

## **Career and Technology Center**

7922 Opossumtown Pike Frederick, MD 21702

Hours: 7:00AM - 3:00PM

Phone: 240-236-8500 Fax: 240-236-8501

#### http://education.fcps.org/ctc



Frederick County Career & Tech Center

@FrederickCTC
@CTCPrincipal

#### **Principal**

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AP

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### **Message from the Principal**

**DECEMBER 2021** 

Issue 2

As autumn arrives, we are in full swing at the Career and Technology Center (CTC). As we continue to work hard during term 2, we remind parents to help ensure academic success by staying aware of their child's assignments and grades---via Schoology.

Thank you for a wonderful and well attended CTC Open House in October. We were happy to be open to the public for in-person visits for the first time since 2019. FCPS students and parents were able to visit the 24 career programs we offer at CTC; serving FCPS students in 10th, 11th, and 12th grade from all ten county high schools. Students and staff members were on-hand to provide information about their respective program and to answer questions. In addition, business representatives and post-secondary institutions were also available to provide additional information about career and post-secondary opportunities. Our annual Open House is a great way for us to kick-off the CTC Shadowing process which runs now through February 24. Students interested in applying to a CTC program must first schedule a shadow experience for the program(s) they would like to apply. Shadowing is mandatory for applying to any program offered at CTC. Students may shadow and apply for up to two programs and are encouraged to select programs to shadow by talking with their high school counselor or by checking out the programs on our CTC website.

We also invite parents to become actively involved in our school community. Opportunities to volunteer are abundant. Our SkillsUSA, FFA, SHOP and the National Technical Honor Society organizations always welcome and need additional helping hands. These vital groups play a pivotal role at CTC and have already begun planning several key events for you and your children. In addition, each technical program offers the opportunity for industry leaders to participate in program advisory groups. These groups offer advice and support our technical programs; enabling them to keep pace with industry standards, expectations, and innovations.

As always, we welcome your questions, comments, and suggestions. Please feel free to call or email me or any staff member any time, and keep the lines of communication open so that we can, together, support and challenge "our" students.

Michael Concepcion - Principal

## **Guidance News...**

The Career and Technology Center would like to wish everyone a joyful, safe, and healthy holiday season!

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## **Internet and Social Media Safety**

The internet and social media provide us with an endless resource of information and social networking right at our fingertips. Young people use the internet to complete school work and do research, and social media to connect with friends and meet new people. There are many, many positive aspects about the internet and social media. But just as we teach our children safety for other areas in life, it is important that we teach them to be safe on the internet and social media as well. It is vital for parents to educate their children about making smart choices regarding their internet and social media usage and to provide them with the information and knowledge to protect them online.

#### **TIPS FOR PARENTS:**

- Communication is key. Talk to your children about the potential dangers of the internet and social media. Simple awareness of hazards may help them make smarter choices.
- Be aware of your child's internet and social media usage. Keep the computer in public area of the house vs. in their room so that you can monitor their usage and limit phone/device use at night.
- Know your child's password(s) and remind them to never give them out to anyone.
- Educate yourself about social media. Read app reviews, age limits and fine print. Know the ins and outs of each site and set clear guidelines and expectations about what they should and shouldn't do.
- Check your computer's internet history and the apps to determine if any additional filters, tracking, or blocking software is appropriate.
- Talk to your child about what they do online. Let your kids know the importance of privacy. Many social media sites request names, dates of birth, school names, and hometown. Teach your children how much personal information is too much information online. And remember that these types of personally identifying information, if exposed in a data breach, could make them vulnerable to identity theft.
- Provide feedback about what is appropriate to post. Make sure that photos posted don't include any identifying information that may help an online predator target your child (such as a school sweatshirt or team logo) and that they are appropriate.
- Remind your child that the internet and social media are PUBLIC, nothing they post on a site is private and can be seen by those who they want to see it as well as those that they don't.

