



**NEWS RELEASE**  
o: 918.828.5055 | c: 918.899.2927  
contact: ryan.williams@tulsatech.edu

For Immediate Release

**TULSA TECH AND AAON DEVELOP PARTNERSHIP  
FOR NEW MANUFACTURING PROGRAM AT  
GLENPOOL HIGH SCHOOL**  
*Tulsa area business makes groundbreaking donation to establish new  
elective course in Foundations of Manufacturing*

**TULSA, OK – April 19, 2018** – Tulsa Tech and AAON, Inc., along with Glenpool Public Schools, have set up an educational partnership that will enhance the future workforce for the region and impact the lives of many students for years to come.

AAON has pledged a \$100,000 donation toward the construction of the classroom and lab, as well as a commitment to 50% of the operational costs for five years. It is the first such corporate partnership in the history of Tulsa Tech, and is groundbreaking for Oklahoma’s CareerTech system.

“This is an extraordinary commitment to education and workforce training by a leading company and employer in our region,” said Dr. Steve Tiger, Superintendent and CEO of Tulsa Tech. “We are very grateful for partners such as AAON and Glenpool Public Schools, and we cannot wait to work alongside them to lay a path for the future of these students. Our region’s business community is experiencing a skills gap regarding their current and future workforce. This partnership is a tremendous example of education and business partnering in a meaningful way to improve the situation.”

The Foundations of Manufacturing program will be embedded into Glenpool High School and will serve as an elective class opportunity for students. The program is already available to students at Broken Arrow High School and Charles Page High School in Sand Springs. The program engages students within different aspects of the manufacturing process, including automated design and machining, robotics, blueprints, welding and more. Many students then progress to full-time career training programs at Tulsa Tech, including HVAC, welding, machining, drafting, mechatronics and more.

“We are excited to build upon the wonderful relationship that we have with Tulsa Tech, as well as other educational partners like Glenpool Public Schools,” said Norman Asbjornson, AAON CEO. “Manufacturing across the country has a growing skills gap, and this is an opportunity to expand the talent pipeline for our business in a tangible way.”

AAON has nearly 1,700 employees locally, with another 350 employees between its Longview, Texas and Parkville, Missouri facilities. The company operates a 1.37 million sq. ft. manufacturing facility in Tulsa and will be opening a 134,000 sq. ft. state-of-the-art research and development lab in Fall 2018.

“Glenpool is thrilled to offer this type of career training to introduce students to another pathway for a successful future,” said Kim Coody, Principal at Glenpool High School. “Offering a flexible elective through Tulsa Tech is a great way for students to see successful career choices that can be accomplished after graduation.”

**ABOUT TULSA TECH**

Tulsa Tech, the oldest and largest in Oklahoma's CareerTech System, is a career and technology center school district dedicated to educating people for success in the workplace. Tulsa Tech helps high school and adult students from across the Tulsa region explore new careers, upgrade their training and skills, and pursue their dreams. More information can be found at [tulsatech.edu](http://tulsatech.edu).

**ABOUT AAON HEATING & COOLING PRODUCTS**

AAON, Inc. is engaged in the engineering, manufacturing, marketing and sale of air conditioning and heating equipment consisting of standard, semi-custom and custom rooftop units, chillers, packaged outdoor mechanical rooms, air handling units, makeup air units, energy recovery units, condensing units, geothermal/water-source heat pumps, coils and controls. Since its founding in 1988, AAON has maintained a commitment to design, develop, manufacture and deliver heating and cooling products to perform beyond all expectations and demonstrate the value of AAON to our customers.

**ABOUT GLENPOOL PUBLIC SCHOOLS**

Glenpool School District is a growing school district located just outside of Tulsa, Oklahoma, where the top priority is to maintain quality academic and extracurricular programs - a commitment that has been accomplished through the combined, cooperative efforts of the school, the city, and a supportive community. To find out more about Glenpool Public Schools, find us at [glenpoolps.org](http://glenpoolps.org).

###