

**Georgia College & Career Academies Quarterly Report**  
**Morgan County High School: A Georgia College and Career Academy**

**January – March 2018**

---

**Mission, Goals, and Need**

Morgan County is a uniquely cohesive community with a “WE ARE ONE MORGAN” credo. This belief stems from an understanding that when students are given opportunities to be successful in the classroom, the home, the community and the workforce, students have an increased chance of becoming independent, productive citizens in the 21st century global economy. The mission of Morgan County High School (MCHS): A Georgia College and Career Academy is to prepare life-long learners for an ever-changing world. The mission is simple, yet comprehensive, to position MCHS as a whole school model for a college and career academy. ALL students will have an equal opportunity for a quality education that prepares them for participation in post-secondary coursework and opportunities for high-demand, high-skill, and high-wage jobs.

The need for the College and Career Academy was identified through research conducted by Morgan County Schools, the Chamber of Commerce, Morgan County Family Connections, the Morgan County Office of Economic Development, and Economic Modeling Specialists International (EMSI) utilizing labor market data for the area. Research indicates that as Georgia continues to compete with other states for high paying, highly skilled jobs, it is imperative that an educated, skilled workforce become an integral part of K-12 education. The geographic location of Morgan County along the I-20 corridor has given rise to new economic and business opportunities. The I-20 corridor, along with US 441, serves as a gateway for workforce opportunities connecting the Savannah Ports to Metro Atlanta. Upon surveying local business and industry, it became evident that the school system would better serve the community by preparing students for the high tech, high-demand jobs taking hold in the area. Morgan County’s 2014 graduation rate of 87% was above the state average, but the number of students completing career pathways in CTAE courses was only 19%. Another concern for the community was the number of economically disadvantaged students who were not succeeding in school, engaging in a pathway (31%), or receiving any advance coursework (10%). Through the creation of a College and Career Academy, the goal of reaching each student and finding their passion will be support by the curriculum and the community. Although unemployment rate in Morgan County falls below the GA rate, KIDS Count Data of 5-year estimates (year ending 2012) showed that 6% of youth ages 16-19 were not in school and not working. (See Teens Age 16-19 graph) The most recent 5-year estimates (year ending 2013) showed that number increase to just under 10% - a 64% increase. In addition, survey results conducted with local employers in 2014 highlighted the need for more work ready individuals who had obtained training in computer, professional and soft skills. The Student Engagement Instrument, developed by The University of Georgia, administered to the students of Morgan County High School revealed that MCHS has an emphasis on high school graduation and college readiness, but not on college to career or high school to career readiness. (See Student Engagement Instrument) Therefore, results indicated a strong need for a focus on incorporating career pathways for all students.

The following goals for the MCHS-GaCCA were created and approved with recommendations from numerous steering committee meetings which established support from current and incoming business and industry partners, postsecondary partners, government entities, community services, the school system, parents, and students.

**Goal 1:** To implement a focused K-12 vertically aligned college and career ready concept for Morgan County Schools.

**Goal 2:** To implement a whole school CCA approach in which 100% of students graduate college and career ready.

**Goal 3:** To implement a community of engaged learners who become career pathway completers prepared for high-wage, high-demand careers instructed by teachers who are highly qualified and/or have industry experience.

**Goal 4:** To create a We are ONE Morgan environment that promotes the implementation of 21st century workplace skills.

**Goal 5:** To increase parent engagement by providing multiple outlets through awareness opportunities and programs.

**Goal 6:** To implement a Rolling 6 Year Career Plan for 100% of students through a focused Advisement Program.

**Goal 7:** To become a Move on When Ready (MOWR) Campus by increasing the percentage of students earning postsecondary credits prior to high school graduation through advanced college credit options. (DE, AP, IB).

**Goal 8:** To increase partnerships among postsecondary institutions, local business/industry, and community to increase numbers of students and enhance curriculum and alignment in career pathways linked to the Governor's high-demand Career Initiative.

**Goal 9:** To create a continuum of work-based learning experiences culminating in a published portfolio on the ONE Morgan "Job Board."

