

**SURRY COUNTY SCHOOLS**  
**NEWS RELEASE**

Tracey H. Lewis, Ed.D., Director of Communications  
P.O. Box 364  
Dobson, North Carolina 27017  
336/386-8211 Cell: 336/401-1873 Fax: 336/386-4756  
E-Mail: lewist@surry.k12.nc.us

**For Immediate Release**

September 10, 2018

**CTE Teacher Meeting & New CTE Director Named**

On Friday, August 24, district leaders held a beginning of year meeting for Career and Technical Education (CTE) teachers. During this meeting, Superintendent, Dr. Travis L. Reeves, shared his passion and vision for Career and Technical Education, telling teachers, “You are vitally important to our local economy. Our students need skills suited to the local and regional labor force right here in Surry County.”

Dr. Jill Reinhardt reminded CTE teachers of the 2007 CTE Program Review in Surry County Schools and outlined a number of program enhancements and changes that have taken place in the district over the last 11 years. Some of those enhancements include partnerships with Surry Community College in construction and health sciences, the addition of Project Lead the Way (PLTW) in all middle and high schools, upgrades to the Foods program and labs, and the addition of the Digital Media Academy. Dr. Reinhardt stated, “The review in 2007 provided us a roadmap with direction on growing our CTE programs and not remaining stagnant. This fall, with the overall SCS Strategic Planning process, Career and Technical Education will undergo another program review to include labor market analysis, interviews, and focus groups to include teachers, students, parents, and other community stakeholders to ensure we continue meeting the needs of our students.”

Superintendent Reeves shared state and regional labor market updates with teachers, pointing out the potential this has for students and the community.

**State and Regional Trends:**

- State - 37 Occupations in health sciences, IT, architecture, construction, and finance are expected to exceed 25% growth by 2024.
- State - Growth in hospitality, tourism, and human services is expected.

- Regionally, advanced manufacturing, IT, business management and administration will experience growth.

Moreover, Reeves shared with teachers the most recent changes to CTE:

- Next Generation Career Academy internships (27 total interns in the 1st year with 15 business partners, six of which are new partners this year)
- Imminent enhancements to Agriculture
- Commercial kitchen at Surry Central High School

Additionally, Reeves officially announced Mr. Neil Atkins as the new Career and Technical Education Director for Surry County Schools. Dr. Reeves congratulated Mr. Atkins and noted, “Mr. Atkins is ready to take the reins. I am excited about Mr. Atkins in this role and look forward to the continued focus in Surry County Schools on the college and career going culture that has become the norm for all high school students.”

