



‘Maker Space

A quarterly report of the Cairo High School College and Career Academy.

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“If 80% of the workforce of tomorrow is going to need some type of technical training, we need more students on a technical path of learning. A career academy is a partnership between the high school as well as the technical college and the business community and all three players need to be at the table, focused on the need of the individual student. This is about bringing relevance to education.”

Lt. Gov. Casey Cagle

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Mission and Goals

The main vision of the Cairo High School College and Career Academy (CHS/CCA) is to prepare students to graduate from high school ready for college (if that is their interest), but also equip them with employability skills, work ethic, and a foundation for lifelong learning. CHS/CCA’s planners also intend for all students to be

able to contribute as accomplished citizens of their community, with leadership and communication skills.

This year Cairo High School College and Career Acade-



my is using the Georgia BEST program for all ninth graders, developed by the Georgia Department of Labor. Once Georgia BEST certified, our students receive “validation to employers that students have displayed strong work habits that will foster success in higher education and in the work place.” (Mark Butler, Labor Commissioner)

Partnerships

The partnership of the CHS/CCA consists of Grady County Schools, Southern Regional Technical College, Thomas University, Bainbridge State College, The University of Georgia Archway Partnership, Cairo/Grady County Chamber of Commerce, and the Grady County Joint Development Authority.

We are now seeking to partner with more and more of our local industries to form a partnership for our school that will last into the foreseeable future.

Our current partners are as follows:

Post Secondary Partners:

Bainbridge State College
Southern Regional Technical College
Thomas University.

Business Partners:

Cairo/Grady County Chamber of Commerce
Archway
City of Cairo
Big Bend Agri Services
United National bank
Grady General Hospital
Citizens Bank
Others are being developed.

“The budget is not just a collection of numbers, but an expression of our values and aspirations.”

Jacob Lew

Budget

The CHS/CCA new facility is being built using funds from multiple sources including General Obligation Funds, SPOLST funds, state funding, CTAE Construction Related Grants, local government/ industry grants and donations, and the GCCAP grant.

Once the construction is complete, state FTE earnings and local funding at the same per pupil level as other schools in the district will provide operational funding for CHS/CCA. A majority of these funds are allocated to the school system as a part

of the building program and supported by the partners.



“If your actions inspire others to dream more, learn more and become more, you are a leader.”

John Quincy Adams

Governance and Leadership

The CHS/CCA Board of Directors meets on the fourth Tuesday of every month. The Board of Directors consists of 11 members:

- Joint Development Authority appointee
- Chamber of Commerce Appointee
- Archway Partnership Appointee
- CEO Appointee

- Appointees form the three Post Secondary Partners
- Four members of the CHS/CCA faculty elected by the faculty.

A key component of the Governance and Leadership process is the role that our Program Advisory Committees play in keeping our

instructors abreast of the latest trends in skills needed in today’s workforce. Our Advisory Committees are comprised of a parent representatives and local business leaders. The boards meet twice a school year, once in the Fall and again in the Spring.

2015-2016 Board of Directors

Dr. John Meis, Post Secondary
 Ms. Del Bibles, Teacher
 Ms. Bridget Ransom, CEO Appointment
 Mr. Ladon Toole, Business & Industry
 Mr. Marty Cannington, Chair, Business & Industry
 Mr. Otis Byrden, Vice Chair, Business & Industry

Ms. Joyce Halstead, Post Secondary
 Ms. Laura Brown, Post Secondary
 Mr. Blair Dickinson, Teacher
 Mr. David Coleman, Sr., Teacher
 Mr. Whitney Brown, Teacher
 Ms. Judy Cook, Secretary

Career and College Focus

The CHS/CCA currently offers the following programs of study/career pathways: Architectural Drawing and Design, Welding Technology, Basic Maintenance and Light Repair, Plant Science/Horticulture, Forestry/ Natural Resources, Agricultural Mechanics, Administrative/ Information Support, Interactive Media, Small Business Development, Ear-

ly Childhood Education, Engineering Drafting & Design, Nutrition & Food Science, JROTC – Navy, and Therapeutic Services-Nursing. CHS/CCA also offers Youth Apprenticeship and Work Based Learning. New for the 2015-2016 school year is Mechatronics.

This school term Southern Regional Technical college is

offering the following course on the CHS/CCA campus: Cosmetology, Mechatronics, Economics, English 1101, English 1102, College Algebra, Psychology and Speech Communications. Bainbridge State College is offering Biology I and II on our campus as well. We are currently serving 167 students through Dual Enrollment; 14.3% of our student body.



