



The Maxwell Navigator

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Maxwell High School of Technology

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Chavez wins TIEGA Teacher of the Year



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Congratulations to Automotive Services teacher Max Chavez chosen as the TIEGA, (Trade and Industrial Educators of Georgia), new Teacher of the Year. Mr. Chavez is also the TIEGA nominee for GACTE (Georgia Association of Career and Technical Education) new Teacher of the Year. He is shown with his students (left) Duluth student Jorge Gonzalez and (right) Parkview student David Chavez. The students are holding their trophies for first place team and highest qualifying exam score at the Ford AAA Automotive Challenge State competition.

Maxwell Auto Services instructor Max Chavez is the TIEGA new Teacher of the Year. Nominated by Dr. Jimmy Williamson, Coordinator of the UGA new teacher training program, Mr. Chavez is also the TIEGA nominee for GACTE new teacher of the year.

Chavez worked at Chrysler for twelve years before deciding to become a public school educator. He is Master ASE (Automotive Service Excellence) Certified and a certified advanced level

specialist in his field. In addition, he is one of the few Dodge Viper specialists in the Southeast.

When asked about what teaching means to him, he said, "Teaching feels natural. I've heard it said 'do something you love and you never work a day in your life.' That's how I feel when I come to work everyday at Maxwell High School." Max Chavez will also represent Maxwell High School of Technology as the new department chair next year.



Scan Maxwell's QR code with your Smartphone to go directly to Maxwell's website.

News Bits

Interior Design students Shannon Stewart, Laura Vasquez, Erika Gordan, Sophia Oh, Monique Harkless, and Jinyun Lin, along with **Architectural, Drawing & Design** student Adalia Fullbeck have work accepted into the WADE exhibit at Brenau University. The exhibit is entitled, "Young Women's Art & Design Exhibition," and 10% of the pieces accepted into the exhibit are from Maxwell High School students. Interior Design student Erika Gordan won a \$2500 scholarship to Brenau and a \$100 cash prize. Dee Tillman is the instructor.

Welding had thirty-seven students achieve the NCCER (National Center for Construction Education and Research) welding certification.

All **Construction/Carpentry** students achieved NCCER certifications in construction which includes Core Curriculum, Masonry, and Carpentry. All students will also receive national certifications in residential wiring and plumbing.

Eight Maxwell students are eligible to compete at **Skills USA Nationals** in five different contests.

Auto Collision Repair student Godofredo Pacheco is the winner of the 2014 Atlanta I-Car Committee Scholarship which awards up to \$5,000 to be used towards continuing his education in collision repair at South Georgia Technical College.

NTHS students named



The National Technical Honor Society is an acknowledged leader in recognition of outstanding achievement in technical education. The NTHS motto, "Success favors the prepared mind," and slogan, "Excellence in America's workforce begins with excellence in workforce education," is supported by Maxwell High School of Technology's academic standards and goals. Pictured above are the AM members: Ahmad Abdul Rahim, Michelle Arnold, Wendolyn Barquero, Jamie Cox, Jeremy Crowe, Megan Fry, Samantha Glenn, Erica Golden, Allison Grubb, Zi Fan Guo, Sade Guzman, Virginia Harvey, Savannah Holman, Ke'Mari Jones, Esther Noh, Khushbu Patel, Meliza Phoummavong, Micaii Rice, Sarah Siddiqui, Felisha Sutherland, and Duyen Tran; and below the PM members: Kayla Buckley, Francisco Clark, Guadalupe Garcia, Carly McGee, Janet Nguyen, and Esther Owusu.

Two new programs added next year

Maxwell High School of Technology added two new programs of study to the fall schedule.

Instructor Mike Shepherd, who also teaches a Carpentry class at Maxwell, will teach an HVACR (Heating, Ventilation, Air Conditioning, and Refrigeration) class in the fall.

Students will have the opportunity to become certified in all HVACR fields.

In addition, instructor Mark James, who has been teaching Graphic Design and Interactive Media, will be teaching an AM and PM Programming class. Both classes are additions to the Maxwell curriculum offerings

that provide students the opportunity to study and explore in-demand career fields.

Students who are interested in registering for any fall Maxwell class should go to the Maxwell website @ maxwellhigh.com and fill out the online registration form.

The Principal's Message...

