

## Career and Technical Education Highlights for February 2023

### **Business and Information Technology:**

#### ***Future Business Leaders of America (FBLA)***

The 2023 Northern Virginia FBLA Regional Competitive Events will take place virtually every Thursday from February 2 – 26 with an in-person awards ceremony to be held on Thursday, March 2. We need judges for multiple performance events throughout the month of February. The performance events range from subjects such as Web Page Design and Sales Presentation to Social Media and Mobile App Design. If you are interested in judging, please complete the [FBLA Judges Registration Form](#) by February 7, 2023. Please email Stephanie Holt at [seholt@fcps.edu](mailto:seholt@fcps.edu) if you have any additional questions.

### **Marketing:**

#### ***Cookbook Fundraiser***

The Advanced Marketing students at South Lakes High School paired with the Culinary Arts classes to create and market a cookbook as a fundraiser. The Advanced Marketing students created the logo and designed the layout for the cookbook, and the Culinary students provided their favorite recipes. The marketing students created a marketing plan for this project that gave the culinary students suggestions for selling the cookbooks.

#### ***Virginia DECA***

Virginia DECA is seeking judges for the Virginia DECA State Leadership Conference in Virginia Beach on Saturday, March 3, 2023. Interested individuals can register online through the [VA DECA Judge Form](#).

### **Family and Consumer Sciences:**

#### ***Patty O's Café Head Baker Visit***

Family and Consumer Science students from Stone MS were visited by the Head Baker from Patty O's Café' and Bakery which is part of The Inn at Little Washington. They prepare all baked goods for all locations. Head Baker Capo came and gave students a **two-hour** demonstration on Cheddar Cheese Chive Biscuits. The students enjoyed every minute.

## **STEAM and Computer Science:**

### ***LJMS ESTEEM Center***

A sophisticated solar measuring station is under construction at Luther Jackson Middle School as part of a grant from Dominion Energy to the LJMS ESTEEM Center (for Equity in Science, Technology, Engineering, English, and Math).

The solar station provides opportunities for LJMS students to mentor feeder elementary school students in STEM-related activities. The LJMS ESTEEM Center has provided more than \$70,000 for STEM-related activities to Title One elementary schools with future Luther Jackson students.

The measuring station's web-based graphical interface allows students at LJMS, Westlawn ES, Graham Road ES, Spring Hill ES, Camelot ES, Fairhill ES, Mosaic ES, and Woodburn ES to study the technology involved and the environmental impacts of catching the sun's light to generate solar energy.

### ***Get-2-Green***

As part of FCPS's Get-2-Green initiative, students in the Luther Jackson MS ESTEEM Center (for Equity in Science, Technology, Engineering, English, and Math) are growing plants sideways in a futuristic version of farming—saving space, power, water, and growing organic lettuce without dirt!

LJMS built the ecosystem, adding automation which helped them grow the lettuce over winter break. Students monitor 14 growth factors, including light, nutrient solution levels, and plant growth rate. The food produced will be packaged and distributed to families in the community through LJMS's food pantry.

### ***FAA Air Traffic Control Systems Command Center Field Trip***

Marshall Academy STEM students had a great field trip to the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) Air Traffic Control Systems Command Center in Warrenton, VA. Shelli Farquharson, Career Experience Specialist, organized the field trip for the students. The FAA put together a video showcasing the importance of exposing students to aviation careers.

## **Technology and Engineering Education:**

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

Congratulations to Technology and Engineering Education students from Chantilly Academy on being named as a State Finalist in the 13th annual Samsung Solve for Tomorrow competition. As finalists, students, and their teacher, Mr. Piccione received a \$2,500 prize package!

Solve for Tomorrow is a national competition that challenges U.S. public school students in grades 6-12 to explore the role science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM) can play in solving some of the biggest issues in their local communities.

### ***Engineering with Empathy***

Engineering 3 students at Rachel Carson MS designed devices to help those in need as part of the Engineering with Empathy unit taught by Mark Bolt. Students showcased their engineering and problem solving skills by designing solutions to assist people with disabilities.

You can read more about the unit and lessons learned from the students in the FCPS article, [Engineering With Empathy: Carson MS Students Design Devices to Help Those in Need](#). Their story was also debuted on [NBC Washington](#), [WJLA](#), and [Patch](#).

