


Southwest Alabama Workforce Development Council Region 7 News



Baldwin-Choctaw-Clarke-Conecuh-Escambia-
Mobile-Monroe-Washington-Wilcox

March 2017

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February Highlights

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[SAWDC Holds Aviation Cluster
Meeting](#)

[MAEF to Open State's First Ever
Charter School](#)

REGISTER NOW!

**SAWDC - CGIA
Joint Annual Meeting**

April 18, 2017
9:00 AM to 1:00 PM*
@ Evonik Industries



SAWDC WORLDS OF OPPORTUNITY

Preparations Begin for the 2017 SAWDC World of Opportunity

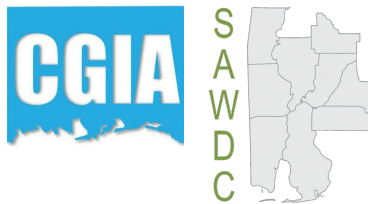
What does it take to have a successful future? That's the question that will be asked of close to 10,000 area eighth graders on September 20-21, 2017 at the eighth annual SAWDC Worlds of Opportunity Career Expo. Public and private school students from the region's nine county footprint will visit the Mobile Civic Center in Mobile, Alabama over the course of a two-day period for a hands-on, interactive career exploration experience led by business professionals from thirteen key Southwest Alabama industries.

Preparations for the 2017 event are now underway! If you would like to get involved whether by volunteering your time or through sponsorship, please contact Sherry Wade at swade@sawdc.org. We hope you will join us as we *inspire our future workforce....one student at a time!*

SAWDC WORLDS OF OPPORTUNITY

**[Sponsorship opportunities](#) are now
available - just click on the link
below to make your commitment**

Click [here](#) to register
*includes meeting, tour, and lunch



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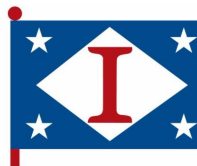
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**SAWDC Holds Aviation Cluster
Meeting at AIDT Aviation Training
Center**

Over twenty industry and training leaders convened on Wednesday, February 15th, at SAWDC's latest Aviation Cluster meeting. Industry demand served as the centerpiece with key employers discussing the challenges associated with finding qualified workers for high demand occupations, such as airframe mechanics.

In addition, updates were provided on the newly

Laura Chandler
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SSAB

consolidated Coastal Alabama Community College, the aviation college's progress on curriculum development for the new airframe mechanic program set to launch in August, and dual enrollment centered around aviation demand in Region 7.

MAEF to Open State's First Ever Charter School in Mobile in 2017

The Alabama Public Charter School Commission approved the Mobile Area Education Foundation (MAEF) to open the state's first-ever charter school in Mobile County. **ACCEL Day and Evening Academy (ACCEL)** is a tuition-free, public school providing an innovative, personalized learning environment that meets students where they are and puts them on a path to achieve their dreams after high school.

ACCEL's target students are 16-21 years of age and have fallen behind in high school, dropped out, or otherwise desire a different option to graduate ready for college, career and life. ACCEL allows students to learn at their own pace and graduate more quickly, experience rigorous, personalized learning, and to attend day and night classes to meet their needs.

The vision of the ACCEL Day and Evening Academy is to re-engage and inspire youth to unlock their academic potential and graduate high school as life-long learners, ready for college, careers and civic life. Classes begin August 21, 2017.



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Southwest Alabama Workforce Development Chatter

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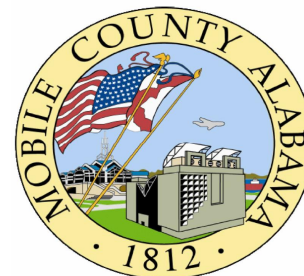
[UTC Aerospace in Foley
picked as one of the
country's best plants](#)

[Knowledge-based industries
crucial to Alabama's
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Alabama News Center:
[Airbus Project Adds Lift to
Mobile's Aerospace Sector](#)

New York Times:
[Wanted: Factory Workers,
Degree Required](#)

Marketplace:
[Facing Skills Gap,
Employers Send Workers to
College](#)



SAWDC's Vision is to develop a comprehensive, integrated workforce development system which creates a skilled, diverse, motivated, adaptable workforce that better meets the needs of employers and leads to a better quality of life for our citizens.

SAWDC's Mission is to develop strategic partnerships which attract, educate and train students and workers to better meet employer needs and foster economic growth in a global marketplace.

For more information on how you can become involved with the efforts of the Southwest Alabama Workforce Development Council and Region 7, please call 251-445-2090.