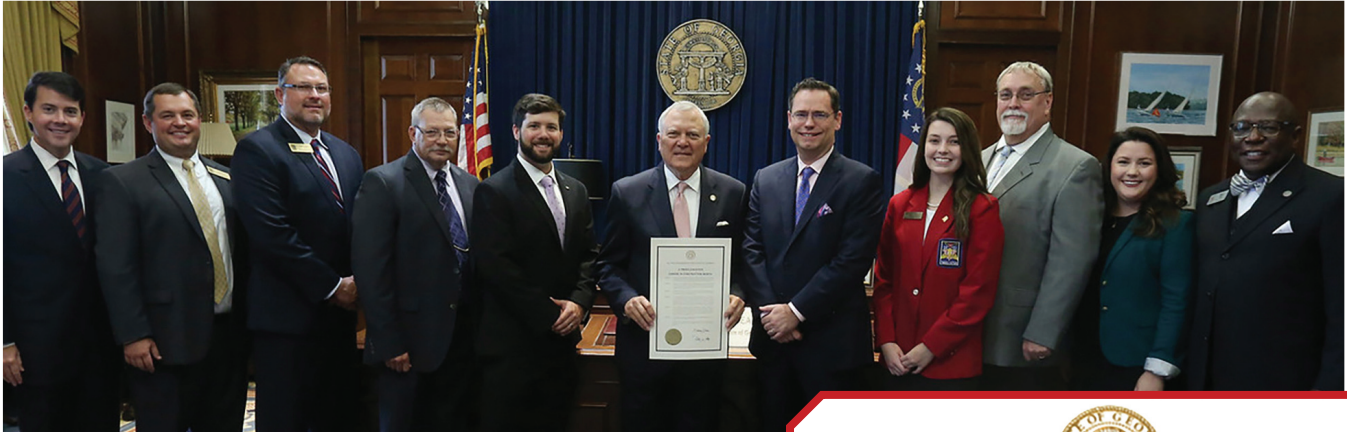


Workforce Development Update

Members Making a Difference



(l-r) Matthew Gambill, Georgia Association for Career & Technical Education; Chad Pruitt and Scott Chaffin, Dept. of Education; Bill Chambless, AGC Georgia; Zach Fields, CEFGA; Governor Deal; Scott Shelar, CEFGA; Carter Arrington, SkillsUSA; Barry Arrington, Adairsville High School; Ashley Brown, SkillsUSA; and Mark Lee, TradeFive participate in the ceremony marking October as Careers in Construction Month.

With Governor Deal proclaiming October as Careers in Construction Month, we have an opportunity to engage parents, counselors, administrators, and community members and promote construction as a solid career choice for our young people. A field guide was created that contains unique ideas that can be implemented locally. For further information, visit byf.org.

Mark Your Calendar

Events below and online 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.

- 11/2 Southern Crescent & Central Georgia Skills Challenge - Griffin
- 11/9 Northeast Georgia Skills Challenge - Gainesville
- 11/13 Tenth Annual Business and Education Summit - Griffin
- 11/16 East Georgia Skills Challenge - Augusta
- 11/30 South & Southwest Georgia Skills Challenge - Moultrie



BY THE GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF GEORGIA

A PROCLAMATION

CAREERS IN CONSTRUCTION MONTH

- WHEREAS: Careers in Construction Month is designed to increase public awareness of construction craft professionals and Georgia's construction workforce, and demonstrate appreciation for the critical role these professionals play in the development of our state; and
- WHEREAS: During Careers in Construction Month, employers, trade associations, and academic institutions are encouraged to conduct job fairs, hold panel discussions, and support local community events to better inform citizens of the many employment opportunities available in the construction industry; and
- WHEREAS: Construction is one of our nation's largest industries, employing five million individuals across the United States. It is estimated that by 2020, Georgia's construction industry will require 225,000 new craft professionals; and
- WHEREAS: The National Center for Construction Education and Research (NCCER) is an education foundation established by industry leaders to promote a positive perception of careers in construction and provide the standardized training and credentialing programs needed to develop a safe and productive workforce. The NCCER Build Your Future Campaign aims to narrow the skills gap by guiding America's youth and displaced workers to opportunities that lead to long-term rewarding careers in construction; and
- WHEREAS: Many organizations, including NCCER, the Construction Education Foundation of Georgia, the Georgia Department of Education, the Technical College System of Georgia, the Georgia Department of Economic Development, the Associated General Contractors of Georgia, and SkillsUSA, are committed to connecting job seekers with meaningful career opportunities in the construction industry while increasing the quality of Georgia's current and future workforce; now
- THEREFORE: I, NATHAN DEAL, Governor of the State of Georgia, do hereby proclaim October 2017 as CAREERS IN CONSTRUCTION MONTH in Georgia.

In witness thereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the Executive Department to be affixed this 1st day of September in the year of our Lord two thousand seventeen.



Nathan Deal
GOVERNOR

ATTEST

Chris W. Pety
CHIEF OF STAFF

In the Classroom

1

The Marietta School Engineering Pipeline Open House took place September 7. Students and parents attended to discover STEM opportunities available to Marietta City School students. The Pipeline is a collaborative partnership between Marietta High School's Pre-Engineering Program, middle grade schools, and elementary schools.



