

Career and Technical Education Highlights for April 2024

CTE Celebrations

ProStart State Competition!

Congratulations to Marshall Academy Culinary Arts students on winning the ProStart State Competition in March! ProStart is a national competition focused on restaurant management and culinary arts skills. Marshall Academy culinary students will be representing Virginia at the National Tournament. This is the first time they have competed in the competition! Good luck at Nationals, we are all rooting for you!

Excellence Award from Memphis

A huge congratulations to the Technology and Engineering Education (TEE) programs at Luther Jackson MS and Chantilly HS. These programs received the International Technology and Engineering Educator's Association (ITEEA) Program Excellence Award! The TEE teachers at Luther Jackson MS are Roni Breza, Phil Kim, and Mark Smith. Chantilly's teachers are Susan Chudovan and Mike Piccione. Awarded by ITEEA and sponsored by Paxton/Patterson for decades, The Program Excellence Award is one of the highest honors given to technology and engineering education programs at the elementary, middle, and high school levels and is presented in recognition of outstanding contributions to the profession and their students. ITEEA strives to be the foremost organization leading education in technology, engineering, and Integrative STEM. ITEEA strengthens the profession through leadership, professional development, membership services, publications, and classroom activities. Way to be an excellent example for other TEE programs across the nation! We are so proud of you!

Business and Information Technology

Cyber IT

Cyber IT students from Chantilly Academy participated in a virtual panel discussion with five women with STEM careers at SAIC. Each panelist shared their unique career journey and gave students invaluable advice for their own future careers.

Music Technology

Trilogy Sound Studio hosted professional music production workshops for West Potomac Academy's Music & Computer Technology level 2 students in February. Students spent the day at the Trilogy studio and participated in workshop sessions on the following topics: audio engineering, music composition, and the music business. Students even performed and recorded their own music in the sound booth.

Trilogy Sound Studio, an official FCPS Ignite Partner in Education, offers Externships to select students and will collaborate with the Music Tech students Listening Party production, where the students will release a compilation album, May 7, 2023. Congratulations to Three students who an interview/audition with Trilogy and are starting their 40-hour Externship with Trilogy March -May.

Family and Consumer Science

Culinary Team Caters County Event

Chef Ibrahim and his students from the Mount Vernon HS Culinary program catered the Fairfax CORE – Power Your Business Kick Off event at Settle Down Brewery. Everyone in attendance enjoyed the delicious treats that were shared. The event highlighted the new Fairfax CORE Resource Navigator Tool, designed to provide a one stop shop for supporting entrepreneurs and small businesses starting up in Fairfax County. The goal of the tool is to connect individuals with the right networks for starting and maintaining successful businesses.

Real Food for Kids!

Hayfield SS hosted the Real Food for Kids Culinary Challenge in March. Congratulations to South Lakes HS (second place- Beet Arepa's) and Luther Jackson MS (third place for their cornucopia of vegetables and watermelon pizza) for their success at the Real food for Kids Culinary Challenge! The culinary challenge hosted sixteen teams from seven surrounding counties.

Health and Medical Science

ER Rotation!

Emergency Medical Technician (EMT) students from Falls Church Academy began their ER rotation and ride-a-longs! In partnership with Inova Fair Oaks Emergency Department and Fairfax County Fire and Rescue, EMT students gain experience and patient contacts while monitoring patient's challenges. Students witnessed cardiac issues, lacerations, broken bones, complications with pregnancies, mental challenges, anaphylaxis and more. One student mentioned, "It's interesting how smoothly everyone worked together with a common language." Another student received high praise from a patient who said "you are going to do so great in this field" as our student held her hand and talked to her as she was being cared for. Another student matter of factly stated "I can really see myself here!" These experiences help our students take the National Registry of Emergency Medical Technicians (NREMT) exam. What a great learning experience!

Physical Therapy and Occupational Therapy

Chantilly Academy's Physical Therapy/Occupational Therapy students took a field trip to NOVA's Medical Education Campus (MEC) where they made a stop at the phlebotomy lab.

Biotechnology Foundation

Falls Church Academy students in the Biotechnology Foundations program observe milk and yogurt while proving that it is the presence of bacteria in the yogurt that causes the milk to become yogurt. Observational and reporting skills that students have learned in this class are used to discover and record their findings.

