



Bainbridge College Early County Achieves As 1st Certified Work Ready Business

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BCE C's full-time faculty and staff hold the distinction of achieving status as Early County's first Work Ready business. Seen here left-right, after successfully completing required testing, are (seated on floor) John McRae, Pat Browers, (seated on bench) Renee Spence, Terri Craft, Nicole Roberts, Lori Haddock, (1st row standing) Teresa Teal, Misty Joiner, Rachelle Andreu, Pam Smith, Natasha Hudson, Frederick Shorter, (back row) Sonja Johns, Nina Causey, Jeff Chandler, Herman Cochran, Matthew Rub, Mark Kelly, Lucinda Baldwin, and Michelle Barsom. Work Ready faculty and staff not pictured are Claude Bell, Jerry Miller, Emily Mills, Sandy Rogers, and BCEC Director Joan Simpson.

Thanks to hard work by its personnel, Bainbridge College Early County Center holds the distinction as the county's first business certified as WORK READY. The achievement came when full-time faculty and staff took three WorkKeys Assessments developed by ACT Inc., internationally recognized assessment-research company. The assessments test an individual's aptitude for applied math, locating information and reading for information – skills deemed necessary to succeed in the workforce.

“The testing process gave our full-time faculty and staff a new confidence and sense of pride,” said BCEC Director and Work Ready Team Leader Joan Simpson, who was first to take the tests. She said they want to help Early County achieve the title of Certified Work Ready Community. She encouraged her staff and faculty to take the tests to demonstrate what she believed to be true – BCEC full-time faculty and staff represent a very capable workforce. She was very pleased with the testing outcome. Although faculty and staff performed very well in the

testing, each individual wanted to work to improve personal scores and retest in the future, she said.

The college challenged other local offices and businesses to become certified. Details are at www.gaworkready.org or those interested may call BCEC at 229-724-2106 to reserve a time for testing. Since 2007 the college has administered Georgia Work Ready assessments as part of the Work Ready certificate program that aims to have every person in the workforce Work Ready Certified. The certificates are awarded based on lowest score level earned in three core skill assessment areas. Certificates are issued at four levels: Platinum, Gold, Silver, and Bronze.

DeVane Earns Highest Rating, Challenges Early Countians



Answering Bainbridge College Early County's challenge to the community to become Work Ready certified, Chuck DeVane went to the college, took the Work Ready Assessments and earned a Platinum certificate - the highest level possible.

Rotary President DeVane challenged other Rotarians and Early County citizens to support the county's initiative to obtain Work Ready Certification for the community.

He is seen here having been congratulated by BCEC Director Joan Simpson, who had challenged the community to take the assessments after BCEC became Early County's first Certified Work Ready business. DeVane answered the call.

"I really appreciate Chuck for 'stepping up to the plate' to help Early County earn its certification," Director Simpson said.