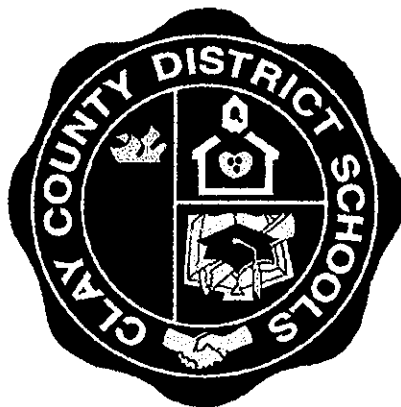


Clay County School District



Workforce Florida Inc. Grant

Administered by

Ford PAS NGL

And

FACTE

Five Year Master Plan

Introduction

The Clay County School District is pleased to submit the Workforce Florida Inc. grant administered by Ford Partnership for Advanced Studies Next Generation Learning (PAS NGL) and Florida Association of Career and Technical Education (FACTE) Five Year Plan. The Clay Community had its initial meeting in March, 2011, to begin the process of educating stakeholders to Ford PAS and to begin the planning to transform teaching and learning in Clay County. For the past eight months we have been involved with a series of community meetings, strand meetings, strand leader meetings, and workforce summits to assure the development of a comprehensive Five Year Master Plan. Additionally, there has been regional involvement in the process in an effort to enact regional transformation in Northeast Florida.

The process we have been through has been very beneficial and productive. It has increased the number of business partners working with the Clay academies and strengthened many of the existing business partnerships. It has heightened an understanding of the academy structure and the benefits of the academy structure among principals, school district administration and staff, Clay School Board members, business partners, and parents. It has increased support for the academy structure among high school principals and created a demand for academies by junior high principals. It has heightened awareness among parents and students of academies and the academy structure. It has afforded the Clay School District the opportunity to have CTE and academic teachers trained in integrated curriculum and the academy structure. The sum of this is that our students will be better prepared for college and careers.

The Master Plan is organized around the three Ford PAS NGL strands. Stakeholders from the Clay School District and throughout Northeast Florida participated in formulating the plan. The Master Plan is aligned with the Clay School District Mission, the Clay Career and Technical Education Mission and Vision, the Clay School District Five Year Strategic Plan, and the needs of regional business and industry. We believe we have developed a realistic, achievable plan to ensure Clay students are prepared for college and careers.

Clay County currently has 54 Career and Professional Education (CAPE) academies with 12 of those academies meeting the National Standards of Practice (NSOP). While all 54 of the CAPE academies integrate academics into the curriculum along with a career focus, the 12 academies that meet the NSOP attain a higher standard of curriculum integration through cohort scheduling that allows and encourages a greater level of integrated curriculum among academics and a career focus. The intent of the Master Plan is to increase the number of academies that meet the NSOP. Due to the process Clay County has been through with this grant, we have identified two additional

high school CAPE academies that will meet the NSOP and two junior high programs which will become academies that meet the NSOP in school year 2012-13.

The Northeast Florida Regional Consortium completed a study through the Schultz Center. This study concluded that career academy students are more successful than their counterparts. These students have a higher grade point average (GPA), better attendance rate, a lower number of discipline referrals and a higher level of satisfaction with their secondary school experience. Clay County data is included in the appendix.

The sustainability of the academy structure is centered around the relationship between and among business partners, school district leaders, school leaders, teachers, students, and parents. While Clay County schools have historically had a strong, positive relationship with the business community, this grant has provided the opportunity to broaden the reach and depth of those relationships. The increased involvement of the business community and all stakeholders will ensure the sustainability. The level of involvement of all stakeholders has created a structure that is greater than the sum of its parts. The continuity and sustainability of the plan transcends any person or position because of the strength of the stakeholders as an entity to ensure the plan will continue.

The following pages include the names and positions of those who assisted in creating the Five Year Master Plan. The plan includes details of "who will do what" to accomplish the goals of the plan. The plan is a living document that will require annual review to ensure it will continue to meet the goals of the stakeholders and the regional economy and workforce needs.

The Clay County Career and Technical Education Department wishes to thank all those involved for their time and effort in the creation of the Five Year Plan.