Dear Maxwell supporter,

The end of another school year has arrived. The school year has swiftly passed, but has afforded us the time to celebrate, recognize, reflect and turn the light out on a fantastic school year. I want to take this opportunity and say thank you to our students and staff for a job well done. We had great success with our student organizations-HOSA, FCCLA, and Skills USA. In addition, our Work Ready advisement program provided students the opportunity to experience real-life activities that prepare them for college, work, and life. Our dining etiquette banquet was the culminating event for our Work Ready program. Please take a few moments to read about two of our teachers, Chef Debbie Grant and Mr. Max Chavez, in this issue of the *Navigator*. Chef Grant and Mr. Chavez were named Georgia teachers of the year by TIEGA and ProStart, respectively. We look forward to June as we host middle school summer camp, a wonderful opportunity for us to showcase our programs to potential future students. I wish nothing but success for our seniors, and hope everyone has a relaxing and restful summer. As always, please know our doors are open to you and thank you for your support. Go Navigators!

-Dr. Jeff Hall, Principal



Dr. Jeff Hall, Principal
Maxwell High School of Technology

Leyva going to Nationals



Collision Repair student Joel Leyva is shown accepting a check from Mike Stempkowski of Sterling Collision Centers to cover his travels to the SkillsUSA National competition. Joel, a Peachtree Ridge High School student, earned first place in Collision Repair Technology at the State SkillsUSA competition and will compete at the national competition in Kansas City in June.

The Maxwell Navigator

The Maxwell Navigator newsletter is a quarterly student publication. All photos, and layout and design are produced by students.

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SkillsUSA students win State

The State SkillsUSA results are in, and several Maxwell High School students will be attending Nationals to be held in Kansas City in June. Maxwell has eight students eligible to compete at Nationals in five different contests. Regional competition was held in various locations in Atlanta.

First place winners and their contest names are: Joel Leyva, Collision Repair Technology; Alex Waite, Diesel Equipment Technology; Greyson Keifer, Electronics Technology; Allison Grubb, Johnny Lopez-Sanchez, and Matthew McMillan, Flight Operations; June Orocio and Danielle Ramos, Web Design; and, CJ Clark, Adalia Fullbeck, and Alex Pourhossein, Career Pathways Showcase.

Second Place winners and their contest names are: Celine Mobley, Applied Communications 11th/12th grade; Duyen Tran with Model Mansi Tanna, Nail Care; Vanessa Betancourt with model Stephanie Nunez, Job Skill Demonstration; DJ Bradford, T-Shirt Design; Trevon Hines, Mathematical Applications 11th/12th grade; Cameron Hodge, Ahsan Houston, and Hashim Masalawala, Architectural Drafting Display; and Brandon Shelton, Automotive Refinishing Technology.

Third place winners and their contest names are: Matthew Ramos with model Robbie Barnes, Action Skills; James Blomgren, Power Equipment Technology; and Linh Trinh, Commercial Baking.

SkillsUSA is a partnership of students, teachers and industry working together to ensure America has a skilled workforce. SkillsUSA helps each student member excel in their chosen career and has a mission seeking to empower its members to become world-class workers, leaders and responsible American citizens.

SkillsUSA serves more than 300,000 students and instructors annually. The organization has 13,000 school chapters in 54 state and territorial associations. More than 14,500 instructors and administrators are professional members of SkillsUSA.

Maxwell High School of Technology has 190 Skills USA student members and is sponsored by staff members Christine Pulliam and Mike Mahaffey.



Shown above, (left to right) are Architectural, Drawing & Design students from instructor Dee Tillman's Maxwell class: Alex Pourhossein, CJ Clark, and Adalia Fullbeck. They are first place winners in the Career Pathways Showcase (Architecture). Shown below is student Greyson Kiefer from Ken Womack's Maxwell Electronics & Robotics class. He is the first place winner in Electronics Technology. The students are displaying their SkillsUSA state prize medals. All have been invited to compete in the Skills USA national competition in Kansas City, MO in June.

EMR Program certifies students



Students from Monica Collins's Emergency Medical Responder class practice CPR techniques on a practice dummy. Shown (left to right) Peachtree Ridge High School student Franklin Peralta, (partially hidden) South Gwinnett High School student Kelisha Sutherland, and Berkmar High School student Mona Samiyan. All students in this class have the opportunity to earn a Healthcare Provider CPR certification as well as a EMR certification through NREMT (National Registry of Emergency Responders). Students participate in weekly clinicals at Gwinnett Technical College and through the Gwinnett County Fire & Emergency Services Department. They also are instructed in emergency medical training at Gwinnett County Fire Station #20 where six students are paired with one instructor as they are cross-trained as a firefighter and as an EMT. Emergency Medical Responder students are trained to think critically so that they will be able to solve emergency medical situations.

