

Georgia College & Career Academies Quarterly Report *TEMPLATE*

Due: March 31, June 30, Sept 30 and Dec 15

Mission and Goals

The mission of the Fitzgerald High School College and Career Academy (FHSCCA) is to empower all students for success by helping each develop professional work ethics, an individual career goal, academic and technical skills, and personal and community values.

Vision:

- The FHSCCA will focus on education and training that meets the needs of local business/industry within the region.
- The FHSCCA will focus on college and careers to prepare students for various career and educational pathways.
- The FHSCCA will focus on raising the aspirations and commitment to increase the level of students' motivation while in high school.
- The FHSCCA will focus on increasing student achievement by providing support to students through close relationships with teachers and fellow students, rigorous and relevant curriculum, attainment of industry-relevant credentialing, and exposure to career and education options outside the high school.

Need

The Education Summit was held on April 9, 2019 at Wiregrass Technical College with leaders from the FHSCCA Governing Board, Ben Hill and Irwin County school districts, Wiregrass Technical College, and Community in Schools. At this Summit, we received community input on the current offers planned for the FHSCCA and asked for guidance for any additional careers that need to be implemented.

Partnerships

FHSCCA is continuously working with Wiregrass Georgia Technical College and the Fitzgerald-Ben Hill Economic Development Authority (EDA). Wiregrass continues to offer an extensive dual-enrollment program and driver's education for FHSCCA students. The EDA works closely with the FHS Work-Based Learning Coordinator to acquire work-based learning opportunities within industry. Every week, business and industry leaders serve as guest speakers to the Freshman Discovery Academy. Along with all of the educational partnerships that are listed above, we have also secured several business and industry partnerships that are listed below:

- We are currently working on an entrepreneur opportunity in our Culinary Arts Department where the students will launch a smoothie and baked goods business called "Canes Culinary". Students will learn how to start a business from the ground up. Community Partners are Anna's Garden Blueberries, Paulk Vineyards, and Protein Plus. The Grand Opening/Ribbon Cutting will be scheduled sometime in September 2019.
- The Culinary Canes have also partnered with Costal Plains BBQ Company. Costal Plains owner Johnathan Burch has donated a Trager Grill and accessories valued

over \$12,000. He is also offering paying jobs for our students who work at his catering events.

- Our Open House Pathway Fair for Freshmen and Sophomores was held on July 24th and July 25th during the FHS Open House. Students had the opportunity to learn about FHSCCA Pathways and what to expect at FHSCCA.
- On Friday, August 23, 2019 our CTAE instructors, academic instructors, counselors, career coaches, and administrators toured several of our local industrial facilities and learned about the jobs for which we are preparing our kids. Our industry partners for the tour were Modern Dispersions, Mana Nutrition, Southern Veneer, Covered Wagon (powder coating), and Polar Beverage. The purpose of this event was to open the lines of communication between business/industry and our school staff. This event will also educate everyone involved on what each group is doing and how we can work together in order to produce a better workforce.
- The Career Ready Canes Program was the result of the August 23rd Industry Tour. The Career Ready Canes Program will a week-long class for select FHSCCA seniors who are planning on going right into the workforce. Participants will learn work ethics, financial literacy, resume writing, interview skills, and they will participate in mock interview. They will also receive the OSHA-10 Certification and a CPR/First Aid Certification.

Budget

The MOU with Ben Hill County Schools, Irwin County Schools, and Wiregrass Georgia Technical College has been submitted. The MOU has been approved, and the FHSCCA budget has begun with \$110,000. Also, CTAE instructors Lynn Gay and Sara Stuart attended a grant writing session in Covington, GA on June 18, 2019 through June 20, 2019. The event was hosted by representatives from the GADOE and was for an E3 title 4A grant to give start-up funds for student entrepreneurship. Ms. Gay and Ms. Stuart applied for the \$10,800 grant that will allow us to purchase equipment, marketing material, inventory, and operate our “Smoothie Business”. Ms. Gay, Mr. Sutton, and I were told on several different occasions by John Pritchett that we were getting the grant, but we did not. We basically reworked our budget and moved forward with funds that we could generate. CTAE instructors from all programs gave a wish list of needs and between CTAE funds and start-up funds from the grant we were able to get what was needed for all CTAE programs.

Governance & Leadership

The FHSCCA Board of Directors is up and running. We meet every 3rd or 4th Tuesday of the month. Members include Stan Bryant, Jason Dunn (Vice Chair), Sonya Gallegos, David Garrison, Hal Wiley (CEO), Holley Lee, April McDuffie (Board Chair), Vanessa Melton, Shane Sapp, Jesse Fletcher, Wyndi Damato, and Steve Taylor with Ex-Officio Members Dawn Clements, Dr. Shawn Haralson, Becky Gibbs, Shawn Utley, Dr. Thad Clayton, Dr. Diane Wright, and Dr. Mark Sutton

Recent Timelines

- July 1, 2019 – Fitzgerald High School College and Career Academy is fully implemented
- July 18, 2019 – FHSCCA Orientation for rising 9th Graders