Parenting a teenager can be a challenge as they are striving to gain independence, and we are helping them gain it. However, the internet and social media pose serious safety threats, especially to uninformed and unmonitored young people. So just as we taught them as little children to look both ways before they crossed the street and not to talk to strangers, we need to be sure our children are prepared to address the potential hazards of the internet and social media too.

https://www.justice.gov/coronavirus/keeping-children-safe-online



FCPS CAREER & TECH CENTER

## **CTC News...**

### **Health & Wellness**

Check out the recently updated nutrition board in the front hallway if you want some healthy holiday swap ideas. If you are not interested in swapping any of the delicious holiday foods we wait for all year, use the "healthier" plate for healthy options for the new year.





ORTHODONTICS

## **December Attendance Incentive**

In an effort to support our school-wide goal of reducing the number of CTC students who are chronically absent for this school year, CTC will once again offer a

December attendance incentive. CTC students who have perfect attendance for the month of December will have their names placed in a hopper. On Wednesday, December 22nd (the last day of school before the winter holiday break), we will draw one AM winner and one PM winner and announce them over the PA system. The winners can collect their \$50 gift card in the front office. Kudos to the House Project Foundation and Mechanical Trades Foundation for funding this student incentive.







# includes a new 54" latex printer capable of producing banners, posters, printed vinyl heat transfers, wraps, stickers, decals and so much more. A complimentary cutter allows for CAD cutout of the design. A complete heat press system allows for vinyl cut designs to be applied to shirts, hats, mugs, bags, and other promotional products. Students also produce product

on a four-station screen printing system that allows us to print up to four colors on a single shirt. A sublimation printer and vinyl cutter offer more printing options. The shop also has digital print capabilities, a bindery, an industrial cutter, and a complete portrait studio. The next time you are looking to have business, personal, or promotional items created or printed, email jason.hoffman@fcps. org or give us a call at 240-236-8527 for a quote and see if we are an option. Follow us on Twitter @ddpmctc to see other examples of items we have produced.

## **Print With Us**

Did you know that the Digital Design and Print Methods class, a program offered at CTC, not only focuses on design and photography, using the latest Adobe software, but also operates a full functioning print shop? Printing and design services are available to all schools and the public on a job-by-job basis. Students operate and print on some of the latest equipment and technology. The shop

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## **Did You Know?**

## CTC Students Participate in Social Emotional Learning Activities

During the month of September all 800+ CTC students had the opportunity to participate in a Social Emotional Learning (SEL) activity with our school counselor Mrs. Daly and our SkillsUSA advisors Mrs. Herfurth and Mrs. Straits. During the activity students were able to get to know each, the supports available to them here at CTC, and to make connections. We also learned that we all share an unusual connection...





#### **TutorMe is Live!**

TutorMe is an online tutoring program that will connect any FCPS middle or high school student to a live tutor, 24 hours a day in over 300 subjects. Log on day or night and in under 30 seconds you will be connected to one of over 10,000 verified tutors from the nation's top universities



who are all experts in their field(s). Once matched, you'll enter a lesson space that features audio and video chat, screen sharing, virtual white boards and much more. The program can be used from home or school. Tutors can provide homework help, understanding concepts, writing support, and SAT prep. There are also options for students that speak Spanish, French, and many other languages.

Students are able to log into "TutorMe" using the single sign-in Clever tool found on their Chromebooks. Students can even access past tutoring sessions later on if needed. Teachers have added a link via their individual Schoology Course Page to the One-Pager. If your student needs help finding it, please have them reach out to their teacher for assistance.

This valuable new program will be such an instrumental tool for all our students to succeed. This program allows our students to get the help they need whenever and where ever they need it. Here is an Introductory Video: https://screencast-o-matic.com/watch/cr61FgVXX7E

Additionally, the following support documentation and videos will help students successfully navigate and use the TutorMe platform. TutorMe Support Document: https://docs.google.com/document/d/1\_A2ID96xs-eU4ucgPP2-u3nvnMJ-PRXm64k8ZRVY4l/edit

#### **One Call Now (OCN)**

The intent of the messages is to communicate with families if their child has been marked absent for one or more periods of the school day. This text is automated and it is possible that if a child enters school later in the day the text could occur in error. As always, please feel free to call our front office if you feel you have received a text in error or email the attendance secretary. This text will be scheduled for the persons noted as the guardians for your child.

