

## JONES COUNTY HIGH SCHOOL COLLEGE AND CAREER ACADEMY

125 Stewart Avenue Gray, GA 31032 (478) 986-3032 phone · (478) 986-4412 fax www.jones.k12.ga.us Laura Rackley, CEO
Kris Towers, Chairman
Amy Holloway, Vice Chairman
Chap Nelson, Treasurer
Kimber Pittman, Secretary
Michael Abney
Ed Barbee
Cheryl Carty
Cathy Ferguson
Mindy West

## **Culture and Climate**

Culture and Climate of JCCCA has been established with ongoing COMMUNICATION with all stakeholders from the earliest stages of its development. Our process began with a large group of community stakeholders to learn about the Georgia College and Career Academies Project. From this group, committees were formed relative to various aspects of the CCA development and communicated to stakeholder groups. The local newspaper does a tremendous job of supporting JCCCA through ongoing coverage of our programs and accomplishments. There is a component of each local board of education meeting that features College and Career Academy updates and programs, which is also always covered within the Jones County News.

Being a part of a single high-school district lends itself to tremendous community support. The Chamber of Commerce, Development Authority, Rotary Club, Kiwanis Club, as well as local and regional employers have supported the college and career academy throughout many projects, including mock interviews, "Reality Check," guest speaking, field trips, "Senior Retreat," work-based learning and youth apprenticeship placements, advisory committee membership, Junior Leadership Jones, etc. This partnership between industry and education has become an expected component of our culture within both the school system and our community.

Counselors have participated in professional learning about career development activities, such as YouScience, and created advisement lessons to enhance communication with students about a wide array of topics from bullying to FAFSA and scholarship opportunities. This builds the capacity of students to make connections with their future careers.

Through ongoing employer feedback, JCCCA has now added Georgia BEST Certification in all Level I CTAE courses, further emphasizing the importance of employability skills among students and the future workforce of central Georgia.

The Jones County College and Career Academy partners have worked to establish a strong reputation in our community and among both students and parents. All efforts support our mission "To create a career pipeline that contributes to the economic development and quality of life in the central Georgia region through innovative academic rigor, technical, and employability skills training."