



East Gadsden Academies Prep Students for College, Careers

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Quincy, FL - The road to college may be much easier for students at East Gadsden High School, thanks to academies that prepare them for higher education. The unique programs can also help students go straight to the work force.



The school is the only one in our area to have four academies.

Mykah Lindsey says after watching her niece being born she wanted to be an obstetrician gynecologist. "I was just fascinated." She says.

She's getting hands-on experience now at East Gadsden High School through S.T.E.M. -- the Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math academy.

It's one of four specialized academies at the school.

Under the health science portion, students will graduate with a certified nursing certificate. The school partners with the FSU College of Medicine.

Lindsey says, "I know there are a lot of kids out there who don't have programs like this at their school. When they do get to college, they'll have to basically start from the beginning. When we go, we'll have a little more knowledge."

The cutting edge culinary arts academy will help them earn certifications, and a gold seal scholarship to those who complete the program.

Letia Wesley says going to the class is her favorite part of the day. The 12th grader says, "I learned how to make biscuits from scratch, noodles from scratch, cinnamon rolls. We actually do learn in this class. We don't play around."

The culinary arts students operate a cafe, where they offer teachers lunch on Fridays. They are also available for catering.

The law enforcement academy is the only one in Florida that provides an opportunity for high school seniors to earn state certifications in corrections, armed and unarmed security, and dispatch.

Kimblin NeSmith, the executive director of the Law Enforcement Academy, says, "I means they can go directly to work. The corrections students make an excess of \$30,000 plus. There's a tremendous need. So, it's just a tremendous benefit to our students."

The information technology academy teaches business software applications, finance, and more.

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