

"COMMITTED TO HIGH PERFORMANCE"

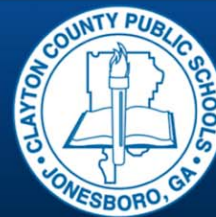
NEWS RELEASE

CLAYTON COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Come Fly with North Clayton High School Students

JONESBORO - A special partnership could open the doors for students of Clayton County Public School (CCPS) to an emerging industry with unlimited future potential.

Through a customized Drone Training and Certification Program, developed by CCPS Career Technical and Agricultural Education (CTAE) in cooperation with drone partner TCJ AeroTech, LLC, North Clayton High School (NCHS) students will be able to accelerate their learning and will enter into the emerging Unmanned Aerial Vehicle (UAV) industry.

"Unmanned Aircraft Systems (UAS) are quickly emerging as the new technology helping businesses discover new ways to improve efficiency and operating margins," said Dr. Eboni Chillis, CCPS Coordinator of CTAE. "TCJ AeroTech, a gold standard in this industry, will prepare our students to be highly qualified drone professionals.

TCJ AeroTech partners will train and test a cohort of 20 students through a four- to seven-week Drone Training program to acquire skills in flying, operations, photography, and advanced drone operations capturing and editing video. The NCHS student cohort will meet after school two days a week for two hours a day and the instructors from TCJ AeroTech will meet the students at the school. "Our school is preparing students for post-secondary options that meet the needs of both a global society and the local school community," said Dr. Eldrick Horton, NCHS Principal. "Hence, the implementation of a Drone program embraces aviation and technology that exists in our immediate backyard."

The students upon completion will be able to attain a Basic Flight Operations credential and continue on to attain a Part 107 FAA UAV Remote Pilot License from the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA). Whether a student pursues aeronautics, aviation flight, aviation mechanics, or becomes a drone pilot, we are preparing students *before* graduating from high school with skills that businesses and industries desire.

"It is time for Clayton County to take its place in the field of aviation," said Dr. Morcease J. Beasley, CCPS Superintendent/CEO. "No more will we sit back and assume our children will not or cannot. They are just as bright, motivated, and creative as any to be aviators and should take their place in the aviation industry."

"This opportunity is one step of many to ensure our students are leading in aviation globally," he said. "We commend Dr. Horton and the North Clayton community for changing the status quo and ushering in a new era of Clayton County Public School students being trained to pursue careers in the field of aviation."

“It’s an exciting time in CCPS,” Dr. Beasley concluded. “This is a life-changer as we are committed to high performance and changing students’ lives for the better.”

Terrance X. Johnson, President and CEO TCJ AeroTech, LLC said, “TCJA understands that the commercial and military impact UAVs will have in the next few years is extremely significant, creating more than 150,000 new jobs by 2020!”

“It is only logical that Clayton County Public Schools students’ who are soaring new heights at North Clayton High School lead the efforts in immersing our students in the field of Aviation by positioning them to capitalize on the drone industry,” Dr. Chillis said.

About Clayton County Public Schools

Clayton County Public Schools (CCPS) is fully accredited by AdvancED – Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Council on Accreditation and School Improvement. The district offers a focused world-class program based on a challenging curriculum which is taught from pre-kindergarten through 12th grade. Serving over 55,000 students, Clayton County Public Schools is ranked among the 100 largest school districts in the U.S. and is the fifth largest school system in Georgia.

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