 students, four of whom were girls, from the Falfurrias-Premont area. These students completed a rigorous training program in theoretical and hands-on industrial and building skills in LMCA's 17<sup>th</sup> annual program of its kind, many of which have been led by instructor Megan Pineda. At the celebration, new BCISD Superintendent Scott Rogers spoke to the students and emphasized the importance of their accomplishment to the students. CTE Director Oscar Galindo told the students that by having had construction skills knowledge, he was able to earn extra money while he was attending college. He let the students know that they, too, could use their new skills to help themselves, as well. Parents also attended the graduation celebration along with LMCA board member Andy Garza and a representative from Ted Cruz's office, who let the students know that anything is possible for them as long as they put in the effort. Brenda Ballard from Texas A&M University in Kingsville spoke to the students about the importance of

financial literacy and how it would help them throughout their lives. LMCA Executive Director Crystal Ramirez-Garcia concluded the celebration by saying, “We want to thank BCISD for their continued support every year to help our program, as well as the Kenedy Memorial Foundation, the Lou Carter Family Foundation, and the numerous other businesses and private individuals who also contribute financially!”.