



The Maxwell Navigator

September 2012

Maxwell High School of Technology

Volume 1, No.1

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Scan Maxwell's QR code with your Smartphone to go directly to Maxwell's website.

Chef Debbie Grant: Teacher of the Year



Students Kevin Toro, Daniel Ruiz, Sade Hunter, Kellam Jones, Isabel Rojas, and Cassie Burt learn how to make soup as Chef Grant supervises. Photo by Zoe Bascaro.

"I have not always taught in public schools, but I have been an educator all my adult life," says Chef Debbie Grant, who has been selected by the Maxwell High School faculty as the 2012-2013 Teacher of the Year. Ms. Grant has also been chosen as one of the top 25 TOTY finalists in Gwinnett County.

Teachers of the year must be certified classroom teachers who display exceptional dedication, knowledge, and skills as they inspire students of all backgrounds and abilities to learn. In addition, they must be a poised and articulate teacher who has the respect and admira-

tion of students, parents, and colleagues. Finally, all TOTY candidates should play an active and integral role in the community and school.

Chef Grant's classroom is an example of dedication to teach her students the craft of culinary arts and to also prepare them for the next step. Her classroom philosophy is driven by the desire to help all students find success as they become empowered to move into a career or college. Ms. Grant also spends out of class time becoming knowledgeable about the latest trends in the culinary arts industry and incorporates those trends in her class.

Calender

Monday, October 8
No School/Teacher Furlough Day

Tuesday, October 9
Progress Reports

Monday, October 15
*Maxwell Work Ready Seminar
Work Etiquette and Ethics
Professional Dress Required*

Mon-Wed, Oct 22-24
*Work Ready Seminar
College and Career Planning
Professional Dress Required*

Tuesday, November 6
No School/Election Day

Mon-Fri, Nov 12-16
Georgia HS Graduation Retest

Mon-Fri, Nov 19-Nov 23
Thanksgiving Break

Mon-Fri, Nov 26-Nov 30
Performance Final Exams

Monday, December 17
AM Session Final Exams

Wednesday, December 19
PM Session Final Exams

Thursday, December 20
Winter Break Begins

Maxwell Pre-K recycles



The Gwinnett County Chamber of Commerce has deemed Maxwell High School of Technology a "Reaching Higher School" for the Gwinnett Clean and Beautiful program. Lead by Pre-K teacher Tricia Floyd, our pre K students orchestrate a weekly recycling program. Shown to the left is Maxwell Early Childhood Education student Tia Cupitt with three Maxwell Pre-K students as they collect and redistribute the blue paper-only containers.

Work Ready schedules speakers

The Maxwell Work Ready Program is the school advisement program and ensures that graduates of Maxwell High School of Technology have employment skills needed to successfully enter the workforce and/or post secondary education. Throughout the year, students will participate in five seminars designed to bring a focus to essential "soft skills" necessary for success when preparing for the next step. The seminars will develop and enhance marketability, improve soft employment skills, and help students discover careers that match their interests and talents. At the end of the spring semester, students will be presented with achievement certificates at an awards banquet to honor their efforts.

Dr. Francis Davis October 15 Business Ethics/Etiquette

Dr. Francis Davis, Gwinnett County Chief Human Resources Officer, will speak to all of our students at the Instructional Support Center (ISC) Board Room. We will bus our students to the ISC for both an AM and PM event.

"Making It Count" October 22-24 College/Career Planning

Making It Count, will be speaking to our students at the GSMST, presenting a 55 minute multi-media program on making college and career count. Each student will receive a workbook during the presentation.

Dianne Thompson January 22-24 Conflict Resolution

Dianne Thompson, GCPS Director of Advisement and Counseling, will be speaking to our students at GSMST on "Dealing with Difficult People" or conflict resolution.

Mock Interviews March 25-28 Interviewing Skills

Lesson plans on how to write an effective cover letter and resume will be provided to each teacher. All students will complete a cover letter and resume prior to their mock interview.

The Principal's Message...

Greetings! I invite you to enjoy Maxwell's first newsletter for 2012-2013. We are off to a great start and expect a fantastic school year. We are excited about two new programs this year: Barbering and Interior Design. These two programs add to our already eclectic mix of course offerings. Our enrollment is up by over 250 students and we welcome 11 quality members to our staff.

You will find this edition of our newsletter features our talented Teacher of the Year, Chef Debbie Grant. Mrs. Grant is our Culinary Arts teacher and an expert in the field. In addition, we feature our new teachers who bring a plethora of experience and knowledge to Maxwell.

