



# The Maxwell Navigator

"Your Career Begins Here!"

Fall 2018

Maxwell High School of Technology

Volume 7 No. 1

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Shown above: Mr. Kachmar receiving the 2018 Harbor Freight Tools for Schools Prize for Teaching Excellence. He also received a Harbor Freight tool box and appeared on several local news channels.

Maxwell High School's welding instructor, Mr. Charles "Chaz" Kachmar, was named a 2018 Harbor Freight Tools for Schools Prize for Teaching Excellence national grand prize winner. The award honors the top high school skilled trades teachers and programs in the country with a proven track record of dedication and performance. It included three rounds of judging, each by an independent panel that included experts from industry, education, trades, philanthropy, and civic leadership. As part of the award, Maxwell High's welding program received \$70,000, and Mr. Kachmar received \$30,000 for his personal use. Mr. Kachmar was one of three winners across the country to receive the award. Danny Corwin, executive director of Harbor Freight Tools for Schools, presented the check and stated, "We had 557 applications from 49 states for this award.

Charles is one of those winners, and it is due to what he has done for these students. He has changed lives every day and made skilled trades education into a program here to help kids get amazing jobs and graduate high school." Maxwell principal, Dr. Jeff Hall, said, "This couldn't have gone to a better, more qualified, loving and endearing teacher. Students love him, and he is so good for our industry and school."

Mr. Kachmar, who has been a teacher for 23 years, has taught welding at Maxwell High School since 2012. "It's all about showing students the doors to a future; that is my love," Mr. Kachmar said. "The students become my forever kids. I keep in touch with a majority of them through social media to follow their personal growth. Their success is what gets me excited."



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

# Calendar

Fri., Dec. 21-Wed., Jan. 2

*Winter Break*

Thurs., Jan. 3

*1st Day, Second Semester*

Jan. 14 - Feb. 11

*High School Recruitment Visits*

Mon., Jan. 21

*No School*

*Martin Luther King Day*

Feb. 6, 7, 11

*Work Ready Seminars*

*Best Kept Secret: Apprenticeships*

Fri., Feb. 15

*Student/Staff Holiday*

Mon., Feb. 18

*Student Holiday/Teacher Planning*

Thurs., February 21

*Maxwell Open House*

*5:00 PM - 7:00 PM*

Tues., March 12

*Maxwell Lottery*

*2019-2020 School Year*

April 1-5

*Spring Break*

April 10-12, 16-18

*Work Ready Seminars*

*Business Dining Etiquette*

Wed., May 22

*Last Day of School*

# Winning the Gold

In November, Larson Field, an AM student in Mr. Mahaffey's Carpentry class, competed in the Skills Challenges hosted by the Associated General Contractors of Georgia's Regional Workforce Development Alliances. Nearly 60 high school students competed in four regions throughout Georgia. Field won the Northeast Georgia region competition held at Chicopee Woods Agricultural Center in Gainesville. He was challenged by multiple competitors from 13 Northeast Georgia high schools in the carpentry competition. Field represented Maxwell well and won first place. He received a gold medal along with a tool belt and other prizes. "Larson has done a fantastic job in Construction this year,"



Mr. Mahaffey said. "He worked hard in preparation for the competition. His diligence in the classroom will go a long way in preparing him for a career in construction."

# Former Student Soars



Shown above (left picture): Former Maxwell student, Esteban Tellez, standing to the left of the Fairchild Republic, A-10, Thunderbolt II, more commonly known by its nickname, Warthog or Hog. (Right picture): Tellez flying the Northrop, T-38, Talon, twin engine, supersonic, jet trainer.



Esteban Tellez graduated from Maxwell High School of Technology in 2011 and continued his education at Middle Georgia State University where he graduated with a Bachelor of Science degree in aviation science and management. Tellez joined the Air National Guard as a flight engineer and has flown the E-8, JSTARS, and Boeing 707. His primary Air Force pilot training was in

the Beechcraft Texan II, T-6 for six months and 120 hours. Tellez went on to advanced jet training in the twin engine, supersonic Northrop T-38 Talon for nine months and 130 hours. He has been flying the A-10 for over one year now. Tellez flew the T-6 and T-38 at Sheppard AFB and Randolph AFB in Texas. He is currently flying the A-10 at Davis Monthan AFB in Tucson, Arizona.

