



News Release

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Athens, GA— Lt. Governor Casey Cagle officially opened newly renovated science classrooms and laboratories at the Walton Career Academy during a special ceremony on Tuesday, October 19.

The renovation work was funded with a \$500,000 career academy grant received in 2007 from the Technical College System of Georgia. The classrooms and labs will enable Athens Technical College to implement its Biotechnology curriculum at the Walton Career Academy, a joint project between the college and the Walton County School District.

“It was a real honor and privilege to participate in the Walton Career Academy Life Science Wing Grand Opening,” Lt. Governor Cagle said. “The Walton Career Academy is perfectly posed to play a strategic role in developing the workforce necessary to attract more Life Science and biotechnology companies to Georgia.”

Lt. Governor Cagle was the driving force behind the Career Academy Initiative which enables local school districts to partner with technical colleges and local businesses and industries to establish career academies as charter schools.”

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Athens Technical College

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Lt. Governor Cagle opens renovated life science wing at Walton Career Academy

“The partnership between the Walton Career Academy, Walton County School District, and Athens Technical College will allow students the unique and exciting opportunity to graduate prepared and ready to enter the workforce in a specific field,” Lt. Governor Cagle said. “As a very strong support of career academies, I look forward to seeing what all the students of the Walton Career Academy will accomplish.”

Biotechnology is considered by the U.S. Department of Labor to be a high growth, high demand industry with its foundation in many disciplines, including biology, microbiology, biochemistry, molecular biology, immunology, genetics, chemistry, and biomanufacturing technology.

Biotechnology laboratory technicians gain employment in private, governmental, and education laboratories that perform research in basic or applied science or in the development of therapeutic proteins, pharmaceuticals, and medical devices.

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