Maxwell's Healthcare Science programs are designed to prepare students for a wide range of careers in the healthcare industry. Instructor Monica Collins's Emergency Medical Responder class enables her students to obtain an EMR, Emergency Medical Responder, certification through NREMT (National Registry of Emergency Medical Responders).

Having this certification gives students some qualified medical background that is required when applying to an EMT program which is a highly competitive field. The EMR level is directly below the EMT certification needed to be an Emergency Medical Practitioner.

Students in all Maxwell Healthcare Science classes also have the opportunity to earn a Healthcare Provider CPR certification during the

fall semester classes.

Students in Collins's healthcare science class participate in weekly clinical experience with Gwinnett Technical College and the Gwinnett County Fire & Emergency Services Department.

During the spring semester, the students also receive hands-on instruction at Gwinnett County Fire Station #20 as they are instructed in emergency medical training. During this field experience, six students are paired with one instructor who is either a firefighter or an EMT where they are cross-trained as a firefighter and as an EMT.

This year two former Maxwell High School students who had completed Mrs. Collins's class have also continued this career pathway by completing and graduating from the

Gwinnett County Fire & Emergency Training Academy.

During the Maxwell Work Ready Program spring mock interview process, Casey Snyder and Russell Knick from the Gwinnett County Department of Fire & Emergency, and Steve Moyers, Dean of Health Services at Gwinnett Technical College, interviewed students from Mrs. Collins classes in order to better prepare them for taking the next step in this career field.

Prior to becoming a public school instructor at Maxwell, Mrs. Collins was an RN specializing in Pediatric Emergency and Pediatric ICU care. In addition, she has served as a Pediatric Nurse Practitioner. She has also been a member of a Child Protection Team and was a communicable disease investigator in North Carolina.

To schedule a tour of Maxwell High School of Technology or if you have questions about registering for a class, call Emily Latone, Counselor @ 770-338-4605 or Dr. Vicki Hoffmann, Curriculum AP @ 770-338-4601.

