GraysonTechnical Education Program

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AT GRAYSON HIGH SCHOOL

**Grayson HS Technical Program
Advisory Committee Meeting #1
September 21, 2011
8:00AM**

Members present:
Dawn Adams, Healthcare Administration
C.J. Allen-Frye, Full Sail University
Timilyn Clark, Life Care of Lawrenceville
Kevin Carpenter, Gwinnett County Police Department
Karen Howell, Gwinnett Technical College
Mike Kole, Apple, Inc.
Tom Lawrence, University of Georgia
Dan Martin, Gwinnett County Public Schools
Dr. Tim Montgomery, Dacula Animal Hospital
Sue Neal, Lawrenceville Family Practice
Kathy Pickett, Graphic Solutions Group
Russ Pomrenke, Gwinnett Technical College
Kristin Raffalovich, Photographer
J. Robert Russell, Photographer
Pasha Souvorin, Phoenix High School
Clint Swartzlander, Comprehensive Technical Group

The Advisory Committee Meeting for the Grayson HS Technical Program began with members taking an in-depth tour of the facility. Each tour consisted of 2-4 members. Members were given specific information about each program in order to better understand the school as a whole.

Following the tours, the members gathered in the lecture hall for a meeting led by Ms. Jennifer Fero, Assistant Principal for the program. At the meeting, each member was given the AKS (curriculum standards) for each program as well promotional material describing each program. The meeting informed members of the following:

- Gwinnett Count y Public Schools (GCPS) data and statistics
- Information on the Broad Prize award given to GCPS in the 2010-2011 school year.
- SPLOST information
- The Grayson Technical Program history and enrollment data
- The application process for the Grayson Technical Program
- New initiatives including:
    o Embedded academic credit in each program
    o Focus on service and entrepreneurship (internships, community service day, Art/Science fairs, and student ambassador program)
    o Middle school camp held in the summer of 2011 (members were shown a slideshow of pictures from the camp)

At the conclusion of the presentation, the Culinary Arts students introduced themselves to the committee and explained the breakfast that had been prepared for them. While the committee had breakfast, a question/answer session took place with Ms. Fero and Mrs. Jill Landtroop, recruiter for the Grayson Technical Program. The following questions/concerns were addressed:

- How does the Grayson Technical Program ensure that students are set apart on college applications?
  - Students earn certificates based on the program that they completed – whether it is a certificate for participating in internships, taking an industry certification test, or participating in a student organization
  - Some programs in the Grayson Technical Program are industry certified and students will earn specific certifications based on that
- Grayson Technical Program seems to have a heavy enrollment of Grayson High School students. What can we (the committee) do to help solve the transportation issue? Suggestions from the committee included:
  - Partnering with the Gwinnett Transit System
  - Contact local government entities to discuss transportation from their area schools
  - Contact major churches with transportation vehicles as a community outreach program
  - Ask for parent volunteers
  - Partner with retired educators
  - Contact local civic organizations such as Rotary Clubs to sponsor transportation
- What would it cost for transportation from the high schools?
  - Approx. $1million for GCPS transportation for the entire county
- What would the process be for a community member or local business to initiate a project with one of our programs?
  - Communicate with Ms. Fero, the administrator, who would get appropriate approvals from the county level director as well
- Is there any plan for crossover between programs so that students can experience more than one program in the year that they are enrolled?
  - Programs collaborate on projects, field trips, guest speakers, etc. but due to the amount of curriculum covered in one program, there is no plan for allowing students to participate in more than one program during their enrollment in one of our blocks. Students may enroll in two programs and attend Grayson Tech for the full day.
- Do local schools lose funding if students attend the Grayson Technical Program due to the student not being in attendance at the local school for a full day?
  - No, the local school is the student's "home" school and they receive the funding for those students as well.

In closing, Ms. Fero thanked the committee for attending the meeting and asked that they review the documents that were given to them and to think of the best ways in which they can partner with the programs at the Grayson Technical Program. It was also asked of them to network within the community and with their contacts to inform others about the opportunities at the Grayson Technical Program. The committee was also informed of the Grayson Work Ready Conference being held in February, and asked if they would be willing to assist with mock interviews for our students during that time. The second advisory committee meeting will be held at that time as well.