

July 14, 2011

NCSS Receives \$4,500 PAS Next Generation Grant

Newton County School System is pleased to announce that the Newton College and Career Academy (NCCA) has been awarded a \$4,500 Ford PAS Next Generation Learning mini-grant to allow a team of 10 to 15 NCCA teachers and administrators and local business and industry leaders to attend a Metro-Atlanta Ford PAS Next Generation Learning workshop in the fall of 2011. In addition the team will receive one day onsite follow-up workshop and \$500 worth of Ford PAS resources of their choice.

According to James Woodard, NCSS Director of Career, Technical and Agricultural Education and NCCA principal, Ford PAS offers interdisciplinary, inquiry-based and team-focused learning for high school students.

“This grant will allow our teachers to receive professional development to better prepare our students to be 21st Century learners,” said Woodard. “We have created a 21st Century Learner profile which focuses on career and academic pathway skills, 21st Century learner skills, professional skills and personal success skills. The professional development received through this PAS Next Generation grant will help teachers work with the students in these four areas that business leaders in our community determined are most important.”

The Ford Next Generation Learning framework creates meaningful learning experiences that enable students to apply academic knowledge to real world learning. It advocates that schools create and maintain career- and interest-based programs and the collaborative culture, structures, and practices necessary to transform teaching and learning. Additionally, it engages employers, educators, civic and community leaders to collaborate in promoting and sustaining educational programs that prepare the future workforce. This mini-grant is part of Ford’s Operation Goodwill Atlanta partnership with local Ford and Lincoln dealers created this spring with a \$1 million fund to expand local community engagement.

“I appreciate the generosity of Ford Motor Company and Ford dealers from across the Atlanta area to ensure our students are equipped with the skills they need to succeed in the 21st Century global economy,” said Lt. Governor Casey Cagle, who announced the award at the Georgia Association of career and Technical Education Conference. “Through our partnership with Ford Motor Company Fund and the great work of our educators across the state, we are able to work with local schools and communities to provide cutting edge ideas for relevant, career based education that will give every student a personal pathway to success.”