Emergency Response Protocols

Individuals from the Fairfax County Community Emergency Response Team provided a weeklong training program designed specifically for high school students in which they prepared the Falls Church Academy EMT students to be disaster ready and able to provide assistance if necessary. Students learned disaster preparedness and CERT organization, disaster psychology, terrorism, medical one & two, light search and rescue, utility control and fire safety. Each day students were given knowledge checks to confirm their understanding.

Medical Assistant Classes

To learn about wound care, you have to first have a wound, right? Students in the Medical Assistant classes had fun creating various simulated wounds on mannequins and then assessed them and learned how to manage their healing. Wounds were assessed for their length, depth, proliferation, and inflammation and in the assessment, students described them using medical terms. They also described the type of dressing or sutures the wounds needed as well as wound care and healing nutrition.

Criminal Justice Students

The students in the Criminal Justice Level 1 classes had the opportunity to gain experience and practice for the Stop the Bleed training with members of the Inova Trauma Services team by packing the wound, using pressure and tourniquets.

911 Dispatch

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.

Emergency Medical Technician

West Potomac Academy EMT students took a dual trip to the Department of Public Safety Communication (DPSC) and the Fairfax Fire Academy. At DPSC, students learned to use the radio operations system and participated in an EMT Scenarios. At the Fire Academy, students watched current academy students acting out a scenario of a traffic accident and went inside the burn building. Both

facilities offered tours and shared information about their programs, departments, education, and employment opportunities.

Explore Futuristic Learning

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 for the week of March 18-22! Health and Medical Science 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 medical science students the chance to get hands-on experience in a virtual setting.

Clinical Shadows

Medical Assisting Students are participating in Clinical Shadows with Inova Ambulatory Services Specialty Clinics. Students spend a day shadowing a Medical Assistant in an Inova Clinical Specialty of their choice. Participating Inova Clinics: Inova Occupational Health, OBGYN, Schar Cancer Institute, and Neurosurgery.

Technology and Engineering Education:

First Robotics Team

Congratulations to the First Robotics Team from Woodson HS who was selected for the Innovation in Control Award for their design of the Robot Drive System at a recent First Robotics Competition! From the event, "The Innovation in Control Award celebrates an innovative control system or application of control components - electrical, mechanical, or software - to provide unique machine functions." This team endeavored to simplify the lives of their drivers. Utilizing a robust custom drive train and employing LED's to signal note possession, the drivers on this team effortlessly navigated the forge of the competition. Congratulations Team 8590!" The team also ranked 15th at the event and had their own cheering section of thirty-five students in the stands! Way to go team!

VEX Falcon Robotics

A huge congratulations to the Franklin MS VEX Falcon Robotics Team 7308A on earning fourth place in the Virginia State Championships! The team competed in Virginia Middle School VEX IQ State Championships held in Doswell, Virginia. Team co-drivers, and their robot named 'Ben's Brows' competed against eighteen others VEX IQ Middle School teams from across the Commonwealth of Virginia. Ben's Brows, and team earned a spot in the Finals after an exciting day of Qualifying Matches. Overall, they finished fourth place in the Virginia Middle School VEX IQ State Championships, being

squeezed out of third place by a single point. The students finished the Virginia Middle School VEX IQ Season overall in the top one-third of VEX IQ Middle School teams in Virginia!

Marketing Management and Merchandising

Classroom on the Mall

Classroom on the Mall students had a busy month preparing for their annual Prom Fashion Show! Students were able to select and borrow dresses and tuxedos from Macy's to showcase the latest prom styles to help students draw inspiration for their own upcoming proms. The students both directed and modeled in the fashion show, making it a truly student-centered and student-run evening!

Trade and Industrial Education

Criminal Justice

On Thursday, March 21st, Criminal Justice 2 students went to FBI's Headquarters in Washington, DC. Students participated in an engaging FBI Agent Panel and learned firsthand about the panelists' backgrounds (ranging from local Pittsburgh police officer, lawyer, and hostage negotiator), various career pathways in the agency, the application process, internships, etc. Then, students toured headquarters and participated in the FBI Experience, a museum which features exhibits and interactive displays of the FBI's history, mission and prominent cases including 9/11, Boston Marathon Bomber, mob cases, cybercrimes, and the FBI partnerships with agencies throughout the US and other countries throughout the world.