Finally, I encourage you to read about the middle school summer camp we hosted. We provided a wonderful adventure for middle school students, as they were able to learn from both our instructors and our high school students. We look forward to another successful camp in 2013. Please know our doors are always open to you and thanks for your support. Go Navigators!



Dr. Jeff Hall, Principal
Maxwell High School of Technology

-Dr. Jeff Hall, Principal

New pathway programs added



Interior Design instructor Dee Tillman (center) assists students Tasha Roberts (left) and Alicia Thomas (right) as they make fabric selections. Interior Design is one of two new courses offered this year at Maxwell High School of Technology. Moreover, the interior design course offers dual enrollment credit with Gwinnett Technical College. In addition to Interior Design, Barbering was also added to the pathway choices that are available to students this year. Photo by Zoe Bascaro.

Maxwell The Navigator

The Maxwell Navigator newsletter is a quarterly student publication. All photos and layout and design are produced by students. Special thanks to Graphic Design student photographers.

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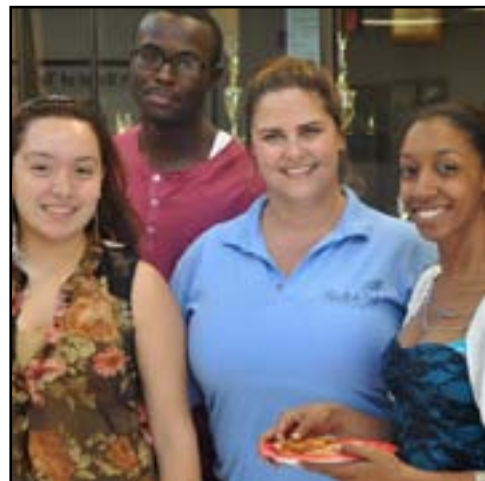
Maxwell welcomes new teachers



Emily Latone, Counselor

Maxwell has added six new teachers this year who bring years of experience and great enthusiasm to our students. Emily Latone is our Head Counselor. Ms. Latone worked as Assistant Director of Admissions at The Art Institute of Atlanta for four years. She holds a BA from Clemson University in Spanish and International Trade and a Masters from Mercer in school counseling.

Christine Pulliam, our new LSTC (Local School Technology Coordinator), has worked for GCPS for 16 years, teaching Language Arts at Collins Hill High School. A graduate of Mercer University, she has earned graduate degrees from UGA and Lincoln Memorial. In addition, Ms. Pulliam is in the process of earning a degree in



Christine Pulliam, LSTC

Instructional Technology and Media Services from Valdosta State.

Barbara Hoag, MT (ASCP), Maxwell's newest Healthcare Science teacher has worked in the medical field for 15 years and holds a BS degree in Medical Technology from the University of Wyoming. Ms. Hoag has worked at Crawford Long Hospital, Piedmont Hospital, and most currently at Children's Healthcare of Atlanta.

Our new welding teacher is Charles "Chaz" Kachmar. Mr. Kachmar, who has been teaching for 17 years, holds a BS in Industrial Technology from Central Connecticut State University, a Masters degree in Technological Studies and a Specialist degree in Workforce Development and Social Foundations



Charles Kachmar, Welding



Karen Folkard, ESOL



Barbara Hoag, Healthcare Science

from UGA. He has taught at Creekside in Fulton County, Tucker High School, and at South Gwinnett and Grayson in Gwinnett County.

Karen Folkard, our new ESL teacher, has 29 years teaching experience. She holds a BA from Queen's University in Canada, and a Masters from West Georgia College. Ms. Folkard has taught Language Arts, Social Studies, French, German, and Spanish.

Libby Williams has joined the cosmetology department. She worked in the industry for eight years and holds a BS in Business Ed from UGA, and a Masters in Integrated Technology in the classroom from Walden University. Ms. Williams taught at Monroe Area High School for twelve years.



Libby Williams, Cosmetology

Skills USA students attend conference

Maxwell sent twenty-two students to the SkillsUSA State Conference held at the Sea Palms Resort Conference Center on St. Simons Island, GA. Six of our students were Statesman Award winners. The Statesman award winners at 100% were Paul Massey and Miriam Pacheco. The students who won at 85% were Orevia Aki, Brittani Bowman, Deante Cannon, and Shelby Heintz.