If you wish to opt out of this text or any of the One Call Now calls you receive, listen to the message through to the end for directions to opt out. Please know opting out will decrease further communications from our school when we are using One Call Now. The texts will occur twice a day. Once in the morning at 10:30 to reflect block I and 2 absences and once in the afternoon at 2:30 to reflect block 3 and 4 absences. COVID calls will occur multilingually every Sunday night at 6:00. These calls show as a call from FCPS on the caller id.

If your student is absent, please email ctc.attendance@fcps.org so that the absence may be excused. Otherwise, your student's absence will be unlawful. If you need to pick up your student early from CTC, please email paula.brodell@fcps.org.



## **Congratulations!**

#### **SkillsUSA Fall Leadership Conference**

The 2021 SkillsUSA Fall Leadership Conference gave 41 CTC students an opportunity to interact with other Maryland future leaders while participating in leadership skill breakout sessions facilitated by the Maryland SkillsUSA State Officer Team. Session focus areas included SMART Goal Development, Communication, Leadership and Teambuilding, and Diversity, Equity and Inclusion. Our CTC students shined in their enthusiasm, ability to tackle tough challenges and teamwork.

Statesman Award Recipients: The SkillsUSA Maryland Statesman Award is presented to members who demonstrate SkillsUSA knowledge and civic awareness, along with an understanding of the SkillsUSA Framework and how to articulate their personal career and technical education (CTE) experience.

Student Name Madison Ahalt Alexander Bokelman Delaney Cabe Elisabeth Caruso Shenali De Silva Rannielle Elad Mandi Elassal **Rileigh Ensor** Alyssia Estero Taylor Gepes-Carroll Madyson Gussio Ashlyn Gussio Ryane Hernandez

**CTC** Teacher Zucco, Andrew Moser, Evan Maher, Jenny Zucco, Andrew Marcum, Claudine Dillen Owusu Frank, Adam Zucco, Andrew Maher, Jenny Frank, Adam Duman, Donnie Zucco. Andrew Duman, Donnie Maher, Jenny

**Student Name** Kyle Malone Devyn McFarland Ben Mullennex Edwin Niemandt Caroline Patras Camryn Senuta Faith Swire Megan Warren Renée Wetsel Justine Winkler Sara Zupnik

**CTC** Teacher Wilfong, Gary Marcum, Claudine Rollins, James Arnold, Phil Marcum, Claudine Howard, Zach Kidd, Karin Maher, Jenny Kidd, Karin Marcum, Claudine Duman, Donnie Maher, Jenny

Framework Certification Recipients: SkillsUSA's Framework Certification is an e-learning module where participants learned about SkillsUSA and how it ensures the development of world-class workers, leaders and responsible American citizens through the SkillsUSA Framework.

Student Name Madison Ahalt Alexander Bokelman Elisabeth Caruso Shenali De Silva Mandi Elassal Taylor Gepes-Carroll Gracie Knight Kyle Malone Devyn McFarland Edwin Niemandt

**CTC** Teacher Zucco, Andrew Moser, Evan Zucco. Andrew Marcum, Claudine Zucco. Andrew Duman, Donnie Kidd, Karin Wilfong, Gary Marcum, Claudine Arnold, Phil

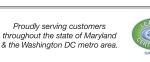
Student Name Dillen Owusu Caroline Patras Diego Ramirez Mason Rarer Camryn Senuta Megan Warren Renée Wetsel **Justine Winkler** Payton Winpigler Lily Wolf

Marcum, Claudine Howard, Zach Thuman, James Duman, Donnie Kidd, Karin Kidd, Karin Marcum, Claudine Duman, Donnie Kidd, Karin Kidd, Karin

**CTC** Teacher



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**Students News...** 



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## Aviation Education and Career Expo

CTC's CAD Engineering students attended the 15th Annual ProJet Aviation Education and Career Expo at the Leesburg Executive Airport in Virginia on October 29th. Students enjoyed hearing from guest speakers and meeting people from all over the country who work in the aviation industry. They were also able to talk to military and college representatives and try out several aviation simulators.

