



## **Parents/Guardians of Laurens County Incoming 9th Grade Students:**

The Heart of Georgia College and Career Academy is one of 29 public school college and career academies chartered by the state board of education to prepare Georgia students for life after high school. HGCCA is part of the Bleckley County, Dublin City, Laurens County and Wheeler County School Systems with the mission “to improve public educational outcomes and ensure a viable 21<sup>st</sup> Century workforce for the Heart of Georgia region.” HGCCA is a public school of choice with the primary purpose to prepare students for success in the world of work or a postsecondary institution (college). The HGCCA experience reinforces key work ethics and academic practices that will result in successful student performance in the workplace and postsecondary education. HGCCA is not a separate school but works with the home high school to provide courses not normally taught by the high school your child attends. Most students would spend part of the day at their home school and part of the day at HGCCA. The diploma your child earns will be from the home (West or East Laurens) high school.

The purpose of this letter is to tell you about two programs of study offered at HGCCA for 9<sup>th</sup> grade students for the coming year. ***Innovations in Science and Technology*** appeals to students who want to use a hands-on approach to solving STEM (science, technology, engineering, math) related projects and problems that are authentic to the real world and the global work force. In this program students will develop an understanding of the relationship between the physical, biological and social world. The second program is ***Global Logistics*** and it is for students who wish to focus on establishing a supply and demand chain for business and industry. These students will design, build and test their own solutions to problems. The two programs use the Southern Regional Education Board (SREB) curriculum and we are the only school in Georgia teaching Global Logistics, and one other school system, Gwinnett County is offering Innovations in Science and Technology. Both of these programs are offered in conjunction with science and math. These are four year programs of study which advance through the curriculum each year until completion. Students will receive a pathway credit for completing the program and have the opportunity to dual-enroll their junior and senior years with either Middle Georgia State College or Oconee Fall Line Technical College to earn college credits.

Your student will be transported by bus from the home school in the morning or can be dropped off at HGCCA and will be bussed back in time for lunch and classes at his/her home high school. We look forward to starting classes on August 7<sup>th</sup> at our newly renovated classrooms in the old West Laurens High School building. To receive more information about the SREB classes and the college and career academy or register your child for one of these classes, please contact Howard Abney at [habney@ofc.edu](mailto:habney@ofc.edu) or leave a message at 296-6147. You may also contact Rob Johnson, Laurens County Schools Superintendent, at 272-4767 or [robjohnson@lcboe.net](mailto:robjohnson@lcboe.net).