

Career and Technical Education Highlights for March 2023

Business and Information Technology:

South Lakes HS Seahawk Cyber

South Lakes HS Seahawk Cyber continues to excel in cyber competitions! Since the clubs first start in 2013, it has consistently placed highly in the CyberPatriot Competition, CyberStart America, and Lockheed-Martin's Code Quest.

This year, team ZeroDay placed third in the top tier Platinum Division for the State Round. This is an amazing accomplishment for a new team.

Seahawk Cyber also supports their learning community by tutoring the Langston Hughes MS cyber club, writing curriculum and teaching summer cyber camp and supporting other STEM related events.

CyberSlam Conference

Chantilly and Chantilly Academy students attended the CyberSlam Conference in January at GMU where they got to participate in 4 hands-on sessions focusing on cybersecurity. These sessions included Encryption with a Pringles can, Penetration testing, Drone demo and flying, and a Capture the Flag jeopardy style competition. They heard about crypto currency and crimes from a panel of Secret Service Agents and contractors as well as learning about the potential internships available to students in the cybersecurity world.

Health and Medical Science:

Code Simulation

Health and Medical Sciences (HMS) and TV/Media Production students from West Potomac Academy worked together in a "Code Simulation" to learn more about patient care in a medical code situation.

HMS students wrote the script and the TV/Media students filmed and edited the video. The code simulation will be used for instructional purposes.

Family and Consumer Sciences:

US Capital Kitchen Tour

Mount Vernon HS Culinary Arts students toured the kitchens of the US Capital building. Students saw the Senate dining room and multiple kitchen stations. Students also had the opportunity to speak to the

head chef and inquire about the various pathways into the culinary field with and without college instruction. One of the most important skills shared was organization. Students were given examples of the quantities of food that were prepared on a daily and weekly basis and encouraged to take on the challenge to be successful in their own careers.

IncREDible Service Day

FCCLA members at Katherine Johnson MS celebrated IncREDible Service Day. The students decided they wanted to help the custodians after-school on Valentine's Day as their community service. Members were grouped together and then assigned to one of the evening custodians. The teams worked for over two-hours in various parts of the building doing a variety to jobs. One member commented, "They do this every day. It's a lot of work. I never realized that". In addition, the FCCLA chapter shared a special Valentine's dinner with the custodial staff. This student involvement impacts the community in positive ways through collaboration and by developing ethical citizens. FCCLA members at KJMS also do community service work for the Ronald McDonald House and the Sadie Rose Foundation. For more information, please contact advisor, Susan von Schaack, at sevonschaack@fcps.edu.

Vienna Rotary Club Luncheon

On Wednesday, February 22nd, Chef Devlin and his Culinary Arts students prepared and hosted a four-course lunch for the Rotary Club of Vienna. The menu included a shrimp appetizer with cocktail lime sauce, mixed greens salad with arugula and balsamic vinaigrette dressing, the main entrée was a herb-crusted fillet of cod with rice pilaf and vegetables and the meal was topped off with an amazing chocolate sampler for dessert.

Bravo to Chef Devlin and his students on a delicious meal and excellent service! One Rotarian remarked that the food was better than the restaurant they usually dine at.

STEAM and Computer Science:

Global STEM Challenges Program

10th Grade students in the Global STEM Challenges Program at Edison Academy presented to a variety of distinguished guests. The 10th grade students have been investigating the causes and effects of ocean acidification. They have also explored both global and individual solutions to this crisis. Students have been challenged with creating an action campaign to inform a population about the issue, as well as calling that group into action to combat ocean acidification.

Technology and Engineering Education:

Technology Fair

Technology Student Association (TSA) students from the Chantilly HS held a technology fair for elementary and middle school students. This technology fair was part of their national service project with proceeds supporting the American Cancer Society (ACS). Fair attendees had the opportunity to explore STEAM and CS through a variety of hands-on resources.