Grade Levels

CHS/CCA is very unique in the fact that we are a total school conversion to a CCA, the first of its kind in Georgia. As a total school conversion, CHS/CCA will serve all students in grades 9 through 12. With a total high school enrollment of

approximately 1,164 each year, CHS is a medium-sized high school; however, our school serves as the capstone experience in a vertically-integrated school system (seamless transitions from upper elementary to

middle to high to college to careers) that credibly serves 4,700 students daily in an impoverished county of more than 25,000 people that has a workforce of 11,400, according to the 2010 US Census.

9th
thru
12th

Enrollment and Student Focus

CHS plans to become a regional CCA for Southwest Georgia. Plans are underway now for our local Board of Education to approve a waiver for out-of-district tuition for students enrolling in CHS/CCA from neighboring counties to pursue a career pathway. In addition, CHS/CCA plans to extend the school day to accommodate students from out-of-district who

wish to participate in dual enrollment on our campus.

This school year, the CHS/CCA is focusing on soft skills attainment. We have elected to use the Georgia Business Ethics Student Training (BEST) model as our advisement model for the year. Every student at CHS/CCA is receiving direct training every month related to soft skills attain-

ment. As our industry leaders statewide have indicated, our students are in need of work ethics training. All ninth grade students at CHS/CCA will have an opportunity to receive the Georgia BEST certification. This certification ensures employers that the student has successfully completed the Georgia BEST training and should possess basic work ethics and soft skills.

“Keep integrity and your work ethics intact. So what if that means working a little harder; an honorable character is your best calling card, and that’s something anyone can have!”

Kathy Ireland



PBIS

Student Support

Counseling and advisement encourage support for taking CTAE electives with embedded academic standards, Move on When Ready, ACCEL, Hope Grant, Work-Based Learning, and internships. After completing a battery of nationally recognized assessments, middle school students will develop graduation career plans (GCP's) with counselors and parents. Each GCP is intended to carry a student from 6th grade through college and into a career for which that student is thoroughly prepared. CHS will enhance and extend its

Georgia DOE "Growing Leaders Advisement Program" to create and nurture a thriving leadership culture, challenging students to think and act like lifelong leaders. The advisement program will also encourage students to pursue career and academic goals. The goal ratio of Growing Leaders student-to-advisor will be 16-to-1 (far better than the 400-1 ratio some high school counselors experience).

The mission of Cairo High School College and Career Academy is to prepare all

Cairo High School students to graduate and be fully prepared for post-secondary education and/or careers, as well as for their roles as responsible citizens.

This school year we have implemented our new Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports system at CHS/CCA. So far students have been rewarded for perfect attendance and a display of great character. These students receive a gift certificate for a free meal at one of our local restaurant partners, Mr. Chick. We congratulate these students

Congratulations to these PBIS Student Achievers



Eric King is shown with his "Maker Buck" that he received for Perfect Attendance, no absences and no tardies to this point of the school year.

Congratulations Eric!



Keyonna Bryant is shown with her "Maker Buck" that she received for Perfect attendance, no absences and no tardies to this point of the school year.

Congratulations Keyona!



Ariel Carter, left, is shown with her "Maker Buck" that she received for honesty and character that she displayed when she found a substantial amount of money and returned it to the office. Erica Gancerez, right, is shown giving Ariel a reward for returning her money to her. Great job Ariel!

Cycle of Improvement

Additionally, CHS is very proud of the integration of academic standards into CTAE electives through team planning and teaching, and the increased amount of interdisciplinary team-teaching between core academic teachers. Highly qualified math and science teachers are working with language arts, foreign language and social studies teachers – and then with CTAE instructors – to compare standards, experiences and goals. As allowed by House Bill 186 and our charter

contract, CHS is currently offering a course titled Spanish for the Medical Profession where standards for Spanish and Healthcare Science are merged in one class. This will allow students to earn both a CTAE and a Foreign Language credit. This course is a direct result of an industry recommendation from Grady General Hospital. Plans are underway to offer a drafting course in 2016 with embedded geometry standards.

Additionally, CHS/CCA is developing plans to begin the school-within-a-school concept. We anticipate the opening of small learning communities with in our school and call them academies. The plan is to open our first academy, the Ninth Grade Academy, in the 2017 school year. Additional academies will be developed and incorporated over the next several years.



Charter School Law

The Cairo High School College and Career Academy was approved as a charter school by the Georgia Department of Education on February 5, 2013 and became the first school in Georgia to convert an entire high school to a College and Career Academy.

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