International Beauty Show NYC Field Trip

Marshall Academy's Cosmetology Program attended the International Beauty Show (IBS) at the Javits Convention Center in New York City (NYC). Students and staff attended hands-on workshops led by industry professionals, participated in beauty demos, explored over two hundred exhibitors, and bought various beauty products and tools. Then, enjoyed a group dinner at BBQ's in Times Square. It was the first time the students attended a professional beauty show and visiting NYC for most of the students. Huge thanks to the Educate Fairfax's Teacher Grant that made this amazing experience possible!

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

Over nine hundred teachers, students and chaperones attended the DECA State Leadership Conference in March. Sixteen FCPS schools were recognized as having mini award winners on Saturday night; FCPS also had thirty-four First Place winners in twenty events! We had ninety-seven students in fifty-eight events earn first – 3rd Place. Overall, 207 students were winners in 133 events and earned the right to attend the International Career Development Conference in April! Way to go DECA students! Good luck at Nationals!

In other exciting DECA news, A student from Fairfax HS was elected as the 2024-2025 Virginia DECA State President and Brendan Rockefeller from Lake Braddock SS was elected as the 2024- 2025 Virginia DECA Region two Vice President!

FBLA

The Middle Level FBLA State Conference was held in March in Richmond. Several FCPS schools had students compete and seven students placed in the top four in the state! Those students are now qualified to attend the FBLA National Leadership Conference in Orlando this summer.

FFA

Chantilly Academy FFA, the CTSO for our Veterinary Science students, hosted a community grooming event. Members of the community were invited to sign up to bring their dogs in for grooming services and Chantilly Academy FFA members had a full schedule of clients! Grooming services offered by our Veterinary Science students include clipping/shaving, bathing, ear cleaning, and nail trimming. This event exemplified the mission of CTSOs by providing FFA members with the opportunity to apply the skills they have learned in class in a real-world setting.

Educators Rising

Chantilly Academy students completed in the Educators Rising State Leadership Competition in March. The competition held at Potomac Shores MS in Dumfries, VA. Our congratulations to the student who won second place in Virginia's Educators Rising Competition for the Children's Literature K-3 Varsity event with her hands-on story teaching children how to tie their shoes. The student is eligible to go to

National Conference. CTE applauds and appreciates, her adviser, Mrs. Catherine Reinfried, for putting forth the effort and dedication to ensure her students success.

HOSA

Congratulations to Chantilly, Falls Church, and West Potomac Academies students and teachers for attending the 2024 HOSA State Leadership Conference earlier this month in Williamsburg, VA! Over twenty students, teachers, and chaperons attended the event earning FCPS two first place winner awards, four second place winners awards, and one third place winner award. Students were judged as they demonstrated Health and Medical skills they learned in our programs! FCPS students earned awards in competitions such as HOSA Bowl, Pharmacology, Clinical Lab Science, Medical Assistant, Medical Spelling and Health Care Display. Several additional students were also recognized as finalists in competitions such as Dental terminology and Medical Assistant. Students and teacher dedication and perseverance shined through at HOSA SLC 2024! Applauds go out to Fall Church Academy's current HOSA State Officer, and a newly inducted HOSA State Officer. Way to go HOSA Chapters!

Chantilly Academy's HOSA chapter partnered up with INOVA Blood Donor Services to host their annual Blood Drive at Chantilly HS this week. The event was successful with ninety-eight units of blood being collected, which is enough to save 294 lives.

TSA

The TSA Northern Region Spring Fair was held in March and hosted by FCPS. Over 24 FCPS Schools participated and 432 FCPS students placed in the Top 10! 157 Students advanced onto Technosphere which is the state competition in May. Way to go TSA chapters!

The Technology Student Association (TSA) chapter at West Potomac HS, hosted their biannual Fun Fly fundraiser! The event was well attended and allowed the community to engage in different aircraft related activities. There were lots of kids flying gliders that they built onsite, a large 'For Sale' table of airplane items, and some static display models. They also had some alumni visit. What a fun way to promote TSA!