Mission and Goals

Mission:

The mission of the Fitzgerald 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.

Goals:

Goal 1: To increase the number of students completing high school prepared with skills that they need to successfully enter post-secondary education and/or the workforce.

- Measurable Objective: From the current state and local baseline average graduation rate of 79.3% of the 2017 cohort students, the percentage of students who attend FHSCCA and graduate with a high school diploma will increase 3% over the next 5 years.

Goal 2: To increase the number of qualified potential employees and support local economic development by increasing the number of students earning either college credit OR on the job experience while enrolled in high school.

- Measurable Objective: The percentage of FHSCCA students enrolled in Work Based Learning opportunities will increase by 3% annually over the next 5 years from baseline data of 80.
Goal 3: Students at the FHSCCA will complete all requirements to become a “Pathway Completer”, including passing all three required courses in the pathway AND passing the End of Pathway Assessment.

- Measurable Objective #1: From a baseline during the 2017-2018 school year, the number of students at the FHSCCA who graduate from high school having passed all three courses in at least one pathway will increase 3% annually over a 5-year period.
- Measurable Objective #2: From a baseline during the 2017-2018 school year, the number of students at the FHSCCA who pass the End of Pathway assessment for their chosen career path will increase by 3% annually over a 5-year period.

Goal 4: To increase and strengthen the connection between CTAE programs and their business and community related partners for sustainability.

- Measurable Objective: From the current baseline of employers participating in 2017-2018, the number of employers participating in work-based learning and mentorships at the FHSCCA will increase by at least 2 employers each year over a 5-year period.
- Measurable Objective: Because the FHSCCA is new and has no baseline data for financial support received from business and community partners, the planning committee has determined that annual donations and/or in-kind contributions should begin with a goal of $1000 the first year and increase by $500 each year.

Need
The Education Summit will be 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 will receive community input on the current offers planned for the FHSCCA and seek 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.

Budget
The MOU with Ben Hill County Schools, Irwin County Schools, and Wiregrass Georgia Technical College has been submitted. Once that MOU has been approved, the FHSCCA budget will begin with $110,000.

Governance & Leadership
The FHSCCA Board of Directors is up and running. The board met on January 22. 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, and Steve Taylor with Ex-Officio Members Dawn Clements, Dr. Shawn Haralson, Becky Gibbs, Shawn Utley, and Dr. Mark Sutton. There are currently two vacancies that will be filled at the next meeting.
Timelines
January 17, 2109 Dual Enrollment Meeting with Counselors and the Wiregrass High School coordinator
February 1, 2019 FHSCCA Career Coach began work
March 12, 2019 Ben Hill County Board of Education chose site for the new Fitzgerald High School College and Career Academy
March 26 and 28, 2019 Registration for 2019-2020 School Year through Teachers as Advisors Program where all 10th grade will choose 2 Pathways to complete in the FHSCCA
April 1, 2019 FHSCCA CEO Hal Wiley begins
April 9, 2019 Education Summit
April 27, 2019 Work-Based Learning Employer Appreciation Luncheon
May, 2019 Senior Capstone Presentation with Community Panels
May 14, 2019 Senior Cord Ceremony for CTAE Pathway Completers
May 21, 2019 FHSCCA Board of Directors Meeting
June 3 – 21, 2019 8th Grade Summer School Acceleration to earn Credits for Early Dual Enrollment
June 18, 2019 FHSCCA Board of Directors Meeting
July 1, 2019 Fitzgerald High School College and Career Academy is fully implemented
July 18, 2019 FHSCCA Orientation for rising 9th Graders

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 have been dually enrolled. Currently, 92 students are enrolled in Work-Based Learning.

Grade Levels
All Grades in 2019-2020

Enrollment & Student Focus
The FHSCCA has an open enrollment process for any 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). Parents and rising 9th graders will receive an orientation about FHSCCA in July of 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. A College and Career Academy coloring book showing students and parents in local careers will be created to give to all early learning centers in Ben Hill/Irwin County. It will also be distributed during lower grade career days. We will also use school database of parents and students 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. He 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 annual. We receive community input informally throughout the year on needs for career pathways to supply needed workforce. Then, we get feedback formally through the Summit.

Structure
You may not have any comment about this yet - unless you have already been doing something to give the academy its “own culture”.

Faculty & Staff
With the implementation of the FHSCCA on July 1, 2019, Fitzgerald High School will begin on 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
The BOD has reviewed data on CCRPI (graduation rate) and dual-enrolment.

Cycle of Improvement
Please see the attached the annual plan of work and the evaluation system as an attachment.

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.