

Career and Technical Education Highlights for May2024

Business and Information Technology

Coding and Innovation Technology!

Kilmer MS student took learning JavaScript to an all-new level this semester. Going beyond the course requirements, he created slides to be used to teach advanced JavaScript skills to his fellow classmates. Topics covered in the slides he created are for-loops, and/or/not Booleans, arrays, and sprite groups. All the writing and code was written by him and will be shared with Coding and Innovative Technology teachers throughout the county. Impressive to say the least!

Family and Consumer Science

Culinary Skills

Family and Consumer Sciences students from Key MS excitedly prepared cupcakes using the stand mixers. They decorated and graciously shared their creations with fellow schoolmates, spreading joy and sweetness throughout the school community. This was an honest effort to enhance their culinary skills and unleash their creativity!

Peer Buddy Students!

Hughes MS Family & Consumer Science peer buddy students arranged sensory fun as they paired up and used shaving cream and food dye to color their Spring Eggs. Students engaged in using money skills, writing and editing skills, counting, letter recognition, and story comprehension.

Keepsake Bears!

Stone MS Family & Consumer Sciences students are making memories and addressing Social, Emotional Learning (SEL) at the same time! Students in the level 3 class made keepsake bears for their upcycle project. They brought articles of clothing that were from special events in their life.

ProStart!

The National Prostart National Invitational was held at the end of April at the Baltimore Marriott Waterfront. Marshall Academy culinary arts students represented Virginia in the competition.

Health and Medical Science

West Potomac Academy Health and Medical Science (HMS) students experienced some cool tech helping them learn more about health care fields! The 45-foot bus, or Immersive Learning Center (ILC), educational program from the George Washington University School of Medicine & Health Sciences and Medi-Corps Program, aimed at helping high school students explore careers in the healthcare field, visited West Potomac Academy! HMS students climbed aboard the giant blue bus parked outside West Potomac Academy and entered a futuristic world of learning focused on exploring the intricacies of the human body. Augmented reality, artificial intelligence (AI), and holograms are all being used to give FCPS health and medical science students the chance to get hands-on experience in a virtual setting.

Pharmacy Tech!

Pharmacy Tech students at Chantilly Academy used molds to make hard and soft lozenges, a technique you would see in a compounding pharmacy.

911 Dispatch

West Potomac Academy students in the 911 Dispatch Course are participating in the Department of Public Safety Communication (DPSC) Sit-Along Career Shadow Program. Throughout March and April students will shadow a 911 Dispatch Operator listening to actual calls in real time and observe how each call is managed and recorded. Students will complete a total of 8 hours through this shadow program.

Technology and Engineering Education:

Solutions For People with Physical Impairments!

Chantilly Academy Engineering Systems students are creating practical solutions for people with physical impairments. This group of students is constructing an automatic lacrosse ball launcher to make the sport accessible to individuals with disabilities.

Maximus Aim High Event!

Aim High Champion Maximus, a provider of transformative technology services, recently hosted a Career Exploration event at their Tysons headquarters for sixteen students from Marshall Governor's STEM Academy. The event featured company leaders who shared insights on how AI is revolutionizing client solutions and what Maximus seeks in emerging talent. Demonstrations of their app solutions and social media strategies were showcased, along with an overview of the Maximus intern program and valuable tips for students. NVTC's Aim High, in collaboration with Fairfax County Public Schools and Northern Virginia Community College, offers high school students real-world exposure to tech-related careers through educational sessions, panel discussions, hands-on workshops, facility tours, and more.

These experiences aim to equip students with the skills and knowledge needed for future careers in technology.

Marketing Management and Merchandising

Annual Prom Dress Shop!

Marketing students from Centreville HS and the Fair Oaks Classroom on the Mall program held their annual Prom Dress Shop once again for the prom season! The dress shop has helped hundreds of financially challenged students attend prom in style each spring by providing prom dresses and accessories at no cost to students.

Career and Technical Student Organization:

CTSO stands for Career and Technical Student Organization. They help students extend their learning by offering competitive events, leadership opportunities, networking, scholarships, and more 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

Members from the Fairfax HS DECA chapter presented their Financial Literacy Project to the administrative leadership team and MainStreet Bank. MainStreet Bank recognized the students' financial literacy contribution in the community with a \$7,500 check! DECA Advisor, said that this was such an impressive experience to see the students exhibit authentic learning and be recognized by a local bank for their DECA Financial Literacy Project as they head to the DECA International Career Development Conference. We agree and are wishing you the best of luck at the competition!

FBLA

One hundred thirty FCPS students were recognized as competitive event winners at the 2024 Virginia FBLA State Leadership Conference held in Reston. This included 24 first place winners, 33 second place

winner and 31 third place winners. More than one hundred students placed in the top four in their event and earned the right to compete at the FBLA National Leadership Conference in Orlando in June. A student from Thomas A. Edison HS was installed as a State Officer. The student is the 2024-2025 Virginia FBLA Vice President representing the Northern Virginia Region. A student from Robinson SS received the Michael Mills Learn to Lead Scholarship and a student from Lake Braddock SS received the L. Marguerite Crumley Scholarship.

FCCLA

Several FCPS schools participated in the FCCLA State Leadership & Recognition Conference held in April. Congratulations to the following schools who placed at the competition! Madison HS juniors earned a Gold Medal and First Place in the Professional Presentation STAR Event! They are eligible to advance to the national competition this summer. The Madison FCCLA chapter was also recognized as a Silver Level Outstanding Chapter. A South County HS student competed in the Nutrition and Wellness STAR event and won Gold 2nd place. The South County HS FCCLA chapter was also recognized as a Silver Level Outstanding Chapter. A Marshall Academy student placed fourth and won silver medal at the FCCLA Culinary Arts STAR event. A student from Marshall Academy won a bronze medal in the Baking and Pastry STAR event. Lake Braddock SS received a Membership Milestone 100 award plus Trophy. Katherine Johnson MS students participated in Food Innovations - Yammer Jammers STAR event, they placed third and won the silver medal. Congratulations to all the winners!

Skills USA

SkillsUSA held their State Leadership Conference (SLC) in April. FCPS had great representation and several students placed in their events! A special congratulations to Fernanda Nolasco for placing first in Cosmetology! FCPS students also placed second place in Barbering and fourth place in electrical construction, criminal justice, and cosmetology. We are so proud of all the students who competed for showcasing their skills!