

# An Early Start on Career Development

Planting the Seed!

# Background

- Elementary Career Awareness
- 2 Elementary Schools
- School Improvement Grant Funds
- Willing and Innovative Principals
- Feeder High School Data



# Principal's "Quote"

After being at Matilda Hartley for a year as the principal

I realized that our students needed a comprehensive approach to student achievement. We wanted this to include increasing the academic rigor, changing the school culture and providing wrap around services to address the social and emotional needs of our students.

Also, I recognized that a schools' ability to influence increasing graduation rates really begins in the Elementary School. I knew that in Bibb County our graduation rates hovered around 61% percent.



# Principal's "Quote"

Research shows that students who are able to connect to an interest or career early in life are more likely to stay in school and graduate.

HB 713 mandates a minimum course of study in career education in grades K-12.



# Early Start

- **Elementary** school is a perfect time to explore an interest and to begin investigating a career choice.



# WHY?



- **Research States the following:**
  - Exposing children to career possibilities enables students to see the connections between what they are learning in school (their academic skills), and what people are doing in the “real world.”
  - Increasing a student’s awareness of the type of skills needed for potential future jobs will make his/her learning purposeful and will allow students to realize the future relevance of academic topics they are exposed to in early educational experiences.



# WHY?



- Career learning helps students see themselves as part of the job force and the future of the world. Career awareness and development empower students to develop certain skill sets that will help them contribute to a future society.
- Career Awareness activities enable educators to introduce functional skill development in academic content area.



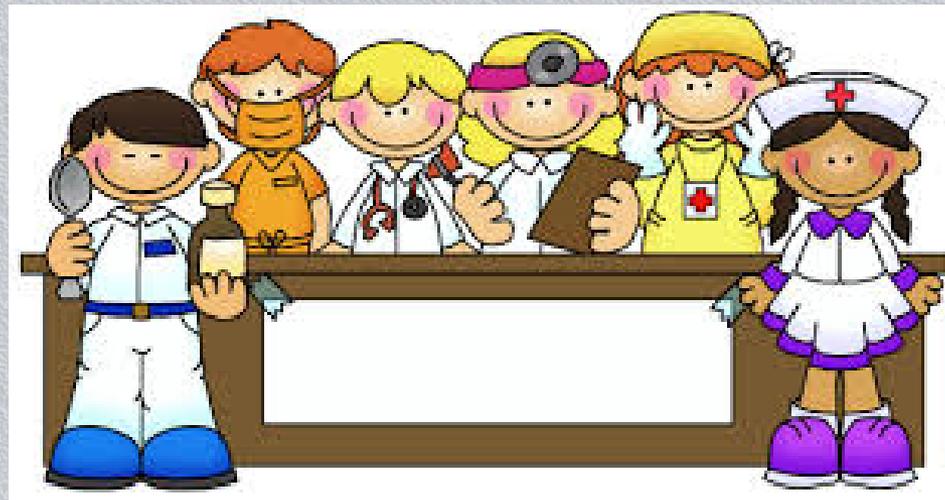
# Implementation

- **Develop A Plan**
- **Develop Buy-In**
  - Hire a College and Career Coach-**SIG Grant**
  - Utilize current staff members
  - Create a Career Center/Lab
  - Create a connection class – Access for all students
  - Provide students with real-life experiences (3<sup>rd</sup> - 5<sup>th</sup> grade)
  - Implement Academic/CTAE collaboration
  - Increase Parent Involvement



# Upcoming Activities

- Micro Society-Entrepreneurship Market
- Jr. Leadership Rally
- Summer Camp-Career Exploring
- Shadow Experiences (3-5)
- Career Fair - Interactive
- Mock Interviews



# Partnerships

- District Staff
- Local Colleges
- Universities
- Technical Schools
- Sororities/Fraternities
- School Counselors
- Advisory Board Members
- High/Middle School Instructors
- CTSO members



# Potential Outcomes

- Enhance the functional nature of teaching and making academic material tangible to the students.
- Increase soft skills by learning the reality of workplace etiquette and routine at an early age.
- Develop comprehensive knowledge of the vast career options
- Motivate students to stay in school



# Potential Outcomes

- Develop Post-school goals
- Enhance Career Awareness
- Increase pathway completers
- Develop Vertical Alignment



# Pathways



# Questions

