

Georgia College & Career Academies
Quarterly Report: January – March 2017
Griffin Region College & Career Academy

Mission and Goals

Mission Statement:

"To develop and grow a well-trained workforce by empowering our students with a rigorous and relevant education, excellent soft skills, and the confidence to succeed in a highly competitive world."

Goals:

- Increase dual enrollment at each of the high schools who are partners.
- Provide students with more experience in the workplace prior to graduation.
- Establish private sector engagement and support of the GRCCA.
- Implement teaching and learning that meets the needs of area businesses and industries.
- Increase student enrollment each year.

Need

In preparation for the 2017 – 2018 school year, we were actively recruiting, informing, and ultimately registering students for next school year. MOWR Parent/Student meetings were held at each of the participating school systems. In addition, students were able to go to the GRCCA website and pre-register online.

Partnerships

The main focus on partnerships has been with our technical college partner, Southern Crescent Technical College, and with regional business/industry. We have been working with SCTC to develop new programs for next year as well as offer additional core academics to the course offerings. Out of this work, two new multi-year programs will be launched in August 2017. Much of the work with the business/industry partners has been in support of one of the multi-year programs, the German Apprenticeship Program.

Budget

Building renovations are almost complete, and that has been completed through E-Splost monies and our CCA grant. Much work has been accomplished this quarter as our Director, Dr. Ergle and CEO Arrowood have worked closely with GSCS CFO Ryan McLemore to finalize the budget for the upcoming year. We are also beginning our first fund raiser with a brick paver project for our new courtyard area.

Governance & Leadership

We held GRCCA Governance Board meetings each month this quarter, as well as GRCCA Executive Management Team meetings each month. The Executive Management Team is made up of the three superintendents from our partner counties, a representative from each of our post-secondary partners, the GRCCA board chair and co-chair, GRCCA CEO and Director. The Executive Management Team continues to support and grant good advice to the GRCCA Governance Board. The GRCCA Governance will be completing required annual training in local economic development/workforce development training as well as local Chamber of Commerce offerings.

Timelines

We kicked off the second semester of our inaugural year, with the morning session continuing on UGA-Griffin's campus, and the afternoon session on the Southern Crescent

Technical College campus. Registration for next year is close to completion at the end of the quarter, with some students still completing required entrance exams.

Career & College Focus

All of the pathways offered at the GRCCA are college pathways with the opportunity to earn core academic college credits to transfer towards a degree, a technical college certificate to be used to enter the workforce, or potentially an Associate's degree from one of the post-secondary partners. Each of the 155 students who have attended this year are enrolled in MOWR courses, and each of our offerings in the 2017-2018 Program of Study is a MOWR program or course.

Grade Levels

We currently serve 10th – 12th graders, and these same grades are the one registering for next year. With the heavy influence of all dual enrollment programs, most students have high school requirements they need to finish during their 9th grade year.

Enrollment & Student Focus

All programs are planned with a strong student focus. We currently have 155 students enrolled this year in our various programs. The enrollment goal for next year is 250 students; if pre-registration numbers hold, we will more than surpass this goal next school year.

Student Support

We have continued to offer support both to current students and to those applying for next year. The GRCCA has its own counselor, who works with each of the partner high schools to make sure graduation requirements are met. The Early Alert System has also been used this semester to inform GRCCA's administration if any student is struggling in a college course so that we may offer support to that student in a variety of forms.

Standards & Curriculum

All post-secondary partners are SACS accredited, so all of those standards are met. The curriculum will follow the courses listed to complete a post-secondary degree or certificate. We opened this year offering Technical College Certificate programs in Welding, Automotive, Cosmetology, Film Production, and Forensic Science. We also have students taking MOWR courses in core academics. New programs for the coming year will include: Teaching as a Profession with the first 3 education courses in a University System of Georgia bachelor's degree in education and a practicum in an actual classroom; Pharmacy Technician Diploma or Associates Degree: this is a two year program for Juniors & Seniors; and the Industrial Maintenance Mechanic Diploma/Degree through the German Apprenticeship Model.

Structure

All marketing done thus far emphasizes the professional, collegiate culture that will be a part of the GRCCA. The building plans support this same culture, as well as the soft skills emphasis that will be part of the program. Hosting our classes this first year between two different college campuses has helped to secure the professional and collegiate culture we strive to incorporate.

Faculty & Staff

Dr. Laura Ergle has been named the Director of the GRCCA; she will continue to be Griffin-Spalding School System's CTAE Director as well. We have also two high school teachers to

assist in offering the high school courses some students will need to meet their high school graduation requirements. The teachers are both part time and one will teach British Literature and the other will teach Tools for College Success. In addition to the CEO, we also have a part time counselor/registrar.

Evaluation

CEO evaluation by the board was very positive, including a raise and many plans made to continue the good work started in this region.

Cycle of Improvement

Much work has been completed this quarter in conjunction with the Technical College System of Georgia, Lt. Governor's Casey Cagle's office, the German-American Chamber, Georgia Tech Manufacturer's Extension Program, and local business/industry to launch the German Apprenticeship Model. The GRCCA also continues to provide professional develop to high school counselors and community activist in order to help those who influence our young people be well versed on the opportunities provided by the GRCCA.

Charter School Law

Charter was approved.