- July 22, 2019 – Hal Wiley (CEO), Payton Dix (CTAE Coordinator), Mike Heitzman (Assistant Principal), and Jason Dunn (Ben Hill Economic Development Director) visited Polk County and tour their CCA.
- July 23, 2019 – Hal Wiley (CEO), Payton Dix (CTAE Coordinator), Mike Heitzman (Assistant Principal), and Jason Dunn (Ben Hill Economic Development Director) attended the Bartow County Strategic Planning Session for their CCA.
- July 24-25, 2019 – FHSCCA Pathway Fair to show/explain to the students the different pathways, local jobs, and potential salaries.
- August 20, 2019 – FHSCCA Board of Directors Meeting
 - Internal Goals Committee Meeting Update
- August 23, 2019 – Business and Industry Tour for CTAE Instructors, FHS Academic Department Heads, FHS Counselors, FHS Career Coaches, and Administrators
- September 5, 2019 – Six instructors and I attended a Wall-to-Wall Workshop in Macon, GA.
- September 13, 2019 – 4 Councilors and I attended a Wall-to-Wall Workshop at Hutchinson College and Career Academy in Macon.
- September 18, 2019 – FHSCCA 2019 4-year cohort graduation rate of 88.5% was released
- September 24, 2019 – FHSCCA Board of Directors Meeting
 - FHSCCA Enrollment Per Academy and Career Pathway
 - FHSCCA Teacher Professional Development Annual Plan Including Internships/Externships Planning w/ partners.
- September 25, 2019 – FHSCCA Agriculture Instructor, Harry Tucker and I visited the Effingham County School Farm to learn about how they run their ag department and farm.

Future Timelines

- October (TBD) 2019 – Grand Opening for the Canes Culinary smoothie and baked goods business.
- October 7, 2019 – Meeting with WATCO Railcar about Railcar Repair Pathway.
- October 22, 2019 – FHSCCA Board of Directors Meeting
- October (TBD) 2019 – Schedule visit from Dr. Washington from Hutchinson CCA in Macon. I would like her to evaluate our plan and offer suggestions.
- November 18th – November 22nd – Career Ready Canes Program (CPR Certification, 10 Hour OSHA Training, Work Ethics, Resume Writing, Interview Skills, Mock Interviews, Guest Speaker, and Job Fair.

Career & College Focus

Students have quality access to dual enrollment through Wiregrass Technical College, South Georgia College and Abraham Baldwin Agricultural College. During the 2018-2019 school year, 88% of FHS students were dually enrolled. Currently, 92 students are enrolled in Work-Based Learning. As of Tuesday, October 8, 2019, we have 95 enrolled in WBL.

Grade Levels

All Grades in 2019-2020

Enrollment & Student Focus

The FHSCCA has an open enrollment process for any high school student who wants to enroll. In conjunction with ongoing career awareness initiatives already in place, the middle

school students' annual tour includes information about the FHSCCA and Freshmen Discovery Academy (FDA). Rising 9th graders and parents will receive an orientation about FHSCCA in July leading up to their freshmen year. Students in the FDA will tour each academy and learn about each career pathway offered. Students will select an academy at the end of the FDA along with their student portfolio. Additionally, the school database of parents and students will be used to create an email blast to inform them of FHSCCA opportunities.

Student Support

The FHSCCA hired a Career Coach to work with students on career counseling and access to dual enrollment opportunities. The Career Coach works directly with our counseling department and the Wiregrass Technical College High School Coordinator to register students on GA Futures and to provide assistance with scholarships and financial aid requirements.

Standards & Curriculum

CTAE Advisory groups have already been established. The BOD reviews career pathways annually. We receive community input informally throughout the year on needs for career pathways to supply necessary workforce. We receive formal feedback through the Summit.

Structure

CEO reports to Superintendent, Assistant Superintendent, and FHSCCA BOD. The liaison between the BOD and the BOE, he works directly with the Principals.

Faculty & Staff

With the implementation of the FHSCCA on July 1, 2019, Fitzgerald High School began the A/B block schedule for the 2019-2020 school year. The transition from the 4x4 block to the A/B block is to have common planning time for common academic subjects and for common planning for academic and CTAE disciplines. Teachers will integrate the CTAE content into the four academic content areas and find common connections to make academic curriculum and CTAE curriculum relevant for students. Teachers will have professional learning on teaching on the A/B block and providing high levels of student engagement with technology integration and project-based learning.

Evaluation

2019 4-year cohort graduation rate was 88.5%. The state average was 82%.

Cycle of Improvement

CEO, Hal Wiley, has started communications with business and industry leaders to learn what they need the FHSCCA to be in order to create a better workforce. During those initial meetings, business and industry partnerships were developed that will continually provide feedback on what is going right and what can be improved. The "Career Ready Canes" Program was developed out of one of those meetings. We also have interns and apprenticeships with several of our business and industry partners.

Charter School Law

The FHSCCA is a school within the Ben Hill County Charter School System. The school system changed from a Strategic Waiver District to a Charter District on July 1, 2018.