SkillsUSA is a United States career and technical student organization serving more than 320,000 high school and college students and professional members enrolled in training programs in technical, skilled, and service occupations, including health occupations. Maxwell High School of Technology SkillsUSA faculty advisor is Christine Pulliam.

Student participants and the programs they represented were: Brenton Coulson, Brock Haney, Gabe Wilkerson, Hyoung Jin Kim, and Robert Derivan from Automotive Services; Brittani Bowman, Miriam Pacheco, and Paul Massey from Architecture; Chris Monturo, Defarra Gaymon, Jacob Auld, and Mohini Devi Persaud from Welding; Joselyn Leon, Kelsey Beute, Kymberly Jurgens, and Shannon Hines from Cosmetology; Morgan Humphrey from Graphic Design; Orevia Aki from Aircraft Fight Operations; Shelby Heintz and Tori Redd from Law & Justice; and Sophia Dolson from Interior Design.



Taking a break from the many sessions offered at the SkillsUSA State Conference are Maxwell High School of Technology students (from left to right) Shannon Hines, Tori Redd, Joselyn Leon, and Mohini Persaud. The conference offered sessions on team building, leadership development, and public speaking.



Brookwood student Kaitlyn Sicard is shown operating the salamander as a part of safety training in the culinary arts class.

ServSafe earned

Seventeen culinary students earned their ServSafe certification. ServSafe is a national sanitation/food safety program sponsored and administered by the National Restaurant Association Education Foundation.

Gaining this certification can create opportunities for advancement in the food service industry. Students can also use the credit if they attend culinary school. Students who did not take the ServSafe test are still required to take and pass a sanitation/food safety test before working in the Maxwell kitchen.

The students who gained ServSafe certification are: Jarikka Clyde, Mackenzie Love, and Austin Charron from Shiloh High School; Jasmin Gonzalez and Mariela Leal from Norcross High School; Leanna Potter from Collins Hill High School; Karen Huynh and Keyon Rich from Meadowcreek High School; Braxton Brooks from Shiloh High School; Stacy Aguilar and Susan Neidhart from Brookwood High School; Jessica Maletz from Duluth High School; Gabriella Madrid from Mountain View High School; and Ivonne Monge-Oquendo from Central Gwinnett High School.

Fall Open House huge success

Maxwell High School of Technology held the first fall Open House on September 20. Over 500 students and parents attended the event.

The school was open from 6:00-7:30 for both current and perspective students giving Maxwell teachers the opportunity to showcase career training programs that are offered at the high school.

Students from all GCPHS high schools may obtain three concentrated credits in a Georgia Career Pathway by successfully completing a Maxwell program. In addition, Maxwell offers academic courses for graduation credit in English Language Arts, Mathematics, Science, and science electives.



Shown clockwise: Graphic Design instructor Mike Bates talks to current student Christian Harrison and his parents about student design work; Pre-K instructor Tricia Floyd outlines different Pre-K initiatives for a large parent group; SkillsUSA student guide Paul Massey helps a perspective student and her parent find a program location; and Automotive Services instructor Max Chavez welcomes student Aaron Butts, and student Xavier Rose and his mother to a spectacular car display.

To schedule a tour or if you have questions about registering for a class, call Emily Latone, Counselor @ 770-338-4605 or Dr. Vicki Hoffman, Curriculum AP @ 770-338-4601.



Williams takes Maxwell to Snellville



Amanda Williams demonstrates her cooking skills using Snellville Farmer's Market produce.

Amanda Williams, Maxwell High School of Technology culinary arts paraprofessional, conducted cooking demos on Saturdays throughout the summer at the Snellville Farmer's Market. In addition, many Maxwell students joined Ms. Williams during the Saturday demos providing real life on the job experience. Maxwell High School faculty and staff are continuously looking for on the job training opportunities for Maxwell students helping to prepare our students to be able to better articulate their job skills to the public.

Adhering to the Snellville Market's sustainability philosophy, Ms. Williams prepared the demo dishes based on the produce that was available each week. Her menu ranged from grilled eggplant sandwiches to zucchini fritters, and all of her culinary offerings were deemed a great success as shown by the growing crowds of patrons who were sampling the items.

In 2010, which was the first season for the Snellville Farmers' Market, the market was voted the #2 market in Georgia by customers. Moreover, in 2011, the market was voted the #1 market in Georgia, and the #3 market nationwide in the large market category by the *America's Favorite Farmer's Market Georgia*.