**Goal 10:** To embed science, technology, engineering, arts, and math (STEAM) pervasively throughout the curriculum.

**Goal 11:** To govern the CCA in an effective and efficient manner through continuous learning and training culminating in a college and career academy producing measurable results.

## **Partnerships, Governance, and Leadership**

### **Members:**

<b><u>Role on Board</u></b>	<b><u>Name</u></b>	<b><u>Position</u></b>
BOE Representative (Chair)	Bob Hughes	President, Madison/Morgan Chamber of Commerce
Athens Tech Representative	Open	Open
Parent Representative	Scarlett Torok	MCMS Parent
Parent Representative	Kathryn Cardwell	MCHS Parent
Business Representative	Joey Lancaster	Longview Financial
Business Representative	Sherry Terrell-Alexander	Re/Max Agents Realty
Business Representative	Merry Anderson	Amtico/Mannington Mills
Business Representative	Open	
Business Representative	Open	

**Dates for projected meeting:** all future meetings are scheduled on a Tuesday 9:30-11 am  
May 8, 2018

May 15, 2018

## **Commitment and Sustainability**

### **Plan to Address Workforce Development Needs**

- Academies will hold business engagement meeting. Each pathway will team up with their academy to host the Business Engagement meeting (formerly advisory committee meetings)
- Currently meeting with new business partners in the community and with the Chamber of Commerce to develop curriculum. We are working to develop our new pathways for our opening of the CCA in the Fall of 2018.

## **Standards & Curriculum**

NA

### **Plan to Increase Student Participation in Dual Enrollment**

We have received permission to move our Dual Enrollment partnership to Athens Tech beginning the Summer of 2018. We are meeting with their staff to develop a successful schedule of courses; starting with Welding and Cosmetology, and growing into Ag, Healthcare and other subjects as our partnership strengthens.

We have also partnered with GMC and increased our Dual Enrollment course offerings from 2 courses to an available 8 designed into cohorts. This has increased our Dual Enrollment numbers substantially. We are also writing more Dual Enrollment courses into our APP's.

We have administered the Accuplacer to all juniors at the school to help evaluate their options for next year.

### **Faculty & Staff**

We are posting the job opening for new faculty members for the 18-19 school year. We have hired new instructors for our Digital Media, Audit Video and Film, and Mechatronics/Engineering positions. We are still interviewing for a Chef to help grow our Culinary program. Faculty and staff are receiving training each month for PBL and provided time to collaborate blending academic and career tech classes through relating standard.

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

We have a full-time Work Based Learning Coordinator. We have conducted multiple meetings with business and industry to increase WBL. We have also identified and started the conversation with developing a German Apprenticeship like Model with a local business. We recently have designed new WBL partnerships with a local manufacturing and civil engineering firm. WBL opportunities will be written into our APPS for students. (Academy Program Plan)

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

We are going to be a wall-to-wall CCA and will serve 9-12 grade. New building will be complete the Fall of 2018.

### **Student Support and Structure**

Career Pathway Counselor: This position has provided students an additional resource that provides guidance for college and career. She has been able to schedule visits to Technical Colleges and work individually with students who needed to find a direction to help define their career path. Each student has completed YouScience and the results have been discussed in class. We held a parent/student/teacher advisement night on Feb. 1<sup>st</sup> and had a 95% participation rate.

### **Evaluation and Cycle of Improvement**

none

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

We are discussing a change in our current schedule and developing APP's for students. (A.P.P. – Academy Program Plan) With input from our teachers (pathway and academic), counselors, and students, we are developing relevant APPs that will help students to complete a pathway, or two, while recommending courses that that will enhance their interest in their pathway. We have made data from courses (EOPA, EOC, Milestones, etc) available to all teachers and we have provided strategies and training for increasing student achievement across the board.

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

We are a Charter District – renewed Spring of 2016

### **Budget**

Currently we are using our funds for start-up. 3,333,333 has been set aside for building funds and the \$133,000.00 will be used for our startup funds. We used the startup funds to design a marketing campaign and help provide the tools necessary to make our CCA successful upon opening. We have acquired our 501c(3) status and we have a local accountant donating her time to complete the necessary paperwork.

### **Timelines**

Construction is in full swing and on schedule. The building should be complete in Oct of 2018 with students beginning in Jan 2019.