# The Principal's Message...

Greetings from Maxwell! I invite you to enjoy our fall newsletter. We are having a wonderful school year and have many exciting things happening at Maxwell. You will find this edition of our newsletter features our talented Teacher of the Year, Jennifer Mundy. Ms. Mundy is also a former Maxwell student! We are excited to offer a new program this year: Manufacturing. I encourage you to read about the Maxwell Work Ready program. Jon Valentine, Director of Foreign Language for GCPS, addressed our students on employability skills and workforce preparation. Students also focused on topics like dressing for success and getting along with others. Our SkillsUSA organization is off to a great start, and we currently have 142 members. Also, take a moment to learn about our HO-SA-Future Health Professionals organization and their officers. We proudly feature our Architecture program and their Career Q & A event. Please enjoy learning about Larson Field, an award-winning student in our Construction program. In addition, we feature a former Flight Operations student in the Air National Guard. This edition highlights our Welding teacher, Charles Kachmar. Mr. Kachmar is a national grand prize winner for Harbor Freight Tools for Schools. Finally, we are excited to continue to be a part of the Quinn House service project. Each class sponsors a child in need and helps their child have a wonderful holiday season. We look forward to another successful school year. Please know our doors are always open to you and thanks for your support. Go Navigators! -Dr. Jeff Hall



*Dr. Jeff Hall, Principal*

## New Program this Year

Manufacturing is new this year at Maxwell High School of Technology! Professionals in this industry design machinery, develop products, repair robots, work with software, and utilize green technology. This program allows students the opportunity to turn their interest in solving puzzles, robotics, repairing cars, building with Legos, and more into a career. Students will also gain experience working with commercial metal-cutting equipment and 3D printing technology.

Mr. Brandon Myers is the Manufacturing instructor. He comes to Maxwell with fourteen years of manufacturing experience ranging from nuclear power plant repair to motor sports and exotic sports car production. Mr. Myers was also an adjunct instructor at Lanier Technical College for three years before coming to Maxwell.



*Shown above: Manufacturing students performing maintenance on a CNC Milling machine.*



*Shown above: Manufacturing students working together to create and assemble a high-volume cookie cutter for the Culinary Arts program.*

## The Maxwell Navigator

The Maxwell Navigator newsletter is a publication designed to celebrate the accomplishments of students attending Maxwell High School of Technology and the teachers and staff who instruct them.

Jessica Stallings  
*Newsletter Editor*

Dr. Jeff Hall  
*Principal*



Maxwell High School of Technology  
990 McElvaney Lane  
Lawrenceville, GA 30044  
770.963.6838

# Architecture Hosts Career Q&A



Shown above: Ms. Tillman's PM class invited Ms. Ina Bachmann, Mr. Kevin Edwards, Mr. Gordon Lawrence, and Mr. Kenji Tillman to serve on the afternoon panel for the Career Q & A event.

The architecture students at Maxwell High School of Technology hosted their first Career Q & A event on October 17. The event, born out of the advice from members on the program's advisory board, was part of a project embedded into the career unit that not only covered learning about careers and professional organizations, but also helped students improve their employability, research, and literacy skills.

The students planned the event and made it their own. They picked the location, determined the layout of the space, and developed an agenda for the event. All students, in professional dress with questions in hand, excitedly waited to stand and ask their question to the panel. Each student asked his or her own thoughtful

question that helped them see the profession from a variety of viewpoints. Questions students posed to the panel ranged from, "What was your favorite project that you've ever worked on and why?" to "How do you deal with clients who have unrealistic views?"

The panel that came for the morning class included Mr. Tim Fish, Mr. Steve Carlin, and Mr. Mark Kill from Cooper Carry; Mr. Michael Ross from Hill Foley Rossi & Associates; and Mr. Michael Clifford from Lindsay, Pope, Brayfield, Clifford & Associates. The panel for the afternoon class included Mr. Kenji Tillman from Lindsay, Pope, Brayfield, Clifford & Associates; Ms. Ina Bachmann from Wakefield Beasley & Associates; Mr. Kevin Edwards from Eberly and Associates; and Mr. Gordon Lawrence

from Lawrence Design Group. The students appreciated the honest and genuine feedback from the guests. They heard stories about overcoming mistakes, time management, balancing home and work life, advice on colleges to attend, and the importance of networking and finding a mentor. Students also learned that they can be successful, even if they struggle in Calculus, but they should practice drawing and visualizing forms often.

All of the students and professional guests gave the event great reviews. Every student benefited from the event and recommended that the program host another Career Q & A event for next year's class.



Shown above: The AM panel included Mr. Michael Ross, Mr. Tim Fish, Mr. Steve Carlin, Mr. Mark Kill, and Mr. Michael Clifford.



Shown above: The PM panel included Mr. Kenji Tillman, Ms. Ina Bachmann, Mr. Kevin Edwards, and Mr. Gordon Lawrence.