Aircraft Flight adds student opportunities

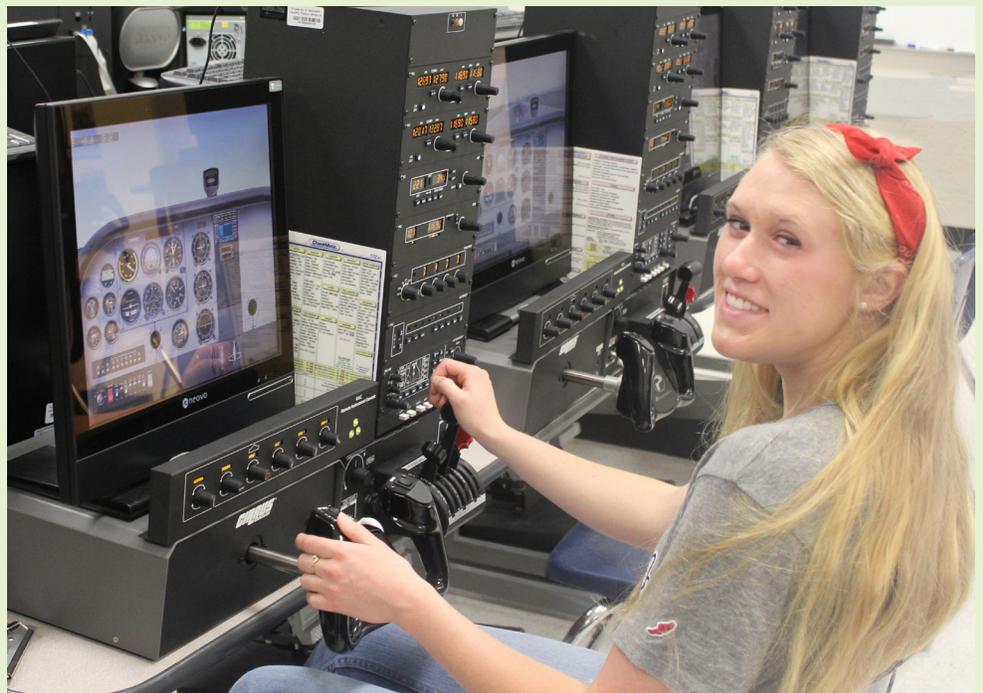
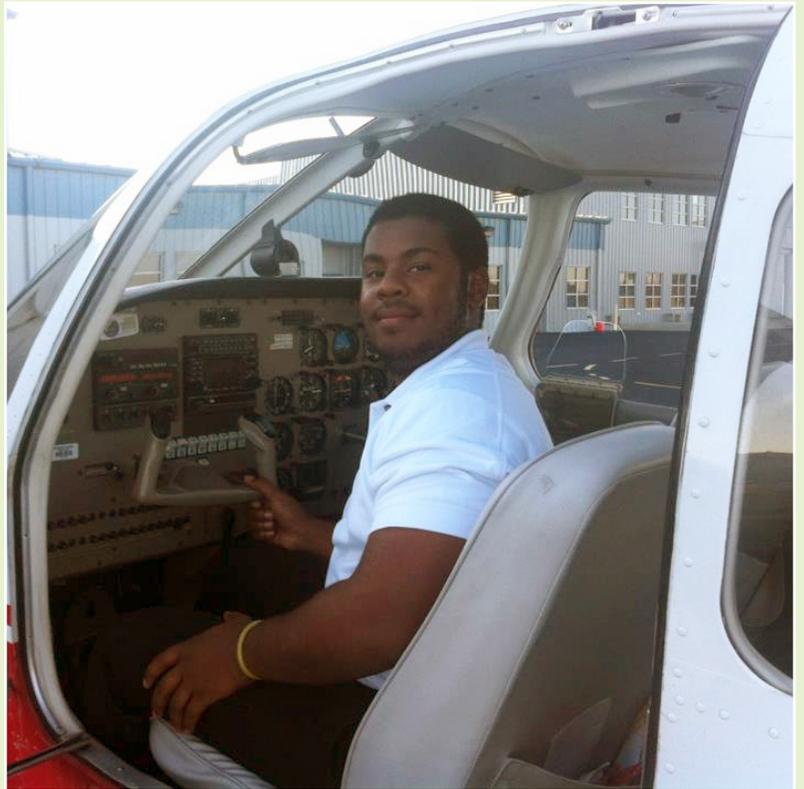
Maxwell's Aircraft Flight Operations class continues to add opportunities for our students to have real-world experiences and to make real-life connections that will enable them to take the next step in college and career.

Maxwell graduates returning to talk with current students, along with our business partners providing the addition of new technology, enhances the opportunities that this program offers. In addition, Aviation students excelling at state and national competitions empowers students to find success in their chosen career fields.

Former Maxwell student Marcel Graham, now a student at Middle Georgia State College, returned this spring to share first-hand his collegiate and aviation experiences with current students. Graham, a 2011 GCPS and Maxwell graduate, has earned his FAA Commercial and Instrument Pilot's license and is currently working on his FAA Certified Flight Instructor Certificate. Many Aircraft Flight Operations students matriculate to Middle Georgia State College as it is the only Georgia state aviation school that provides the Hope Scholarship. Graham has returned to Maxwell each year to encourage other students to attend Middle Georgia State College to help prepare for their future.

In addition, Precision Flight Controls (PFC) and PFC President Mike Altman has donated two dedicated flight simulators to SkillsUSA, TEFGA, and Maxwell for use in order to provide a seamless experience from classroom to the Skills USA student competition. This donation is an investment in education for the Aircraft Flight Operations Program and for the students that desire to become future aviators, air traffic controllers, aircraft mechanics, dispatchers, and aviation business leaders.

Also this year, three current Aircraft Flight Operations students placed first in SkillsUSA Flight Operations State competition: Allison Grubb, Johnny Lopez-Sanchez, and Matthew McMillan. The simulators will continue to enhance student training with the latest, cutting-edge technologies.



Former student (above) Marcel Graham is shown sitting in an airplane as he works on his FAA Certified Flight Instructor's Certificate. Graham has returned each year since his GCPS graduation to share his collegiate experience at Middle Georgia State College as well as his aviation experience. Current Maxwell student (below) Allison Grubb is shown practicing on a Maxwell Aircraft Flight Operations classroom flight simulator. This spring, Grubb placed first in the Flight Operations competition at SkillsUSA. She also has won a \$5,000 GBAA (Georgia Business Aircraft Association) scholarship to further her education in aviation. Students Johnny Lopez-Sanchez, and Matthew McMillan also took home a first place at this year's State USASkills competition.