Courtyard Rejuvenation Project

As part of the Hayfield SS MS courtyard rejuvenation project MS Engineering 3 students were given a broad challenge to “Create something that would make the courtyard more inviting to wildlife.” Each student was given a budget of \$10 and could use any materials they found in the lab. Projects included: bird houses for a variety of species (including a Screech Owl), bird feeders (including a window mounted feeder) and even a squirrel feeder. All projects were required to be constructed from ‘one board’ which required careful planning to efficiently utilize resources. Students learned how to use every machine in the shop, a variety of hand power tools and fastening techniques. The students strictly followed the Engineering Design Process and produced a comprehensive Engineering Design Document.

Trade and Industrial Education:

Washington DC Auto Show

Auto Tech and Auto Collision from Chantilly Academy attended the Washington DC Auto Show. This was a great opportunity to expand their knowledge on the future of mobility and explore custom and exotic rides.

International Spy Museum

Criminal Justice 2 students from Marshall Academy went undercover as they explored, investigated, and learned about counterintelligence at the International Spy Museum in Washington, DC. Students engaged in Undercover Mission stations, where they assessed on their ability to complete tasks specific to their unique mission. These include blending into the new environment, creating a gadget to gather secret information, and uncovering hidden dead drop sites. At the end of the Museum’s exhibits, students find out if their mission was a success and discover their top two spy skills.

Transportation Safety Administration

Criminal Justice students from Falls Church Academy visited the Transportation Safety Administration (TSA) at Dulles Airport. Students learned about law enforcement careers, training opportunities, and what a day in the life of a TSA official looks like.

JROTC:

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. The cadets also participated in a “grog presentation” which involves drinking a concoction of surprising and unique ingredients for supposed rule infractions.

Student Opportunities:

FCPS Military Night

Fairfax County Public Schools (FCPS) students and families are invited to virtually attend FCPS Military Night on Monday, March 20, 2023, from 5:00pm – 8:00pm to learn more about the various military pathways available to high school graduates. Registration is required. Please register through the [Registration link](#).

America’s Next Great Intern Contest

Rubin Emerge is hosting America’s Next Great Intern Contest. This free contest is open to middle school, high school, and post-secondary students in any CTE class or program! For more information, check out their [contest information flyer](#).

Virginia Tech CTE Experience Day

The CTE Program in the School of Education at Virginia Tech is excited to announce the date for the 2nd annual [CTE Experience Day](#) on March 29, 2023!

Summer Enrichment:

CTE Summer Camp Positions

Position applications for CTE summer camps are open! Positions are a three-week commitment from July 10 to 28, 2023. Multiple teaching positions are available for different age groups. We also have student assistant positions available for CTE students! Jobs are posted on the [FCPS Summer Employment webpage](#). Please email Beth Mehr, bgmehr@fcps.edu, with any questions.

Work – Based Learning:

Instruction 2 Industry Career Expo

During CTE month, the FCPS Work-Based Learning Team partnered with six neighboring school divisions to host the 2nd annual regional Instruction 2 Industry Career Expo event for High School Students. Over 50 professionals from 10 different industries participated in panel discussions over the course of the first three nights. On the last night, 30 professionals provided college and career advice to students in breakout rooms.

A total of over 3,000 session registrations were collected for the event. Here is a sampling of what high school students and panelists had to say when reflecting on the success of this regionwide effort:

Student Testimonials:

- “Failure is necessary for success. It’s okay to fail because no one is inherently a master at anything. Sometimes you aren’t even taught subjects right, so it just requires persistence and initiative to get it right.”
- “This is totally worth it! It will help you become more certain of what you may want to do later on in life, and the panelists have great pieces of advice to give both regarding their career experience as well as classroom learning.”

Industry Professional Testimonial:

- Amazing
- So well organized and presented
- We would definitely want to participate in future events

All session recordings are now available on the Fairfax Network’s YouTube Channel [Instruction 2 Industry playlist](#).

FCPS looks forward to expanding career awareness events in the future and recognizes that it takes the support of the region to prepare today’s students for tomorrow’s workforce!