2

In September, AGC Georgia began an eight-month customized Supervisory Training Program (STP) through Oconee Fall Line Technical College (OFLTC) in order to address the critical shortage of construction supervisors. In May 2018, students who have completed all six units of STP will earn a certificate of completion from both the college and AGC Georgia. This is the second annual session of STP at OFLTC.



3

As part of the Science, Technology Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) externship program, AGC Georgia President Scott Clark hosted Felicia Cullars in August at the offices of RW Allen. Cullars, a STEM/STEAM Program Specialist and math instructor, shadowed several RWA employees including a field leader, safety professional, operations director, and a technology/BIM coordinator. As a result, Cullars has a newfound appreciation for construction and believes every student should be exposed to the industry for the variety of skill sets you need – accounting, math, people skills, etc. She later attested to this at the Georgia Department of Education State Board Meeting, saying "I had no clue how valuable the mathematical practices are that happen on the construction site." Her passion for DOE's externship program will help build the opportunity for more teachers around the state.



(above) Scott Clark, Pres./ CEO of RW Allen joins Ms. Cullars at the State DOE Meeting before her externship presentation.



(above) Ms. Cullars learning about construction from RW Allen project manager, Josh Dailey.

4

The Roswell High School Construction Technology Program hosted a Careers in Construction Parent Night on October 10. The event was designed to raise awareness of the many benefits available to students in construction technology. In addition, the event showcased career opportunities available to students after graduation. AGC Georgia members, including Collins and Arnold Construction, The Circle Group, J.E. Dunn Construction, Georgia Trade School, and Pond, participated in the event.

5

Ralph Jones, Fair Manager for the Griffin Kiwanis Fairgrounds was in need of benches for the grounds. Jones supplied the materials and AGC Georgia member and Vice President of Swofford Construction, Inc., Joe Tuggle led the charge. Tuggle reached out to Walter Preston (Griffin High School) and Larry Foley (Spalding High School) to coordinate their students building a total of 12 benches. (Photos at bottom of page 3.)



This fall, each of AGC Georgia's regional Workforce Development Alliances met to gear up for their respective November Skills Challenge. While East Georgia and the joint committee of representatives of Central Georgia and Southern Crescent's alliances have hosted Skills events in the past, Northeast Georgia and South/Southwest Georgia are preparing for their inaugural events.

During the four challenges, over 420 students, representing 54 high schools, will participate in the following competitions: Electrical, Carpentry, Plumbing, Masonry, Welding, A/V Production and Team Works. These member-driven challenges help prepare students who plan to compete in their regional SkillsUSA event in January. Winners of those events, move on to the state SkillsUSA competitions in March at the Georgia International Convention Center.

Construction teachers from the participating schools are also allowing over 800 more students to attend the events as observers. Many of these are younger high school students who are being groomed to compete at these events in the future.

Sponsors from all across Georgia make these four events possible. Over \$110,000 in tax-deductible donations have been made to the AGC Georgia Foundation in support of the Challenges from approximately 200 firms.

SKILLS CHALLENGE



The East Georgia Workforce Development Alliance met September 14 at the RW Allen office in Augusta.



Rodney Presley of Lanier College and Career Academy led the discussion to put the final touches on the Northeast Skills Challenge.



On September 26, the Southern Crescent and Central Workforce Development Alliances met.



Ashby Autry with JCI led the joint meeting of the South Georgia and Southwest Georgia Workforce Development Alliances.



Spalding High School students Zach Bancroft and Corbit Peterman constructed benches under the supervision of teacher Larry Foley.

5

Griffin High School students Chase Adams and Andrew Landrum constructed benches under the supervision of teacher Walter Preston.



Statewide Initiatives

1

In September, a West Georgia Technical College (WGTC) Skills Gap meeting was held. The meeting was an ongoing effort between WGTC and the construction industry to look at adding curriculum and course of study in the industry at the college. Representatives from Northwest Tech also attended to gain insight on the need to add programs in their area. AGC Georgia members Randall Redding with R. K. Redding and Senator Mike Dugan with RA-LIN were instrumental in coordinating this effort.



2

The Cobb Workforce Partnership (CWP) met August 23. CWP is a coalition of both Cobb County and Marietta City Schools, Kennesaw State University, Chattahoochee Technical College, Georgia Highlands College, Life University, CobbWorks, and over 30 Cobb businesses. The vision is that every Cobb employer has an opportunity to educate and train their future workforce in partnership with educators and every Cobb student is connected with career pathway opportunities in the community through every level of their educational track. Many AGC Georgia members are involved in this group.

3

On September 18, AGC Georgia Board member and President of Sports Turf, Aaron McWhorter, arranged a meeting with members of the Carroll County School District. The purpose of the meeting was to discuss possible construction career pathways in the school district. Currently, Carroll County has two college and career academies with no construction-related programs other than welding. With the economy in an upturn, officials agreed now is the time to look at connecting students to the growing number of construction jobs that are available.



4

In September, HOPE scholarship officials announced studies in construction, aviation, logistics, and automotive were being added to the HOPE Grant, effective January 2018. To learn more visit gafutures.org or <https://tinyurl.com/y9zme727>

HOPE
CAREER
GRANT

Have a story you want to share in this quarterly newsletter?

Want to get involved with a construction program in your area?

Contact Bill Chambless, Member Development Specialist at chambless@agcga.org.