Guest Speakers included Retired NASA Astronaut and International Space Station Commander, Frank Culbertson, and U.S. Air Force Pilot and United Airlines Pilot, Jennifer Timko. These speakers gave inspirational presentations encouraging students to follow their aviation dreams. Other highlights included the USAir Force Honor Guard Drill Team, the U.S. Army Golden Knights parachute jump team, and the Garda World K9 service group.

Several CTC students won monetary awards based on essays they wrote for ProJet's scholarship essay competition. They are:

Caden Keyser - \$1,000 from Goose Creek Aviation Leila Cornejo - \$1,000 from Woman in Aviation Brody Watson - \$1,500 from Kent State University Dominic Stultz - \$1,500 from Toth Financial Edwin Niemandt - \$8,000 from St. Francis University Pranav Vangar - \$20,000 from Vaughn College

Additionally, Instructor Phil Arnold won the expo's Golden Eagle teacher award.

FCPS CAREER & TECH CENTER

## **Students of the Month**

#### SEPTEMBER

AM Patrick Dugan – Landscaping Joy Sagna – AoHP Damon Catlin – Auto Tech Carla Sandoval – AoHP

#### ΡΜ

Emilay De Silva – DDPM Kevin Bowman – Auto Body Diego Ramirez Fernandez – Carpentry Stephanie Henry – TAM

#### OCTOBER AM

Shea Gerst – AoHP Jenna Cackowski – Physical Rehab Johana Benitez – Landscaping Brandon Patton – DDPM

#### ΡΜ

Ryan Baldwin – Auto Tech Eleanor Kahwajy – Nursing Assistant Ann Gannon – TAM Jaden Stokes – DDPM

## **Cosmetology I Preparing for Competition**

Mrs. Phillip's Cosmetology I students recently participated in a mock SkillsUSA Updo Competition. The winners are...

#### A.M. WINNERS

Ist Place - Kate Weltz 2nd Place - Bree McClain 3rd Place - Lilah Covey

#### P.M. WINNERS

I st Place - Ericka Lopez 2nd Place - Olivia Ramsey 3rd Place - Ellen Vu

Winners will receive Chick-Fil-a gift cards. Congratulations to all of our participants for a job well done!



## **Student House Project...**

### All Around Plumbing Helps Big Time!

Mr. Brendan Madden and his All Around Plumbing, Inc. crew recently helped the plumbing and HVAC students meet their inspection deadline. With the ductwork and water systems finished, the plumbing and HVAC students got some colossal help with the Drain, Waste, and Vent (DWV) system from All Around.

With the interior systems now in place, the house can be insulated, drywalled, and painted. All Around's help was a huge boost and will enable the project to get completed on time so that the Student House can be put on the market.

The students staged this photo at the Student House to reflect their appreciation of All Around Plumbing and to illustrate how gigantic of an impact their support makes. Mr. Madden also serves on the Program Advisory Committee (PAC) which shepherds the plumbing and HVAC program through new industry standards and techniques.

Located at 12 Fulton Avenue, Walkersville, Maryland, the current Student House is the 33rd home built by CTC students. The Student House Project is completely funded through the efforts of the Frederick County Student Construction Trades Foundation, Inc. - a 501(3)c non-profit. Each House Project is typically completed over two school years. Students complete 85-90% of all work with the remaining completed by our industry partners and contributors.





### FCPS Career and Technology Center Student House Project

The 33rd FCPS Career & Technology Center (CTC) Student House Project is nearing completion, and several area business partners have helped students complete some important final steps. The new home, built entirely by students, is located on Fulton Avenue in Walkersville. Students broke ground in November 2019 for the singlefamily home with nearly 1,800 square feet of living space. Features include a first-floor master bedroom suite with a walk-in closet and bathroom. It will also include a detached two-car garage.