# SkillsUSA: 2RE Conference

SkillsUSA Georgia held its annual 2RE (Reach-Recruit-Engage) Conference in Atlanta. Students were engaged in hands-on team sessions where they cultivated chapter experiences, explored the SkillsUSA Framework, and formulated a successful chapter plan. This year's conference was held October 29-30 at the Sheraton Atlanta Hotel. Maxwell had 11 of its SkillsUSA Class Representatives attend the 2RE Conference along with chapter advisors, John Sorah and Jessica Stallings.



Front row (left to right): Mr. Sorah, Audrey Quenneh, Kamara Rochet, Mya Cordero, Jasmine Mayorga. Middle row (left to right): Will Beckham, Priya Sharma, Nghia Pham, Ms. Stallings. Back row: Kal-El Allen, Lauryn Johnson, T'Yanna McCoy, Ezelious Adams



Shown above: Students working together in various team activities.



# Quinn House Service Project

This holiday season, Maxwell sponsored 78 children for the Quinn House service project. Maxwell has been helping Quinn House children for the past 22 years, providing gifts to over 2,000 children. The Quinn House is a non-profit corporation established to offer an alternative to the homeless and those in need, operating solely on donations from the public. It is a full-service group home in Gwinnett County and offers a variety of programs that assist adults as they transition back into society as productive citizens.



# Registration

Maxwell is gearing up for the 2019-2020 school year! Our online application will be available at maxwellhigh.com beginning Monday, January 14, 2019. Visit our website for detailed program descriptions.

## 2019 Home School Recruitment Dates

| School          | Date          |
|-----------------|---------------|
| BERKMAR         | 1/14<br>Mon   |
| NORCROSS        | 1/15<br>Tues  |
| SOUTH           | 1/16<br>Wed   |
| SHILOH          | 1/17<br>Thurs |
| DULUTH          | 1/18<br>Fri   |
| ARCHER          | 1/22<br>Tues  |
| COLLINS HILL    | 1/23<br>Wed   |
| GRAYSON         | 1/24<br>Thurs |
| PARKVIEW        | 1/25<br>Fri   |
| MOUNTAIN VIEW   | 1/28<br>Mon   |
| BROOKWOOD       | 1/29<br>Tues  |
| MILL CREEK      | 1/30<br>Wed   |
| NORTH           | 1/31<br>Thurs |
| LANIER          | 2/1<br>Fri    |
| CENTRAL         | 2/4<br>Mon    |
| PEACHTREE RIDGE | 2/5<br>Tues   |
| DISCOVERY       | 2/6<br>Wed    |
| DACULA          | 2/8<br>Fri    |
| MEADOWCREEK     | 2/11<br>Mon   |

Visits will be held in the high school cafeterias during all lunch periods. Maxwell teachers will be present to help students apply.



# HOSA Officers Elected



2018-19 AM HOSA officers

Shown above (left to right): President, Sharmaine Williams; Vice President, Arianni Gore; Secretary, Alyssa McGuffie; and Reporter/Historian, Jalen Dunning.



2018-19 PM HOSA officers

Shown above (left to right): President, Julia Tra; Vice President, Ciin Cing; Secretary, Diyorahon Rakhi-mova; and Reporter/Historian, Rachel Fuhrmanek.

Maxwell High School's HOSA chapter currently has 144 members. Chapter members elected their AM and PM officers in October. All students enrolled in the Therapeutic Services program have the opportunity to join HOSA, which is a national student organization endorsed by the U.S. Department of Education and the Health Science Technology Education Division of ACTE. HOSA provides a unique program of leadership development, motivation, and recognition exclusive for high school students enrolled in Healthcare Sciences programs. The mission of HOSA is to empower HOSA-Future Health Professionals to become leaders in the global health community through education, collaboration, and experience.

# Therapeutic News

Ms. Compton's Sports Medicine classes learned about the life stages humans go through and cultural diversity during fall semester. The students presented the life stage they were assigned: mental, emotional, social, and physical growth. Ms. Compton assigned each student to create a paper doll that resembled the assigned stage. In addition, students presented to the class their specific cultural differences in regard to religion, health practices, and family culture (i.e. nuclear versus extended, matriarch versus patricarch, etc.). Afterwards, the paper dolls were displayed outside Ms. Compton's room in the hallways for all Maxwell students and teachers to enjoy!



