

**Baldwin County  
Education  
Coalition**



*One voice. Every child.*

## May 2016 Community Newsletter

**ACT**® Work Ready  
Communities

### ACT Work Ready Communities

For years we have heard concerns from business leaders about the lack of a qualified workforce. Employers want and need a way to quickly find individuals with essential, verifiable workplace skills.

The Southwest Alabama Region launched an initiative on June 9, for each county to obtain certification as an **ACT Work Ready Community**. Achieving certification demonstrates a community-based framework that links workforce development to education, aligns with economic development needs, and matches individuals to jobs based on skill levels. The Coalition hosted an official launch event to announce Baldwin County's participation in the ACT Work Ready Communities program on June 9, at 5 Rivers Delta Resource Center.

The foundation of the certification is based at the county-level on individuals earning and employers recognizing the **ACT National Career Readiness Certificate (NCRC)** in the hiring process. The NCRC documents a range of essential skills including the ability to understand basic mathematic operations, read and understand documents commonly found in the workplace, and to locate information in workplace graphics. Individuals can earn different levels (Platinum, Gold, Silver, or Bronze) of the NCRC based on a minimum score of the ACT Work Keys Assessment.

To obtain certification as a Work Ready Community, ACT defines county goals (based on demographics) for the number of individuals earning the NCRC and the number of employers recognizing the NCRC. Goals must be met within two years of the official launch. Baldwin County is currently 58% toward meeting our goals and obtaining certification.

Team members will be presenting to groups across the county in the coming months to solicit employer support of the NCRC and the Work Ready Communities initiative. To learn more or to schedule a presentation, please contact [Terry Burkle](#) at or visit [Work Ready Communities](#).



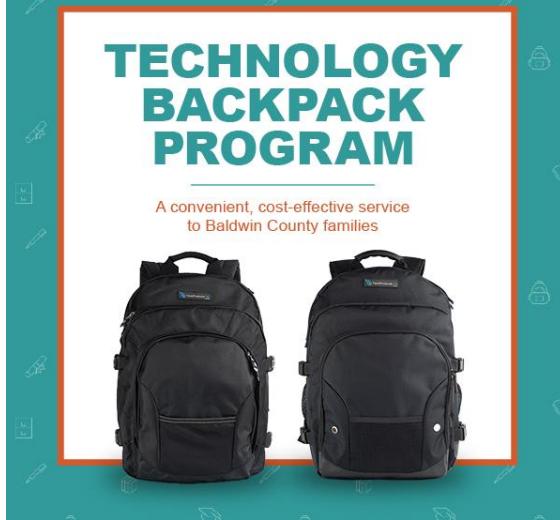
Baldwin County leaders who will help the county meet our goals! Pictured (from left): Eddie Tyler, Superintendent, Baldwin County Schools; Karen Glover, Workforce Development Director, Baldwin County Economic Development Alliance; Shannon Cauley, President, Baldwin County Board of Education; Commissioner Tucker Dorsey, Baldwin County Commission; Terry Burkle, Executive Director, Baldwin County Education Coalition.

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## Technology Backpack Program

At the start of the 2016-2017 school year, Baldwin County Public School students in grades 3-12 will receive a Chromebook computer designed to support academic achievement. To keep parents from incurring any fees related to damages, an approved backpack will be required in order for students to take the Chromebook home. The Baldwin County Education Coalition is proud to offer a convenient and cost-effective

option for quality backpacks that meet the school system's requirements.

A graphic for the Technology Backpack Program. It features the title "TECHNOLOGY BACKPACK PROGRAM" in large, bold, teal letters at the top. Below the title is a subtitle: "A convenient, cost-effective service to Baldwin County families". At the bottom of the graphic are two black backpacks. The entire graphic is set against a white background with a teal border and is surrounded by small teal icons of school supplies like a pencil, ruler, and book.

**TECHNOLOGY  
BACKPACK  
PROGRAM**

A convenient, cost-effective service  
to Baldwin County families

[Read More](#)

A "Save the Date" poster for the 4th Annual Baldwin County Education Coalition Golf Classic. The background is a photograph of a golf course with a green fairway, a white golf ball, and a red flagstick. The text is centered and reads: "SAVE THE DATE" in large, bold, dark blue letters. Below that is "THE 4TH ANNUAL BALDWIN COUNTY EDUCATION COALITION" in smaller, dark blue letters. The main title "GOLF CLASSIC" is in the largest, bold, dark blue font. Underneath is "PRESENTED BY BALDWIN COUNTY SEWER SERVICE, LLC" in a smaller, dark blue font. At the bottom, the date and location are listed: "SEPTEMBER 8, 2016" and "ROCK CREEK GOLF CLUB". The text is flanked by decorative laurel wreaths and a small golf ball icon.

**SAVE THE DATE**

THE 4TH ANNUAL BALDWIN COUNTY EDUCATION COALITION

**GOLF CLASSIC**

PRESENTED BY BALDWIN COUNTY SEWER SERVICE, LLC

SEPTEMBER 8, 2016  
ROCK CREEK GOLF CLUB

## 4th Annual Golf Classic

Baldwin County Sewer Service (BCSS) presents the 4th Annual Baldwin County Education Coalition Golf Classic on Thursday, September 8, 2016, at Rock Creek Golf Club in Fairhope. BCSS and the Coalition are seeking sponsors and teams for this premier golf tournament, which is the Coalition's sole fundraiser.

The 2016 Golf Classic is expected to resemble last year's event that raised \$28,000, and was identified by participants as one of the best tournaments in the area. It will feature complimentary lunch, dinner and beverages, in addition to exceptional

prizes and great networking opportunities with prominent local businesses. Registration and lunch begin at 11:30 a.m., with a shotgun start at 1:00 p.m.

Visit [betterbaldwin.org](http://betterbaldwin.org) for full details and to download the sponsorship form.

[Learn More](#)

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