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NEWS RELEASE

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HCCA Awarded Trade Five Grant for Manufacturing Fieldtrips

HOUSTON COUNTY, GA – The Houston County Career Academy (HCCA) has been awarded a \$500 Trade Five Foundation Grant. The funds will be used for fieldtrips to local manufacturing companies. The first site visit is scheduled to Robins Air Force Base on March 20 from 8:00 a.m. until 1:00 p.m.

Students enrolled in the manufacturing pathway at the HCCA will have the opportunity to participate in site visits to local manufacturers. In addition to the Robins AFB visit, fieldtrips may be taken to: Graphics Packaging, Gilmer, Frito Lay, Perdue, Cemex, Bluebird, Anchor Glass and Sandler.

Currently the school has 16 students in the Industrial Maintenance program, 6 in Aviation Maintenance and 15 in Welding. In addition to high school credit, these students earn college credit through Central Georgia Technical College.

Principal Sabrina Phelps said, “Our school works closely with the Development Authority of Houston County exploring the possibility of establishing partnerships. We believe in growing our own to create a seamless pipeline for Houston County’s workforce in manufacturing. The site visits will allow the students to connect the skills learned in class with the skills needed in the actual workforce. We want the students to recognize the relevance of what they are learning. The district’s Youth Apprenticeship Coordinator will accompany the group to the local industries to discuss the employment opportunities.”

Trade Five is a workforce initiative that shows Georgians the benefits and opportunities of careers in the “skilled trades” of five industries: construction, energy, logistics, manufacturing and telecommunications. Trade Five helps people and companies build futures by informing citizens about these jobs and how to have a career as a tradesperson.

The Houston County Career Academy is located at 1311 Corder Road in Warner Robins. Principal Sabrina Phelps may be contacted at 478-322-3280 or Sabrina.Phelps@hcbe.net.

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