

**Georgia College & Career Academies**  
**Quarterly Report: October-December 2017**  
**Worth County High School College and Career Academy**

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**Mission, Goals, and Need**

The mission of WCHS-CCA is to ensure a quality education and access to industry relevant workplace skills leading to graduation and productive citizenship.

**Partnerships, Governance, and Leadership**

Our Board of Directors is in place and meeting on a quarterly basis. We have established leaders and a rotation schedule (5 members on 1 year terms, 4 members on 2 year terms) for service of voting board members. So far, we have met twice (July and September) and will meet and third time in November. Our March meeting will begin our nominations for new voting members to replace those rolling off and elect new leaders among the group if needed. We had planned to have a joint meeting with the Board of Education in January, but schedules have not allowed that so far. Our goal is to have this scheduled by our March meeting. Our Board of Directors has also developed by-laws that will were submitted to the Board of Education for review and approval in November. They should go up for vote in January.

Since our last meeting, we have added an ex-officio member to the board by the name of Mr. Bill Boone. Mr. Boone works with the University of Georgia in Small Business Development. He previously served as the EDA chairman in Worth County and also worked with Moultrie Technical College for several years in their dual enrollment partnerships with our school district. We believe he is a great addition to our board and are anxious to include him in our conversations.

**Commitment and Sustainability**

We created a hybrid schedule that will allow all CTAE courses to run on a 4x4 block schedule while academic classes will remain on a seven period day for the time being. We felt that due to the increased achievement and graduation rate that we have seen in recent years, the seven period day is working well for academics. However, students and teachers alike have expressed a need for more time in CTAE labs. This schedule allows for both. Currently, students can complete two pathways at the most on our current schedule, and that is staying within the same program area and just adding a fourth course (i.e. Patient Care Technician and Allied Health). Under this schedule, all students should be able to easily complete at least two pathways, even if they are in completely different program areas. This is a great improvement over our current system! While this may not pertain to achievement as in test scores, we certainly believe it will lead to more students finding where their true talents and interests lie for more meaningful career pursuits. It will also give more time for dual enrollment courses on or off campus because of the increased flexibility in the schedule. This schedule is also more fiscally advantageous, allowing us to maximize FTE funding to ensure the sustainability of our programs.

A representative from the Board of Directors is present in almost every Kiwanis meeting and multiple members serve on committees at the Chamber of Commerce. Each time we encounter someone we feel will add value to our team, we approach them and ask them to be part of our efforts. We are working hard to ensure that our ties with the community are strong and fruitful for our students. We realize that the real success of our efforts lies in our ability to work well with the community and our educational partners.

**Plan to Address Workforce Development Needs**

We surveyed our Chamber members and all other business partners in our community who were able to participate to gauge how well aligned our programs were with local and regional workforce needs. We then surveyed our students to gauge interest in the program areas we currently offer as well as those that could be added in to better meet the needs of our workforce, such as Industrial Maintenance or one of the Law Enforcement pathways. The Board of Directors examined this data and decided not to add any additional programs in 18-19 because Construction will be reinstated as a dual enrollment program. Law Enforcement is

an area where the community needs and student interest intersects, so there will be more conversations about how to best incorporate that into the curriculum in 19-20.

## **Standards & Curriculum**

Currently, our CTAE programs are each working to build better advisory committees. Five advisors and the Director attended training provided by the Carl Vinson Institute on building and managing more effective advisory boards in November. We will redeliver that content to the rest of the CTAE teachers in February. Currently, Work Based Learning and Early Childhood Education have a joint committee that is very effective and has already met once this year. The other programs have "Program Partners" and are working to build larger committees from their partners. The Board of Directors functions as the advisory committee for the CTAE program as a whole.

Our district does not declare the ADDIE model, but our processes certainly reflect the core values and processes of that model. Data analysis is a key component of our design and decision making at all levels. We also spend a great deal of time and effort evaluating our processes for effectiveness each year.

## **Plan to Increase Student Participation in Move on When Ready**

We are adding a dual enrollment pathway for 18-19 through our TCSG partner, Southern Regional Technical College. They will send an instructor to our campus for the Carpentry pathway, which will be our third technical dual enrollment offering on campus. We also currently offer two USG academic programs through our partner Albany State University. We are currently in conversations about the potential of adding more academic options for 18-19, but that is not finalized at this time.

## **Faculty & Staff**

As of now, we are working on a plan that is aligned to the processes and procedures put in place by new district leadership, all of whom came into their positions after our grant award. Our first personnel meetings took place when we returned from Winter Break. It is too early to report specific personnel and job descriptions/duties for our staff for our first operational year (18-19) as they are not finalized at this time. The only certain change we know at this time is the addition of dual enrollment Carpentry pathway on campus through our partner, Southern Regional Technical College.

