



# NEWS RELEASE

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## **Principal Field Trip provides Gwinnett school leaders with a look into high-skill, in-demand jobs**

For the third year, Gwinnett County Public Schools is partnering with area businesses to host its **Principal Field Trip on Thursday, June 13**. This year, 60 school system leaders (high school and middle school principals, as well as a few district leaders) will participate, getting a first-hand look into the world of business and industry within Gwinnett County. The day-long, externship-type atmosphere allows principals to make connections between Career and Technical Education pathways offered at each school while also providing school leaders with insight regarding high-wage, high-skill, in-demand jobs within Gwinnett County.

The district's Academies and Career and Technical Education Office selected this year's workplaces using employment trends and data provided by the Gwinnett Chamber of Commerce. This year, the planned stops for the Field Trip include visits to **Heraeus, Okabashi, IBM, and Kaiser Permanente**.

During the Field Trip visits, Gwinnett principals will take part in walking tours of each facility and get an opportunity to interact with the business and its employees.

**Interested news media representatives are invited to join GCPS leaders on June 13 during the stop at Heraeus, which is located in Buford. Bus A will be at this stop from 8:15 to 9:25 a.m. and Bus B will visit Heraeus from 9:45 to 10:50 a.m.**

For more information about the Principal Field Trip, contact **Tim Hemans**, Gwinnett County Public Schools' director of Academies and Career and Technical Education, at 678-301-7050 or **Jeffery Oddo**, senior communications manager with Heraeus, at 215-944-9981.

### **About Heraeus:**

Operating in Buford for over 35 years, Heraeus Quarzglas is the world's largest processor and manufacturer of synthetic fused silica, which is essential for the high-tech and telecommunications industries. These specialized ultra-high purity materials help power optical data transmission technology, wireless phone and data networks and consumer electronics. The visit to Heraeus is timely as the company has a unique connection to the 50th anniversary of the first moon landing being celebrated next month. Heraeus provided the reflector mirrors for the Apollo 11 Lunar Laser Retro-Reflector experiment—the only equipment still operating 50 years later. The success of that experiment has led to the development of GPS technology and next-generation "5G" communications networks.

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