

Career and Technical Education Highlights for January 2025

CTE Celebrations

Congratulations Sarah Ummen-Miller

Wedding bells are ringing! A huge congratulations to Sarah Ummen-Miller, FCS teacher at Poe MS, who got married over Thanksgiving break! Sarah has been part of our CTE family for seven years and we are thrilled for her!

Family and Consumer Science

Culinary Arts

Mount Vernon HS Culinary Arts students provided a menu of waffles, eggs, puff pastries and meats for the countywide principals meeting Dec 12th. Service was outstanding and the warmth and hospitality of the culinary arts students was appreciated. In addition to the principal's breakfast, the culinary arts students dressed and prepared 50 Thanksgiving turkeys, including sides, for the Mount Vernon community. Wow, those turkeys look delicious! We know who is cooking our turkey next year!

"Love Soup" Fundraiser

Herndon HS FCS students create "Love Soup" as a fundraiser. Soup is flying off the shelf at \$10.00 a jar and \$8.00 if you bring your own jar. We do not know about you, but some love soup sounds good in this chilly weather!

"Bake For Good" Program!

King Arthur Flour visited both Luther Jackson MS and Thoreau MS FCS students as part of their "Bake for Good" program! This was a fun combination of baking science, technique, and bread-making knowledge. Students were provided everything necessary for each student to make two loaves of bread at home: all-purpose and white whole wheat flour, yeast, a recipe booklet, bread bags and twist ties. The Thoreau students wrote a short narrative sharing plan about how they plan to share the bread that they make. Some of their plans include sharing with teachers at Thoreau, grandparents, religious communities, and elderly neighbors. It is the season for giving and we love this kind of giving!

Simulation Babies

Key MS FCS students immersed themselves in hands-on learning experience using simulation babies which provided a dynamic environment to develop essential childcare skills. From mastering the art of

diaper changing to employing soothing techniques that calm fussy infants, students gained invaluable experiences that prepare them for real-life scenarios. This activity emphasized responsibility and nurturing, allowing students to cultivate their childcare skills while fostering a deep understanding of the emotional and physical needs of young children.

Memorable After-School Event!

Key MS FCS students baked an assortment of cookies for their peers, followed by hosting an engaging and memorable after-school event. This special event exemplified the values of community involvement and caring, core lessons we are teaching in our current unit. Students joined together to decorate and enjoy the cookies. Participation in the event also supported a meaningful cause by contributing canned goods that FCCLA will donate to a local food bank, further reinforcing the importance of giving back and strengthening our community bonds.

Annual Winter Baking Event!

Stone MS FCS hosted their annual winter baking event! Students made new friends and FCS Level 2 students made yeast parker house rolls for their families for Thanksgiving. The yeast dough lesson continued including pizza dough! Level 2 students and FCCLA students also made 890 sugar cookies for the upcoming ninth annual winter baking event for staff and their children! Now that is what we call a baking event!

Trade and Industrial Education

Criminal Justice

Criminal Justice 1 and 2 students from Marshall Academy went to Philadelphia to tour Eastern State Penitentiary! Eastern State was the first penitentiary in the country and was one of the most famous and expensive prisons in the world. It is now an educational criminal justice center and a Halloween attraction. Students also toured the National Constitution Center, Independence Hall, and Reading Terminal.

Carpentry

Chantilly Academy Carpentry students are putting the final changes on their custom-built stools. You deserve to take a seat after all your hard work!

Cosmetology

A stylist from Pretty in a Minute (PIAM) visited Marshall Academy Cosmetology students and highlighted various styling techniques, tools, and services. Students also practiced creative hairstyles using PIAM tools.

Technology and Engineering Education

We love a good success story! A graduate from Robinson SS, where she completed both Auto Technology and Engineering courses, is currently enrolled in the welding program at Northern Virginia Community College where she was honored as a [student spotlight!](https://blogs.nvcc.edu/systemic/2024/11/19/student-spotlight-in-welding-annabelle-betz/) (<https://blogs.nvcc.edu/systemic/2024/11/19/student-spotlight-in-welding-annabelle-betz/>)

Health and Medical Sciences

Sealants

Chantilly Academy Dental Careers 2 students have been practicing a new skill: placing sealants. In addition to using the mannequins in the lab, students also practiced placing sealants on custom designed and 3D printed dental arch models.

Inova Fair Oaks Hospital

STEAM Resource Teachers participated in professional learning made possible through collaboration with Applied Behavior Analysis (ABA) coaches and teachers. Educators learned about providing STEAM and CS opportunities to students with diverse abilities with emphasis on elementary students in the *Enhanced Autism program*. Educators were able to make connections to use strategies with other groups.

Emergency Medical Technician

EMT students at Falls Church Academy learned that EMT's may need to go into situations with firefighters to care for a patient. This task requires physical stamina, care for the patient and trust of their colleagues. Students learned how to trust and be caring of their classmates through a trust walk exercise.

ASTECC

Exploring Health Science students at Chantilly Academy had the opportunity to use state-of-the-art medical equipment at Inova's Advanced Surgical Technology and Education Center (ASTECC). ASTECC is the most technologically advanced surgery simulation facility in the region and is used by surgeons, surgical residence, and surgical teams for training and education. Students put their medical skills to practice using laparoscopes, endoscopes, robotic surgical systems, and interactive mannequins. After the visit, students heard a presentation by Inova's Respiratory Therapy team and learned how they provide respiratory services to a range of patients from infants in the NICU to elderly patients. During this presentation, students practiced intubation, used manual breathing pumps, and saw how lungs inflate and deflate. How amazing is Inova for helping provide these experiences for our students!

Dream BIG Work-Based Learning Experience

Herndon High School students had the extraordinary opportunity to participate in a career exploration event at Inova Fair Oaks Hospital, where they were inspired to Dream BIG. This engaging work-based learning experience introduced students to the wide range of career pathways available in healthcare, sparking curiosity and excitement about the field. Through thoughtfully designed rotations in the Respiratory Department, Operating Room, and Emergency Room, students gained invaluable, hands-on insights into the dynamic roles within these areas. These interactive experiences not only informed but also inspired, leaving an impression on every participant. Adding to the event's impact, Inova's President and staff members generously took time from their demanding schedules to connect with the students. By sharing personal stories, teaching new skills, answering questions, and offering meaningful advice, they provided students with an in-depth look at the healthcare profession. Their guidance was truly invaluable, inspiring many students to explore the possibility of a rewarding future in healthcare.

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 ((Teachers for Tomorrow and Early Childhood)
- HOSA (Health and Medical Sciences)
- SkillsUSA (Trade and Industrial)
- TSA (Technology and Engineering)

FCCLA

FCS students at West Springfield HS are collaborating with the Explore. Act. Tell. (E.A.T.) organization; they are FCCLA's National Outreach Partner. Their purpose is to assist high school and middle school students with engaging methods and project challenges needed to tackle food insecurity. The goal of West Springfield HS students is to develop a food pantry allowing students to take home food when school is not in session, recognizing that hunger is a continuous problem not a holiday event.

Herndon HS FCCLA students made Christmas Wreathes fostering the sense of "community" in Family, Careers and Community Leaders of America, next year this will serve as a fundraiser for the CTSO!