## **Plan to Increase Work-based Learning Opportunities**

We are fortunate to have a large and thriving WBL program for a school and community our size. It is the hope of our Board of Directors that the efforts made to foster and build more business partnerships will lead to more opportunities in WBL. We are also working to target businesses who specifically align to our pathways in an effort to place students in meaningful opportunities that are aligned to their studies as often as we possibly can.

## **Grade Levels, Enrollment & Student Focus**

We will serve grades 9-12 beginning Fall of 2018. We have preliminary projections for registration now that show an increased interest in Welding, JROTC, Information Technology, and Healthcare Science. Marketing shows a very small increase, and all other areas maintained numbers with no increase or minimal decrease. We will do official registration in March.

## **Student Support and Structure**

All middle and high school counselors will attend career counseling training this Spring. They will learn the importance of focusing on career interests and advising appropriate pathways for students. Counselors will also participate in local training on purposeful scheduling this Spring to help improve our scheduling practices to ensure that students are enrolled in courses they need and pathways they want to explore.

## **Evaluation and Cycle of Improvement**

We are working on a cycle of improvement that examines both student achievement data of our students in their CTAE programs as well as their collaborating academic areas. We will also continue to collect feedback from all stakeholders to make sure that we are in touch with the community and regional needs. We have not completed our design at this time.

### **Plan to Increase Student Achievement**

We created a hybrid schedule that will allow all CTAE courses to run on a 4x4 block schedule while academic classes will remain on a seven period day for the time being. We felt that due to the increased achievement and graduation rate that we have seen in recent years, the seven period day is working well for academics. However, students and teachers alike have expressed a need for more time in CTAE labs. This schedule allows for both. Furthermore, we predict that End of Pathway Assessment scores will improve using this model because students will complete a pathway in three semesters rather than three years. This should make for greater pass rates on certification exams because the experiences and content will be in a much closer proximity to the test. Finally, students can complete two pathways at the most on our current schedule, and that is staying within the same program area and just adding a fourth course (i.e. Patient Care Technician and Allied Health). Under this schedule, all students should be able to easily complete at least two pathways, even if they are in completely different program areas. This is a great improvement over our current system! While this may not pertain to achievement as in test scores, we certainly believe it will lead to more students finding where their true talents and interests lie for more meaningful career pursuits. It will also give more time for dual enrollment courses on or off campus because of the increased flexibility in the schedule.

### **Charter School Law/District Flexibility Performance Contract**

We are a Strategic Waiver School System. Our most recent contract was approved July 2015. Our amendment to add Worth County High School College and Career Academy to the contract was submitted to Lou Erste in April 2017.

### **Budget**

In our previous report, we stated that we had purchased \$2,500 worth of equipment for one of our CTAE classrooms. Our district decided to recode that expenditure to local funds, so we actually have not spent an of our cash award since then. Our Board of Education expressed concern over the amount of money budgeted to attend Academies of Nashville. That concern was brought to the Board of Directors and it was decided to reallocate those monies to equipment and travel to other Georgia CCAs. We are currently working out a schedule to visit Cairo, Chattahoochee, and Eatonton. If time and budget allow, we will add to this list.

We also had a substantial budget for Marketing and STEM training. Our district made the decision to go with a marketing group for the entire system, which also saves us money there which will be reallocated to equipment for students. A group of our academic teachers across disciplines are currently working on STEM training with a local STEM coordinator from another district. This also saves some of the money we allocated for a specialist to come in and train our staff so that we can focus more on lab equipment and student experiences.

### **Timelines**

We were granted permission to use year one of the grant cycle for planning in July. We have started planning for master schedule and course offerings and will begin professional development for integration of academic and CTAE content in the Spring of 2018 focusing on Math and ELA content integration. We will open our doors to students in Fall of 2018 and continue professional learning efforts, but this time turning our attention to Science and Social Studies integration. We will continue to emphasize cross curricular and co-curricular planning and teaching until evidence tells us it has been mastered. Our goal has been to add at least one more SRTC dual enrollment course on campus and we have accomplished that. Our students will now have Carpentry offered on campus as a dual enrollment course for 18-19. We are also adding Sports Medicine through our partnership with a local physical therapy group.

Our Board of Directors is a cohesive, productive group and is meeting on a regular quarterly schedule. We are looking forward to beginning meaningful collaboration with our Board of Education. Having a liaison from the BOE on our Board of Directors as an ex-officio as well as the support and participation of the district's Curriculum Director and Superintendent are helping to build that relationship and move it forward in a positive direction. The addition of Mr. Boone, who has worked with many of our Board of Education members from an educational and business perspective, helps us build those bridges even more.