

## Career and Technical Education Highlights for March 2024

### CTE Celebrations

#### ***Champion for Automotive Education!***

John King, Auto Technology teacher at Fairfax High School was named Champion for Automotive Education! The Champions for Automotive Education awards are given by DARCARS automotive group to outstanding educators in the automotive field and celebrate those who make significant contributions to automotive education. King was recognized at the [Washington, D.C. Auto Tech show](#) and received a Toyota Electric Vehicle two-year lease.

#### ***Air Force JROTC's***

A special congratulations to Chantilly Academy Air Force student who was selected to receive the Air Force ROTC Character-in-Leadership Scholarship! The J-100 is a full-ride, 4-year Air Force ROTC scholarship including funding for housing. Only one hundred cadets worldwide are awarded with the scholarship.

#### ***Auto and Video Technology and Film***

Congratulations to Grant Parsons, a TV/Media production student at West Potomac Academy, for earning first place in the American Banker's Association Lights, Camera, Save! National video contest! Grant's 30 second video, [Don't Burn That Bread!](#), was selected the first out of a pool of teenage students from all across the country.

#### ***Shout Out***

Shout out to Raven Turner, Family and Consumer Sciences teacher at South County HS who was interviewed for NPR! The topic of the interview was [personal finance courses becoming normalized in high schools](#).

### Business and Information Technology

#### ***Computer Science Week/ Cyber IT***

In December Google hosted a Computer Science Week workshop with Marshall HS Computer Science and CyberIT classes. The students learned about Google's history, Google products, computer science and cyber security careers, college internships, podcasts, and resources.

### ***Computers for Family Literacy***

Students in Chantilly Academy's Systems Tech and Exploring IT classes prepared laptops in partnership with Computers for Family Literacy, an organization that provides computers to families who don't have the resources to acquire their own.

### ***Aim High Bladestack***

Aim High Champion Bladestack, a cybersecurity tech firm hosted a unique Career Exploration event at Robinson Secondary School for 45 Business and Information Technology students. The core team at Bladestack shared words of wisdom with students that included how to pursue a career in Cyber Security, and a spotlight on the multiple pathways to join this booming workforce as a future cyber-samurai! Additionally, NVTC offered all students in attendance free membership with the council to kickstart their networking with professionals like Bladestack and the other members looking to hire from this growing talent pipeline. Student memberships are \$25 per year, but this fee is waived for all Aim High participants. Thanks to the dynamic Aim High Initiative fueled by NVTC, several connections have been made with local tech employers, captivating 250 students this school year alone.

## **Family and Consumer Science**

### ***Cookbook Covers***

Hughes MS created thoughtful titles for their cookbook covers. The requirements of the cookbook were: Title Page with the name of the Cookbook/Recipe Book and two pieces of artwork, Table of Contents page numbers and all handouts had to be glued in neatly including the recipes. The back cover had to include a colored drawing of the, "Choose MyPlate."

### ***Culinary Arts***

Culinary Arts at Edison Academy is back in business with The Bistro! The first sit down/takeout orders were a success. Patrons were able to experience a fabulous meal of either eggplant or chicken parmesan as their main course. Here is a testimony of one of the patrons: "My husband and I had the opportunity to dine on your hearty Italian-focused cuisine last night. We were extremely impressed with the quality of the dishes served. The Breeding on the Chicken and Eggplant was Scrumptious. Both were fork-tender to cut and a perfect portion for the noodles. The presentation of this dish was magazine worthy. Thank you, Chef, for guiding your crew into this flavorful future."

### ***FCS In Action!***

Family and Consumer Science students at Stone MS ran the parents orientation. Each student took a parent and went to each of the labs, showed them the projects they did and answered questions about the FCS program. They finished their tour in kitchen with food items students had prepared.

### ***Sanitation Skills***

Stone MS Family and Consumer Science students practiced sanitation skills at home. Students were tasked with cleaning their home refrigerators.

### **Health and Medical Science**

#### ***Internships with Pacific Dental and Local Dentists***

Eight Dental Careers students from West Potomac Academy are currently completing 60–100-hour Internships with Pacific Dental & local dentists. Students are actively working as dental assistants. The internship program runs from November - May and select students may gain employment from their internship opportunity. What a wonderful experience for our students!

#### ***Inova Field Trip***

Chantilly Academy's Exploring Health Science students took a field trip to Inova's Advanced Surgical Technology and Education Center (ASTEC). The ASTEC is the most technologically advanced surgery simulation facility in the region, featuring state-of-the-art training equipment including interactive mannequins and robot simulators. Students had the opportunity to practice intubation for general anesthesia, use a laparoscope, and even viewed a live open-heart surgery in the cardiac dome.

#### ***Intro to Nursing***

Students in the Intro the Nursing Program are completing their Clinical hours at Goodwin House. We have twenty-eight students that have started clinicals where they are required to complete 40 hours of clinical work with patients under the supervision of a Nurse Preceptor. In clinicals, students work alongside Certified Nursing Assistants while provide care for residents at the Goodwin House. This includes performing vital signs, ambulating, feeding, bathing, and changing residents. Students prepare in their academy classroom testing competencies and participating in simulations prior to clinicals.

#### ***911 Dispatch***

The Fairfax County Department of Public Safety and Communications (DPSC) hosted 911 Dispatch Academy Students for an interactive tour. Students were greeted and participated in an overview and tour of the multidisciplinary system working together and housed within DPSC. They kicked off with a tour and overview of Floor Operations, participated in a workshop with DPSC Live calls, enjoyed a working Lunch/Break, then visited the Emergency Management and Security department. This Spring students will have the opportunity to participate in the WPA Career Shadow Program where they will work with 911 Dispatchers taking live calls.