Automotive meets the challenge



Congratulations to the Maxwell High School of Technology Automotive instructors and students who won and placed in the Ford AAA Automotive Skills Challenge. Each team member won scholarships for post secondary automotive schooling. Shown above (left to right): Duluth HS student Kyle Caughill, Dacula HS student Kyle Benton, and Grayson HS student Ryan McKay, Maxwell instructor Eliot Lawrence, Parkview HS student David Goni, Maxwell instructor Ricky Bradford, Lanier HS student Sabrina Brown, Parkview HS student David Chavez, Duluth HS student Jorge Gonzalez, and Maxwell instructor Max Chavez. The instructors and students are posing around a fully restored 1976 Firebird TransAm signed by Bert Reynolds who drove a Firebird TransAM in Smokey and the Bandit.

Shown left below is Duluth High School student Jorge Gonzalez holding his first place trophies that he and team member David Chavez won during the competition. Both Gonzalez and Chavez will represent Maxwell High School and Georgia in the national competition to be held at the Ford Headquarters in Dearborn, Michigan. As a member of the first place team, Jorge won \$31,500 in scholarships for post secondary automotive schooling.

Maxwell High School's Automotive Services classes sent three teams to the Ford AAA Automotive Skills Challenge state competition. All three teams placed as they competed against ten other high school teams in the State.

First place went to Auto Service's instructor Max Chavez's team members, Duluth High School student Jorge Gonzalez and Parkview High School student David Chavez. In addition, these students won a first

place trophy for highest qualifying exam score.

Gonzalez and Chavez will be representing Georgia at the National Competition at the Ford Headquarters in Dearborn, Michigan. Both team members won scholarships totalling \$31,500 each for post secondary automotive schooling.

Fourth place went to instructor Eliot Lawrence's team with team members Dacula High School student Kyle Benton and Grayson

High School student Ryan McKay. Each team member won scholarships totalling \$6,000 for post secondary automotive schooling.

Fifth place went to instructor Ricky Bradford's team. Team members were Lanier High School student Sabrina Brown and Parkview High School student David Goni. Duluth High School student Kyle Caughill represented the team as an alternate. Each team member also won scholarships totalling \$6000.

Grant chosen ProStart Teacher of the Year



Shown (left) are the Maxwell High School of Technology 2014 ProStart team as they demonstrate their culinary skills at the Clarkston Farmer's Market held in May. The students cooked the produce that they found at the market. This year, Chef Debbie Grant led her student ProStart Team to a second place finish in a one day ProStart cook-off competition held at the Retreat @ Perimeter Summit on March 7. ProStart team members pictured (left to right) are Brookwood High School student Wendy Barquero, Meadowcreek High School student Leslie Ramos, Peachtree Ridge High School student Jason Pacheco, and Archer High School student Samuel Boakye-Danquah. Team member Peachtree Ridge High School student Christopher Rhoden is not pictured. The demonstration is the type of real-world experience that all Maxwell students are able to experience in order to better prepare them for taking the next step in college and career. Chef Grant believes that it is vitally important to shape students' futures with real world experiences.



(Above) Chef Debbie Grant is shown in her Maxwell High School Culinary lab. Debbie Grant was named the 2014 Georgia ProStart Teacher of the Year. She was named ProStart Teacher of the Year in 2009, and in 2011, she was named the Maxwell High School of Technology Teacher of the Year.

For the second time in five years, Maxwell High School of Technology's Chef Debbie Grant has been honored as Georgia's ProStart Teacher of the Year. In 2009, Grant was named the ProStart Teacher of the Year.

This year's award came from the Hospitality Education Foundation of Georgia and the Greater Atlanta Chefs Association as both ProStart organizations came together to honor Chef Grant for motivating her students and for engaging them in the culinary arts industry.

In 2011, Debbie Grant launched the culinary arts program at Maxwell after ten years as the Home Economics teacher at Meadowcreek High School where she guided her students into top awards at national competitions. In 2011, she was chosen by the Maxwell faculty as the Maxwell Teacher of the Year.

Grant believes that it is important to shape students' futures with real world experiences, and in that way as a teacher, she can help develop the best members in the culinary world and community. When asked about her culinary classroom, she said, "I want to teach my students the craft of culinary arts, and to also prepare them for the next step." Her classroom philosophy is driven by the belief that all students are able to find success as they become empowered to move into a career or college.