### **Trade and Industrial Education:**

#### ***Donate to FCPS***

FCPS has 13 Automotive Technology programs where students learn to repair vehicles using donated vehicles that are then resold. FCPS, in conjunction with, The Foundation for Applied Technical Education (FATE) operate an actual dealership, Student Auto Sales, where the vehicles are sold. To donate a vehicle and help train the next generation of technicians contact Lyman Rose at [lgrose@fcps.edu](mailto:lgrose@fcps.edu), 703-220-3515. We accept cars, trucks, motorcycles, boat, and almost anything that helps train our students.

### **JROTC:**

#### ***JROTC Cadets Tour the White House***

Lake Braddock SS JROTC Cadets visited and toured the White House in Washington, DC. This trip consisted of Cadets and their family members only. The trip was organized and led by Cadet Major Sonya Erickson who is the Bruin Battalion Training Officer; she communicated, collaborated, and coordinated with a member of the Secret Service and scheduled a semi-guided tour. The tour provided Cadets with interesting facts and niche information about the portraits, rooms, and the Christmas decorations put up annually. It also provided Cadets with a fun and insightful experience of some unfamiliar US history in detail.

After the tour Cadets discussed the White House history, different presidents, paintings, special items, and rooms they had seen in the White House. Cadets shared their favorite fun facts from the rare opportunity that they will remember for a lifetime!

### ***United States Air Force Academy Appointment***

A Cadet from Chantilly High School has received an appointment to the United States Air Force Academy Class of 2027! He is currently enrolled in Chantilly Academy's Air Force Junior ROTC Corps of Cadets. Appointments to any military service academy is highly competitive and Cadet Good represents the best of Chantilly's organization.

### ***Wreath Across America***

Edison Academy JROTC Cadets cohort from Edison, Lewis and South County High Schools volunteered for the Annual 'Wreaths Across America' event at Arlington National Cemetery. Students honored fallen service members and their families by laying wreaths on headstones. They showed pride and respect for the Armed Forces. They then met at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier and watched the changing of the guard.

### **Industry Credentials and Certification:**

Industry credentials and certifications are one of the ways that CTE is different than other content areas. We provide students with the opportunity to earn industry-recognized credentials which verify their qualification or competence in the content area. Credentials and certifications help prepare our students for the workforce, and help them along their career pathway. Credentials are also a way for students to build their resume and set them apart when looking for an employment opportunity. In 2022, FCPS students earned 16,585 industry credentials!

Aside from helping our students excel in their future endeavors, CTE credentials can help a student earn their high school diploma. Credentials satisfy one of the FCPS Graduation Requirements for both the Standard and Advanced diplomas. Therefore, it's very important that we offer these opportunities to our students!

Every high school CTE class has at least one certification exam that aligns with the competencies of the course and can be offered to the students. Exams can be viewed on the [CTE Industry Credentials—High School webpage](#). All CTE students are eligible to take the Workplace Readiness Skills for the Commonwealth exam. This is the most popular exam that we offer in FCPS.

Industry credentials and certifications aren't just for students! Teachers seeking an initial license in Virginia with an endorsement in a career and technical education program area need to have an industry certification credential. You can find more information on this requirement from the [Virginia Department of Education \(VDOE\) website](#). Some specific CTE courses also require instructors to have certain certifications. Our CTE office helps support teachers in earning these credentials! If you have any

questions about industry credentials or certification exams, please reach out to [Kellen Scott](#), the Industry Credentials Educational Specialist.

### **Summer Enrichment:**

Registration for 2023 CTE Summer Camps has begun!

[Tech Adventure Camp](#): A weekly exploratory camp designed to give students the opportunity to explore STEAM, culinary, health, trades, business and marketing areas. The camp is open to students in grades K-6 during the 2022-23 school year.

[CTE Summer Academy](#): A weekly enrichment program that allows students to dive deeper into Career and Technical Education (CTE) program areas, skills, and career exploration. The camp is open to grades 7-11 during the 2022-23 school year.

### **Work – Based Learning:**

High School students from all across the Northern VA region are invited to attend the Instruction 2 Industry Career Expo. This event will include industry panel discussions, information sessions, career fair exhibitors, and career planning sessions. The event will run each evening from February 13-16, 2023 and will feature business and industry professionals from a variety of career clusters. More information is available here. Check out the [promotional video](#) used during the 2021-2022 school year.