

Career and Technical Education Highlights for June 2024

Family and Consumer Science

King Arthur's Bake for Good

Luther Jackson MS Family and Consumer Science students applied for the “King Arthur’s Bake for Good” program and received free flour! The students put their food preparation skills to work and baked seventy loaves of bread. Over half were given to the school food pantry that helps feed over forty families. The students enjoyed the remaining amount. This was a wonderful community service project, but it does not stop there! Fifty dog toys were made from recycled t-Shirts and donated to the Fairfax Animal shelter and a Mission Quilt was made and donated to Lutheran World Relief.

Tea Party at Thoreau MS!

Thoreau MS Family and Consumer Science students had an etiquette lesson where they learned to set the table and for their lab made scones and tea sandwiches. They had a tea party where they followed proper etiquette *procedures*.

Technology and Engineering Education

SAIC STEAM Contest

As part of the Northern Virginia Technology Council (NVTC) and FCPS [Aim High Initiative](#), STEAM industry representatives from SAIC visited West Springfield High School to evaluate the innovative solutions developed by Technology & Engineering student teams. These solutions addressed some of the most pressing challenges facing our region, the nation, and the world. The contest aimed for students to develop an appreciation for STEAM while fostering an understanding and creating solutions for current issues facing our world. The final projects were judged based on their impact, feasibility, creativity, completeness, and teamwork, with cash prizes awarded to the students. A senior student presented: Modern Technology Drop Pod – Sturdily constructed easily disassembled box filled with technology/electronics/batteries/tools designed to be dropped from aircraft to remote areas. Two juniors presented: Water for All – Water delivery and filtration for remote areas - Employs solar panels as energy source along with readily available filtration elements including rock, sand, charcoal, and discarded human hair. A senior and a junior presented: Safe Haven Shelters – Sustainable, efficient, safe homeless shelters that employ Japanese capsule hotel-style pods for sleeping quarters. A senior presented: Energetic Play Park Equipment – Playground equipment designed with gearboxes to convert mechanical energy to electrical energy.

Nemaline myopathy!

PT/OT and Engineering students at Chantilly Academy came together to design and build a specialized bed for a student with Nemaline myopathy, a type of muscular dystrophy. Students collaborated on this project for two years and to help fund the project, a grant from Educate Fairfax was secured. The story was recently covered by [WTOP](#) and [FCPS News](#)

Trade and Industrial Education

Unique Occasion!

Cosmetology students at Chantilly Academy teamed up to do hair, makeup, and nails for students in Chantilly's Cat B attending Day Prom. In addition to offering an opportunity for cross-curricular collaboration, this was a unique occasion for the Cosmetology 1 and 2 students to be able to work together in the salon. It was an exciting morning getting students red carpet ready!

Firefighting Students!

Firefighting students at the Fairfax County Fire and Rescue Academy have been participating in fire simulations to prepare for real-world scenarios in the field. What an experience for our students!

Marketing Management and Merchandising

Annual Fashion at Sherwood Center!

Fairfax Academy Fashion Careers students held their annual Fashion in Motion 2024 at the Sherwood Center. There were seventy-one student models displaying original and upcycled designs. Students used technical skills taught in class that included draping, garment construction and original pattern creation. The creativity was endless!

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

We are thrilled to share the outstanding achievements of our Fairfax County Public Schools (FCPS) marketing students at the recent DECA International Career Development Conference in Anaheim, California. Our talented students represented FCPS with excellence, securing remarkable accomplishments across various events. These achievements are a testament to the hard work, dedication, and talents of our students, as well as the guidance and support of our teachers.

DECA FCPS Outstanding Achievements

- Finalists in eleven events
- Fairfax HS finished first in the Unreal Campaign Challenge
- Oakton finished third in Professional Selling
- Westfield finished third in School Based Enterprise – Retail
- Oakton had three Virtual Business teams finish in the top ten
- Oakton’s Hospitality and Tourism Team event finished in the top ten
- Chantilly, Fairfax, and Oakton had groups that made finals on the last day

FBLA

Robinson SS FBLA members completed their FBLA Community Service Project which has positively impacted their community. They worked closely with the Fairfax County Waste Management facilities to get a purple glass recycling bin placed in Clifton, which had no convenient glass recycling locations. They had to go through a series of approvals, ending in meeting with the Clifton Town Council to get approvals for them to allow the placement of the Purple Bin within the town. At the end of April, they were able to participate in a ribbon cutting ceremony for the new recycling station in Clifton. Impressive job! Way to make our community a better place!

FCCLA

Longfellow MS FCCLA made bookmarks for residents at the Chesterbrook Retirement community! This was a great project because they were able to use extra scraps of fabric from class sewing projects.

TSA

Fairfax County Public Schools (FCPS) proudly sent 396 enthusiastic students from nineteen schools to compete, demonstrating their exceptional skills and innovative ideas in a variety of STEM-related events, to the annual Technosphere. FCPS students demonstrated remarkable perseverance, achieving impressive results. Out of the 396 participants from FCPS, 309 students secured positions within the top ten of their respective events, highlighting the district's strong emphasis on STEM education. Even more noteworthy, 179 of these students achieved top three finishes, earning them trophies and the opportunity to advance to the National TSA Conference in Orlando, Florida, scheduled for June 26-30, 2024.