Catoosa County Public Schools - College and Career Academy

From HERE to CAREER!

Benton Place Campus, Ringgold, GA

What is a College and Career Academy?

College and Career Academies are specialized charter schools that increase the high school graduation rate and prepare students for college and careers.

How do College and Career Academies prepare students for careers?

- CCA's are a partnership between the local school system, post-secondary schools, and local and regional employers;
- Decisions for the CCA are made by a Board of Directors, with a majority of members from business and industry;
- The mission of the academy is to support and promote workforce development;
- Local workforce needs determine programs and curriculum;
- Soft skills and work ethics are imbedded in the curriculum and student assessments;
- Students participate in internships/apprenticeships to understand real-world problems and to gain authentic industry experience.

How are College and Career Academy programs different from traditional high school programs?

- Business and industry partners are in a shared decision making role versus an advisory role;
- CCA students participate in a career pathway with an emphasis on dual enrollment in post-secondary courses so they graduate with college credit and industry credentials;
- Students learn, *and they MUST exhibit*, employability/soft skills that are essential in the workplace;
- Business and industry partners determine criteria for student success in the workplace that are included in student evaluations;
- Students must meet real-world job expectations, established by the Board of Directors, to maintain enrollment in the CCA.

How are CCA pathways determined?

The Board of Directors in collaboration with Superintendent and Board of Education determines CCA pathways based on current and future workforce needs. A College and Career Academy is an asset for economic development because programs are flexible to meet industry needs.

Have pathways for the From HERE to CAREER! Academy been determined?

Based on data review and needs assessment the following clusters for the Catoosa Academy are proposed (specific pathways are TBD):

- The School of Law & Justice and Emergency Management
- The School of Nursing, Sports Medicine, and Therapeutic Services
- The School of Information Technology
- The School of Architecture and Construction
- The School of Education
- The School of Industrial Systems Technology, Robotics & Mechatronics
- The School of Logistics, Distribution, and Supply Chain Management

How can businesses and industries partner with the CCA?

- Serving on a Pathway Advisory Committee;
- Providing guest speakers, career mentors, and/or job shadowing;
- Providing student internships/apprenticeships;
- Sponsoring field trips;
- Allowing teacher "externships";
- Providing classroom instructors;
- Providing industry specific lab equipment and learning materials;
- Designated or undesignated cash donations.

Follow us on social media!
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For questions or comments, contact:
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No other investment yields as great a return as the investment in education. An educated workforce is the foundation of every community and the future of every economy. Brad Henry