Recently, Frederick Air Heating and Air Conditioning donated a two-ton Carrier Enterprise residential heat pump system for the house project, simply the latest example of area businesses and organizations supporting a project completed by students in carpentry and cabinet making, HVAC/plumbing, construction electricity, environmental

landscape design and computer-aided design classes. "For generations, the CTC House Project has provided students hands-on learning opportunities," FCPS Career & Technology Center Principal Michael Concepcion said. "We are so thankful to all of our area businesses and organizations for their generosity to this project even during the global health crisis."

In addition to the Frederick County Students Construction Trades Foundation, Inc. providing the opportunity, FCPS provides the training facility, instructors and equipment at the CTC. The FCPS Transportation Department provides the bus service and maintains the vehicles required to transport equipment.

FCPS student house projects began in 1978 when educators and business leaders came together to develop an opportunity for students to learn about careers in the construction trades. The program includes instruction in computer-aided design, construction electricity, HVAC/ plumbing, environmental landscape design and management, carpentry and cabinet making.

All houses the students build receive the same government inspections as any other dwelling in Frederick, and they are therefore under constant scrutiny. In addition to these inspections, CTC instructors and professional contractors (members of various program-advisory committees) carefully review the work performed. Throughout this process, the students are able see their strengths and learn from areas needing improvement or correction. The end result is an excellent education and an extremely well-built house.

Once the student house is complete, an open house will be scheduled. The proceeds from the home's sale will go towards buying a lot for a future house project and scholarship opportunities for students.



## Breast Cancer Awareness

CTC staff and students wore pink throughout the month of October to show support and bring awareness during breast cancer awareness month. Mrs. Kidd's AoHP class honored teacher, Jacqueline Pieterse, a breast cancer survivor.









#### Sock Drive

Over 1500 socks! The SkillsUSA Officer team sponsored a Sock-tober and Sock-vember sock drive. New socks were donated to local charities and will be distributed during the holiday season. Way to go CTC! Congratulations to the top three programs who collected the most socks...

Ist Place - Biomedical Science (over 470 socks) 2nd Place - Academy of Health Professions (Mrs. Maher) 3rd Place - Teacher Academy

#### **Fun Fall Wellness Activity**

The Learning Lunch Bunch were able to provide learning lunch students with a fun wellness activity to get their creative juices flowing by painting and decorating mini pumpkins. Cosmetology II also joined in the fun and gave a pumpkin a spa day. Thank you to Valley View Acres in Middletown, MD for providing pumpkins and Chick-fil-a on route 355 in Frederick, MD for providing free food voucher cards.

**TransIT Services of Frederick County** 

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**Veteran's Day** 

Ceremony

Homeland Security program

conducted a beautiful ceremony

on November 11th in honor of

Veteran's Day.

The Criminal Justice and

TransIT's bus stop is located in front of CTC for convenient access to and from classes





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## **Fall Activities**



Our annual SkillsUSA Door Decorating Contest was a great success! All CTC programs had the opportunity to participate and create a door design that was displayed at our CTC Open House. The contest was undertaken to motivate students to showcase their professional programs of study and highlights key SkillsUSA framework skills like professionalism, work ethic, teamwork, and communication; all skills that employers are actively seeking in new hires. And the winners are...

#### **MOST HUMOROUS**

Ist Place – BioMed - Marcum 2nd Place – Cybersecurity - Moser 3rd Place – Landscaping - Herndon

#### BEST REPRESENTATION OF A PROGRAM

Ist Place – Cosmetology I - Phillips 2nd Place – DDPM - Hoffman 3rd Place – AoHP - Pieterse

### WERE UNITED AS SOME UNITED BODY BODY EMMOVATION BODY EMMOVATION BODY EMMOVATION COLLABORATION COLLABORATION COLLABORATION



## BEST REPRESENTATION OF UNITED AS ONE

Ist Place – TAM - Huguley 2nd Place – AoHP - Kidd 3rd Place – TVMM - Frank

#### MULTICATEGORY HONORABLE MENTIONS

HS/CJ – Zucco HS/CJ - Duman Web Tech - Csulak HVACRP - Crum Nurse Assisting – Yoho, Maher, Kidd





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### Welcome New CTC Instructional Assistants!!!