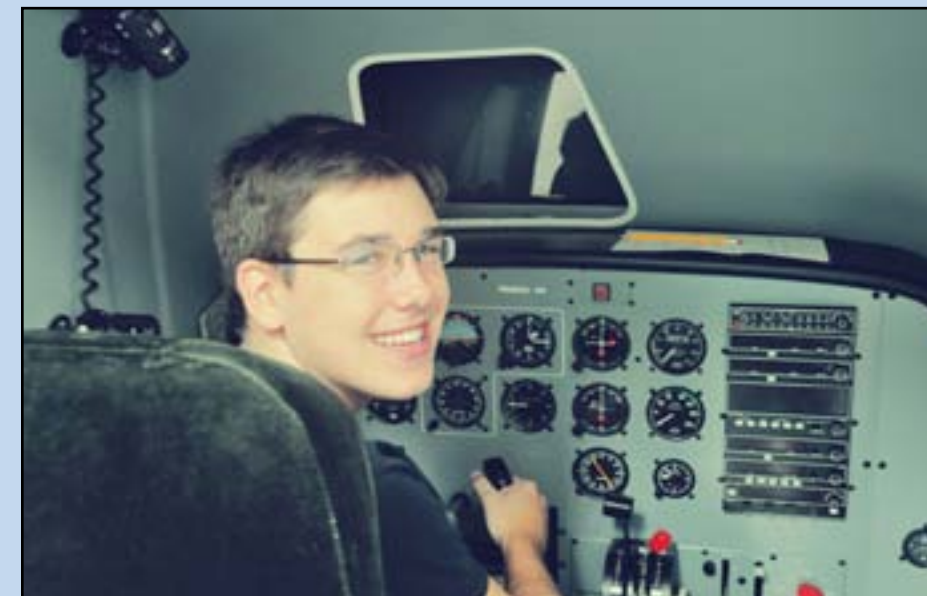
Meyers donates software

Maxwell's Aircraft Flight Operations Program is extremely grateful to Austin Meyer, Owner and Developer of X-Plane Flight Simulation Software, for Meyer's donation of forty, Version 9, X-Plane, Commercial, Pro-Use, USB, software keys valued at \$40,000.00.

Laminar Research, Meyer's company, has provided continuous support to Maxwell's Aircraft Flight Operations Program, and has expanded and enhanced the educational

experiences of Maxwell's future aviators. The Version 9, Pro-Use, X-Plane, USB keys are capable of

running real Garmin Aviation 430 GPS's, and these code updates were just for Maxwell.



Aircraft Flight Operations student Joe Sutlive learns to operate new software in the classroom flight simulator. Photo by Zoe Bascaro.

Meyer and Laminar Research continue to enrich the education of Gwinnett students as the leading business partner of the Aircraft Flight Operations Program at Maxwell.

"Laminar Research is proud to be a partner with Gwinnett County Public Schools and the Aircraft Flight Operations Program at Maxwell" says Austin Meyer.

Middle School Camp great success

The 2012 Maxwell Middle School Summer Camp was a tremendous success with over 200 middle school students attending and participating in thirteen of our technical education courses including architecture, automotive collision, automotive service, construction, cosmetology, culinary arts, early childhood education, electronics, Georgia Pre-K, graphic design, healthcare science, and law & justice.

In addition, Maxwell students served as camp counselors assisting Maxwell teachers as the middle school students explored a career

pathway by completing hands-on projects. The summer camp is an essential part of Maxwell's commitment to reaching younger students as they make decisions regarding their high school schedules.

In fact, the Georgia Department of Education data shows that 93% of students who take three or more technical education courses will graduate from high school.

During the summer camp, Maxwell High School teachers and student mentors led the middle school students in hands-on activities that were not only instructional but fun.

Current sixth, seventh, and eighth graders enrolled at a Gwinnett County school are eligible to participate in the Maxwell summer camp. Beginning in early 2013, registration will be available online in Spanish, Korean, Bosnian, Vietnamese, and Chinese.

Next summer's middle school camp will be held June 10-June 13, and registration will begin on March 12 and will end on May 3.

For more information or if you have questions, contact Sherri Stephenson @ 770-338-4625 or Nancy Zamprelli @ 770-338-4603.



Shown clockwise, three middle school girls learn about Early Childhood Care with computerized babies; Automotive Services camp counselor and 2012 Maxwell graduate Dommnic Sacco demonstrates a service procedure; a female student learns how to give a manicure in a Cosmetology class; and two boys get hands-on experience in the Healthcare Science field.