Shown above (left to right): Hailey Paul, Timaria Law, Trinity Edwards, Jamia Dorsey, Hannie Lafortune



Shown above (left to right): Nathaly Candelaria, Katie Martinez, Jocelyn Pena, Ms. Compton, Ariana Cruz

# Becoming Work Ready

Dr. Jon Valentine, GCPS Director of Foreign Language, was the keynote speaker for Maxwell's Work Ready Dress for Success session this semester. He led an informative seminar on how to be workforce ready with all Maxwell students. The Dress for Success session was held in September, and it helped kick off the Work Ready advisement for the year. All students at Maxwell were required to attend this session dressed in professional attire. Dr. Valentine discussed with students many topics to help them be successful on the job, including the three important factors of being a good employee, "Show up on time, don't complain, and dress professionally."

Work Ready is the advisement program at Maxwell High School of Technology that ensures graduates of Maxwell have the essential soft skills needed to successfully enter the workforce and/or post-secondary education. This program is coordinated by Maxwell counselors, Dr. LaVonna Groce and Mrs. Emily Latone.



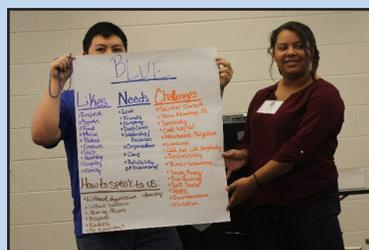
Shown above: Maxwell students with keynote speaker, Dr. Jon Valentine, GCPS Director of Foreign Language. Shown below: Students participating in the Dress for Success seminar.



# Getting Along with Other People

Maxwell counselors facilitated the Work Ready session *Getting Along with Other People*. All students were required to attend this session and learn about personality types and discuss the importance of displaying empathy when relating to other people. In this session, students took a personality assessment and analyzed their personality types and the personality types of their classmates. Students were assessed

and given a color: blue, orange, green, or gold. Maxwell students received a beaded necklace based on their colors and engaged in a group activity and poster project that helped each student to understand their personality types and the types of their peers. Maxwell students, faculty, and staff learned a lot about how personality types might connect with an individual's work style.



# Mundy chosen Maxwell TOTY

Maxwell High School Early Childhood Education instructor, Jennifer Mundy, has been chosen the 2018-2019 Maxwell Teacher of the Year. Ms. Mundy has been in education for sixteen years with five of them being at Maxwell. Before she joined the Maxwell staff, she taught kindergarten at Lawrenceville Elementary, but her love for teaching started long before that. She grew up knowing that she wanted to become a teacher. "My brother was my first 'student,' and I thought it was my job to teach him anything he needed to know. Once I entered middle school, I volunteered in the children's ministry at my church and worked at Vacation Bible School, Summer Day Camps, and Parents' Nights Out. I knew that teaching was going to be different from my experiences at church, and I wanted to find out if teaching was really for me. As a senior in high school, I decided to step out of my comfort zone and enroll in an Early Childhood Education class. I took the class at none other than Maxwell High School of Technology. I am not only a teacher at Maxwell but also a former student!"

After graduating from North Gwinnett High School, Ms. Mundy attended Emmanuel College in Franklin Springs, Georgia, where she received her Bachelor's Degree in Early Childhood Education. This led to her first teaching job at Lawrenceville Elementary School. While at Lawrenceville Elementary, she completed her Master's Degree in Reading and Literacy Instruction through Walden University. Last December, Ms. Mundy graduated from the University of Georgia with an Educational Specialist Degree in Early Childhood Education.

As a former student of Gwinnett



*Congratulations to Maxwell High School of Technology Early Childhood Education instructor, Jennifer Mundy, who has been chosen the Maxwell High School 2018-2019 Teacher of the Year.*

County Public schools, Ms. Mundy recalls the amazing teachers she had at all levels of her educational career. "I had teachers who cared about me as a person and pushed me to be a better person not just at school but also in all areas of my life. I want to be the same type of educator to my students."

Ms. Mundy believes "each student has his or her own method of learning; while some need hands-on activities, others do not. There are basics that each student should be taught, but it is hard for a student to stay focused if he or she is not having fun while doing it. When a student enters my classroom at the beginning of the year, I want him or her to know certain things have to be accomplished. The main goal that I have for all of my students is that they rise above where they were when they entered my class. This means each individual student has different goals. I also want my students to know they can ask

questions and that their questions will be answered effectively. My teaching style changes from year to year just as the individuals in my class change. I will always strive to get an inattentive student to become more involved. It is my desire to understand each student individually and to help him or her at his or her level. I want to be a teacher who teaches so the students will learn rather than one who instructs, so they will memorize. I like to include a mixture of fun and learning in my classroom. I want to be approachable, so my students feel comfortable coming to me with difficulties."

Teaching the Early Childhood Education pathway has allowed Ms. Mundy to share her educational experiences and knowledge with future teachers: "I want my students to leave my classroom with a desire to make a difference in the lives of our future generation and to make a difference in the world in which we live."