#### AIMEE KEENEY-FISHER – INSTRUCTIONAL ASSISTANT

I am originally from Frederick County, where I graduated from Brunswick High School. I also attended and earned an Associate's of Arts Degree from FCC and a degree from the Hallmark Institute of Photography in Massachusetts.

Before coming to work at FCPS as an Instructional Assistant, I was a freelance photographer and a stay at home mother. Teaching a photography class at my son's music school and volunteering in his elementary classroom led me to a career path in education.

I have always enjoyed helping others learn and I am bringing over seven years of classroom experience to CTC. In my free time, I enjoy spending time with my husband and son. I also like to travel, spend time at the beach, go camping, and listen to my son play music in his rock band.

#### DINA KARAKUS – INSTRUCTIONAL ASSISTANT/ DIGITAL LEARNING LAB MENTOR

I have been living in Frederick, MD since 2007. I have two children, my 16-year-old daughter is currently at FHS and my 18-year-old son attends UMBC in Computer Science. I have worked for FCPS since 2015, first as a substitute teacher - working primarily with high school grades. I was then able to get a job with Montessori Valley public charter school where I was a user support specialist and an instructional assistant for the middle school program. I have enjoyed working with technology and have learned a lot through the years.

My true passion is working with students one on one. I have a B.S. degree in anthropology. I love all cultures and have been fortunate to travel abroad. My other passion is working with clay I spend many hours in the art studio. CTC has been truly welcoming and I am very grateful to be working with so many talented and kind staff members and students.

## Shout Out to Our CTC Instructional Assistants!!!



## JENNIFER CRAMPTON – SPECIAL EDUCATION INSTRUCTIONAL ASSISTANT

I was a stay-at-home mom to my two daughters, now 20 and 21 years old and in college. While I was home with my children, I also provided childcare/support to various families in my community. In March of 2020, I volunteered for an organization called Blessings in a Backpack for their emergency distribution. Providing supplemental food for children in Frederick County over the weekends.

Recently, I assisted with a nonprofit called Each I Teach I Inc. in conjunction with Frederick County Housing Authority, demonstrating lifelong social & emotional learning skills to marginalized youth through Yoga, Breathe, & Mindful practices. I was also a volunteer and board member with the PTA, an approved school/classroom volunteer, and a Girl Scout Leader for all the years that my children were enrolled in Frederick County Public School. I am used to wearing many hats. I enjoy working with the public to grow and maintain relationships with members of my community. I am so happy to be a part of CTC!

#### LEIDA PIMENTEL – ENGLISH LANGUAGE (EL) INSTRUCTIONAL ASSISTANT

I was born and raised in Puerto Rico. English is my second language, so I consider myself an English Learner. As an EL instructional assistant the first key message for students to know is that knowing a second language is an honor and a privilege. I know from experience the struggle of learning a second language and with determination and practice they will learn and succeed.

At CTC I help with translation and interpretations. I am the "link" between the staff, students, and parents to ensure they understand each other, the material, concepts and ultimately that the students learn new technical skills. I follow up closely with students to ensure they know what is required of them. I monitor their academic progress closely and ensure they know I am here for them. I am like an "academic mom" that looks after their education so they can be successful during and after their time at CTC.

In honor of Educational Support Professional's Day, November 17th, a much-deserved shout out and thank you to our CTC Instructional Assistants!!! You are an integral part of CTC and we appreciate all that you do!!!

(Shown left to right: Leida Pimentel, Dina Karakus, Lori Keller, Jen Leatherman, Aimee Keeney-Fisher, Christopher Lee, and Jennifer Crampton. Not shown: Kerry Parks and Mary Wishka)

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