## **JROTC**

### ***AFJROTC Ride of a Lifetime***

Chantilly Academy Air Force JROTC students took a trip to the 167th Airlift Wing in Martinsburg, WV where they heard from Airmen who shared their experiences in the service and had the unique opportunity to take a ride on a C-17.

### ***Air Force Annual Dining Out Ceremony***

Chantilly Academy Air Force JROTC program held their Annual Dining Out Ceremony. This event celebrates and recognizes the traditions of the Air Force for the cadets. The ceremony included the Transfer of Command Ceremony and the POW/MIA Ceremony honoring those missing in action or prisoners of wars.

## **Technology and Engineering Education:**

### ***Firm Visit***

MPR Associated engineering firm sent a certified welder to teach Technology and Engineering Education students at West Potomac HS about welding. Past students had this opportunity, enabling them to design and build two fully functional. Students were first run through safety procedures and were introduced to the several types of welding (MIG, TIG, etc.) and the applications of each. Students were then taught how to use our flux core welder and were all able to practice welding bar and tube stock very successfully.

### ***Samsung Solve for Tomorrow***

Students in Chantilly Academy's Engineering Systems 2 class State Finalists in the Samsung Solve for Tomorrow contest. Samsung Solve for Tomorrow is "a nationwide competition that empowers students in grades 6–12 to harness the power of STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics) to create innovative solutions addressing critical issues in their local communities." Together, this impressive group of student engineers worked to develop solutions for an incoming freshman to make his hospital bed work better in a school environment. They were awarded \$2,500 worth of computers and tablets for their classroom.

## **Trade and Industrial Education**

### ***Criminal Justice***

Former Secret Service agent Matthew Clark visited the Criminal Justice students at Edison Academy. In a captivating talk, Clark delved into the realm of cyber threats, offering insights into [how to stay safe](#)

[online in today's digital age](#). Clark, whose career spanned over two decades protecting presidents and national security, captivated the students. He spoke about the ever-evolving landscape of cybercrime, highlighting the importance of vigilance and awareness in the face of online threats. Clark's talk served as a valuable wake-up call for the tech-savvy Edison Academy students.

### ***Criminal Justice field trip***

DPSC Intro/ Overview of Operations Floor, FCPD Crime Scene, DPSC Live calls, Lunch/Break, Emergency Management and Security. The Fairfax County Department of Public Safety and Communications (DPSC) hosted Criminal Justice, level 2, students for an interactive tour. Students were greeted and participated in an overview and tour of the multidisciplinary system working together and housed within DPSC. They visited the Office of Emergency Management and Security, Fairfax County Police Department Crime Scene, and DPSC -911 Dispatch.

### ***Detention Center Field Trip***

On Friday, February 16<sup>th</sup> and February 23<sup>rd</sup>, Criminal Justice 1 students toured the Fairfax County Adult Detention Center (ADC) and learned about the ADC operations, history, and opportunities with the department. Currently, the ADC is offering a [15k hiring bonus](#) for new officers.

### **Career Based Learning**

It was another great year for the Instruction2Industry Career Expo Event! Over 600 students across northern Virginia participated both virtually and in person to further their understanding of career opportunities. In addition to virtual industry panels and career information sessions, students participated in an in-person event where they met with over 41 organizations who are actively hiring students for positions or internships!

### **Career and Technical Student Organization:**

CTSO stands for Career and Technical Student Organization. They help students extend their learning by offering competitive events in CTE program areas. FCPS participates in the following CTSOs:

- DECA (Marketing)
- FBLA (Business and Information Technology)
- FCCLA (Family and Consumer Sciences)
- FFA (Veterinary Science/Agriculture)
- Educators Rising (Family and Consumer Sciences)
- HOSA (Health and Medical Sciences)
- SkillsUSA (Trade and Industrial)

- TSA (Technology and Engineering)

### **DECA**

Marshall's DECA Chapter, entrepreneurship, and marketing students, sold over \$18k in Spunkmeyer cookie dough to support chapter events and DECA State Competition in Virginia Beach on March 1-3.

Congratulations to two students from the Fairfax HS DECA chapter on winning the Unreal Campaign Challenge for 2023-2024! For the Unreal Campaign Challenges, students were tasked to speak directly to their peers about the dangers of counterfeit products. They then produced a 60-second public service announcement ([PSA video](#)) to demonstrate their knowledge on the dangers of counterfeits and to dissuade their peers from purchasing fake products. The two students from Fairfax HS DECA will be recognized on stage during the International Career Development Conference in Anaheim, California this April. The teams will also be awarded ICDC travel stipends.

### **FBLA**

Members from the CTE Office attended the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors meeting on February 6 as they made a proclamation declaring February as CTE Month. The FBLA State President student from Edison HS, spoke to the board and they were blown away by her poise and confidence. She represented our students and CTE very well.

### **HOSA**

The 2024 HOSA District Leadership Conference was held at Chantilly Academy in January. Students from Chantilly, West Potomac, and Falls Church Academies competed in different Health and Medical Science competitions. We're very proud of all our students for putting their skills to the test. Good luck to those attending the state competition!

### **SkillsUSA**

The 2024 SkillsUSA Regional Competition had events at both Chantilly and Edison High Schools. FCPS had a great showing with many students earning top places in the events. Congratulations to the first-place winners.

### **TSA**

TSA hosted their biannual Fun Fly fun raiser. we almost had a full house of flyers and spectators. Lots of kids flying gliders that they built onsite, a large 'For Sale' table of airplane items, and some static display models. We also had some alumni visit.