

# Workforce Development Update

## *Members Making a Difference*



Starting them young! A Roswell cluster of schools, including Mimosa and Vickery Mill Elementary Schools (pictured above), have adopted the “Young Apprentice” feeder program to Roswell’s two middle schools. In the *Young Apprentice* after school program, students spend 90% of their time working with their hands. This project-based learning plants seeds in the minds of students early, giving them exposure to construction career opportunities. By eighth grade, students are more aware of their choices, including the construction program offered at their high school.

### Mark Your Calendar

Events like those below are looking for sponsors and industry participants. Meet your future workforce at the source! For more info about upcoming Workforce Development events, visit [www.agcga.org/WFDCalendar](http://www.agcga.org/WFDCalendar).

- ▶ Central Georgia/Southern Crescent Workforce Development Alliances’ Skills Challenge  
November 1, 2018 in Griffin
- ▶ Northeast Georgia Workforce Development Alliance Skills Challenge  
November 8, 2018 in Gainesville
- ▶ East Georgia Workforce Development Alliance Skills Challenge  
November 15, 2018 in Augusta
- ▶ South/Southwest Georgia Workforce Development Alliances’ Skills Challenge  
November 28, 2018 in Moultrie





# In the Classroom

1

Nix-Fowler Constructors has an ongoing relationship with the Jonesboro High School Construction Department, which is led by teacher Raymond Richards. Nix-Fowler and a group of subcontractors donated Home Depot gift cards which were then used to purchase items from a wishlist. The much needed tools and supplies were delivered on February 16.



2

Superior Rigging had left over steel from a job and delivered it to Jim Thomas, a welding teacher at Chattahoochee Tech's Paulding campus, in January. Thomas was thankful, saying "It was very generous and we put it to use before we got it all unloaded, so that ought to tell you something! It was a God send. I am very grateful for it."



3

In February, Swofford Construction delivered 100 face bricks to Walter Preston, a construction teacher at Griffin High School. The bricks were left over from a jobsite.



4

During the 2018 spring semester, Maxwell High School students built tiny houses, garden sheds, and playhouses out of salvaged and donated materials. Hardie siding was donated by Collins and Arnold Construction Company, with delivery by Premier Construction Services.

5

In February, teachers from Berkmar High School participated in Job Shadow Day. The teachers visited Collins and Arnold's Parkview on Peachtree project to learn the latest trend in cities adopting the live, work, play concept.



6

In March, Joe Tuggle with Swofford shared with Kelly Nix of Nix-Fowler that Carotex mortar is a great resource for high school construction programs. Kelly located a pallet in Tampa. When Dean Cutler and Jeff Johnson, instructors with East & West Laurens High Schools found out about it, they volunteered to drive and pick up it up.



7

On March 1, Chatham County's Windsor-Forest High School celebrated a ribbon cutting for their new construction lab. The program started two years ago and was using a makeshift space. The new lab was renovated from a portion of the old gym and provides a state of the art learning space.







8

Dan Baker, Duffey Southeast, visited Ringgold High School and poke with students about careers in construction.

9

Starting them young! Construction is being taught at the elementary and middle school level in North Fulton County in the schools that feed Roswell High School. A Roswell cluster of schools, including Mountain Park, Mimosa, and Vickery Mill Elementary Schools, have adopted the “Young Apprentice” feeder program to Roswell’s two middle schools, Crabapple and Elkins Pointe. In the “Young Apprentice” after school program, students spend 90% of their time working with their hands. Meanwhile, the middle school model introduces the students to four of construction’s trade skills - carpentry, electrical, plumbing, and masonry. This project-based learning plants seeds in the minds of students early, giving them exposure to career opportunities. By eighth grade, students are more aware of their choices, including the construction program offered at their high school.



Member firms, including Choate, Collins and Arnold, and Young Contracting, are supporting the elementary school construction clubs. The Junior Hornets Young Apprentice Construction Club at Vickery Mill received a hard hat donation from these and other members of AGC Georgia’s Board of Directors. Morgan Tew, second grade teacher and club sponsor at the school wrote, “Thanks to you, all 19 students participating in the construction club received a hard hat. I can’t begin to tell you how much it means to our students. They are so excited to have their very own!”

