



Bibb County School District

Department of Communications / Community & School Affairs

484 Mulberry Street, Suite 365, Macon, Georgia 31201, (478) 765-8548

<http://www.bcsdk12.net>

Dr. Curtis L. Jones Jr.
Superintendent of Schools

Lester M. Miller
Board President

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

MEDIA CONTACT

Stephanie Hartley (478) 765-8620

W.S. HUTCHINGS COLLEGE AND CAREER ACADEMY RECOMMENDED FOR CERTIFICATION BY GCCA

March 15, 2018

(MACON, GA) – The Bibb County School District received notification recently that W.S. Hutchings College and Career Academy has been recommended for certification by the Georgia College and Career Academy (GCCA). Certification of Georgia’s college and career academies is mandated in Senate Bill 161 and the recommendation is pending final review by the Technical College System of Georgia.

“William S. Hutchings College and Career Academy is designed to create a learning environment that comes alive, as well as providing students with industry-recognized stackable credentials in multiple high-demand industry fields, from Certified Nursing Assistant to welding. The college and career academy is the pipeline for producing the emerging workforce for the Macon-Bibb County community,” Dr. Cassandra Washington, Executive Director of CTAE for Bibb County School District and CEO of Hutchings.

GCCA Certification is designed to provide a high-quality external validation of the implementation of GCCA programs across Georgia and substantive feedback for continuous improvement from a broad spectrum of trained professionals. As part of the certification process, W.S. Hutchings College and Career Academy welcomed an External Review Team from GCCA in December 2017. The External Review is a rigorous process that includes examination of evidence such as documentation of relevant stakeholder surveys and student performance data and interviews with stakeholders.

In its final report, the External Review Team noted many positive attributes during its assessment of W.S. Hutchings College and Career Academy. Commendations from the External Review Team included:

- The team commends the partnership between the Bibb County Board of Education and the William S. Hutchings College and Career Academy Board of Directors for their commitment to shared decision-making for the benefit of the students and community.

- MORE -

*Vision: Each student demonstrates strength of character and is college or career ready.
Mission: The Bibb County School District will develop a highly trained staff and an engaged community dedicated to educating each student for a 21st century global society.*

- The team commends the William S. Hutchings CCA for its innovative approach to using trimesters for scheduling and for embedding academic courses into career pathways to allow students to earn maximum credits.
- The team recognizes the faculty and staff for providing a nurturing, relevant learning environment at William S. Hutchings CCA and commends the exemplary leadership of Dr. Cassandra Washington.
- The team commends William S. Hutchings CCA for the facility's unique design and décor which contribute to a high-quality learning and working environment for the staff and students and provide an inspirational climate and culture.
- The team commends the William S. Hutchings CCA faculty and staff for their student-centered approach to learning, their commitment to the emotional, intellectual and social growth of their students, and their recognition and cultivation of each student's individuality and leadership potential.

“The Board of Directors for HCCA would like to thank the Bibb County Board of Education for their continued support in our efforts to bring enriched education to our students. With the help of our community and business partners we can bring dreams to reality. We will always strive for excellence and we will continue to ‘raise the bar’ in CTAE to keep students on track in this ever-changing world of technology and expertise,” said Lynne Weeks, Chair of the Governing Board for W.S. Hutchings College and Career Academy.

To view the final report from the External Review Team's visit in December 2017, [click here](#).

XXXXX