10

Through a telethon last fall, R.W. Allen raised over \$56,000 for AGC Georgia Foundation’s EGWDA. The funds are used to host the local competition and excess proceeds are given to competing schools for the benefit of construction programs. AGC Georgia President Scott Clark had the privilege of personally delivering these Foundation checks to the 11 participating schools. Clark said, “During these visits, I witness program growth, learn about student projects, and hear about the needs of the educators. It is a great way to stay connected to the programs that feed our future workforce.”



11

On March 30, students of Jonesboro High School’s Construction CTAE Pathway earned their 10 hour OSHA certification. Turner Construction’s Safety Team provided the training.

12

In January, Ram Tool demonstrated fall protection equipment to the construction students at Berkmar and Maxwell High Schools. The students practiced putting harnesses on correctly and heard from Leigh on fall protection safety. **3**

# Statewide Initiatives

1

In February, AGC Georgia had a special visitor. Congresswoman Rep. Virginia Foxx from North Carolina chairs the House Committee on Education and Workforce. She heard about the incredible initiatives AGC Georgia, CEFGA, and Westside Works are making progress on when she visited our headquarters. Also in attendance were AGC Georgia members Anning-Johnson, Duffey Southeast, Eckardt Electric, Marek, and New South Construction Company.



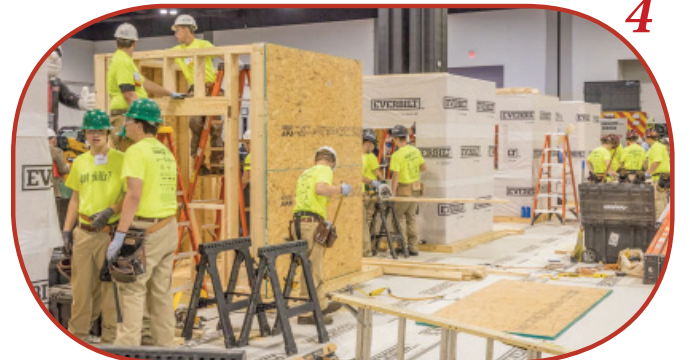
2

Last month, SB 3 - Creating Opportunities Needed Now to Expand Credentialed Training (CONNECT) Act - passed both chambers and awaits the Governor's consideration. The bill, sponsored by Senator Lindsey Tippins, is AGC Georgia's #1 legislative priority. Association leadership firmly believes SB 3 helps ensure the education and training provided for CTAE students is relevant to the industry they are serving. Industry involvement in the classroom creates a direct link and pipeline for contractors seeking skilled/trained labor and students seeking jobs in our industry. AGC Georgia and CEFGA proudly continue to lead the charge on this effort on behalf of Georgia's construction industry.



3

In February, Governor Nathan Deal announced award winners for the Innovation Fund Tiny Grant program, a competitive grant opportunity providing funding to traditional public schools, charter schools and school districts to implement small-scale programs that directly engage students. "The Innovation Fund Tiny Grant connects educators with additional resources to implement innovative initiatives to improve student achievement," said Deal. "These grant proposals address critical areas in today's educational environment and provide a foundation for educators to develop new strategies." Statesboro HS won in the STEAM category for Using Virtual Reality to Teach Blueprint Reading & Design.



4

CEFGA's CareerExpo & SkillsUSA State Championships were on March 22-23. This event links students to construction professionals and offers hands-on displays that allow students to engage with industry leaders, equipment and materials. Over 8,200 attendees participated in the two days!

The following members participated in the hiring fair:

- Ace Electric, Inc.
- Adams Construction Services
- Allison-Smith Co
- Anning - Johnson Company
- Batson-Cook Company
- C. C. Owen Tile Company, Inc.
- Cana Communications
- Dabbs-Williams General Contractors, LLC
- Duffey Southeast, Inc.
- Genesis Elevator Company
- JE Dunn Construction
- Lighting Technologies, Inc.
- Marek Interior Systems, Inc.
- Martin Concrete Construction
- McCarthy
- McKenney's Inc
- MetroPower
- Mid South Roof Systems
- New South Construction
- Precision 2000, Inc
- Precision Concrete Construction, INC
- Primus Builders Inc.
- RA-LIN
- Reliance Interiors, Inc.
- Renfroe Construction Co
- Russell Landscape
- Tebarco Mechanical Corporation
- Tecta America Southeast, LLC