

# VII.F.

## Connecticut State Board of Education Hartford

**To Be Proposed:**  
**June 1, 2022**

**Whereas**, Career and Technical Student Organizations (CTSOs) are a co-curricular, integral part of the local, state, and national career and technical education programs; and

**Whereas**, the development of individual student leadership skills is the keystone of these organizations; and

**Whereas**, all CTSO chapters were asked to identify an outstanding service project; now, therefore, be it

**Resolved**, that the Connecticut State Board of Education recognizes the following CTSO Outstanding Service Award Recipients:

- Distributive Education Clubs of America (DECA), Hamden High School, Hamden;
- Future Business Leaders of America (FBLA), Newington High School, Newington;
- Family, Career, and Community Leaders of America (FCCLA), Waterbury Career Academy, Waterbury;
- FFA (formerly known as Future Farmers of America), Housatonic Valley Regional High School, Region One;
- Future Health Professionals (HOSA), Bridgeport Central High School, Bridgeport;
- Technology Student Association (TSA), Conard High School, West Hartford;

and directs the Commissioner to take the necessary action.

Approved by a vote of \_\_\_\_\_ this first day of June, Two Thousand Twenty-Two.

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_  
Charlene M. Russell-Tucker, Secretary  
State Board of Education

**Connecticut State Board of Education  
Hartford**

**To:** State Board of Education

**From:** Charlene M. Russell-Tucker, Commissioner of Education

**Date:** June 1, 2022

**Subject:** Recognition of Career and Technical Education Student Organizations

**Executive Summary**

**Introduction**

The Career and Technical Student Organizations (CTSOs) are a co-curricular, integral part of the local, state, and national career and technical education programs. The development of individual student leadership skills is the keystone of these organizations. In Connecticut these organizations can be found in the comprehensive high schools and the Connecticut Technical Education and Career System (CTECS). These organizations are committed to providing students contextualized learning through hands-on applications; recognition through competitions and awards for achievements; real-world experiences; and other personalized learning experiences. The CTSOs build bridges between the school, family, and community that give students powerful, positive experiences in civic responsibility.

Every year, each of the Connecticut CTSO advisors identify one CTSO Chapter to be reviewed and considered by the Connecticut State Board of Education (Board) for recognition as a CTSO Outstanding Service Award recipient.

**Recommendation**

The CSDE presents the following CTSO Chapters and summaries of their service projects for review and consideration of recognition as CTSO Outstanding Service Award recipients:

- Hamden High School's Distributive Education Clubs of America (DECA) Chapter, under the guidance of Chapter Advisor Bryan Anderson, focused on supporting animal rescue and adoption. The students raised \$2,254 for the Hamden non-profit Where the Love Is Animal Rescue by selling Krispy Kreme Doughnuts and homemade all-natural dog treats. Additionally, students organized a DECA's Santa Paws event which included the opportunity for people to donate funds and have their canine companions photograph taken with Santa Claus.
- Newington High School's Future Business Leaders of America (FBLA) Chapter, under the guidance of Chapter Advisor Julia Dennis, engaged in a community service project to support Neonatal Intensive Care Unit nurses and babies. The project included creating Valentine's Day gifts for nurses and raising monetary donations to purchase bags and supplies for babies. Students enlisted the help of other student-lead organizations, performed community outreach,

and spread awareness through many different outlets. As a result, they exceeded their financial goal with an overwhelming amount of donations.

- Waterbury Career Academy's Family, Career and Community Leaders of America (FCCLA) Chapter, under the guidance of Chapter Advisor Jean M. Gallati, painted a "Gratitude Tree." This mural was displayed in the school lobby as a place where students could reflect on their lives and express their gratitude. Students wrote their thoughts on leaves and hung the leaves on the Gratitude Tree mural. This activity allowed students a peaceful time to reflect, try a new gratitude practice, and improve overall mental health.
- Housatonic Valley Regional High School's FFA (formerly known as Future Farmers of America) Chapter, under the guidance of Chapter Advisors Rene Boardman, David Moran Danielle Melino, and Audra Leach donated \$3,000 to their local food banks and The Jane Lloyd Fund, a non-profit organization that assists cancer patients. The community is their biggest support system, and students wanted to give back and help those struggling, especially during recent hard times. Students raised the funds by selling wreaths, poinsettias, trees, and other holiday items.
- Bridgeport Central High School's Future Health Professionals (HOSA) Chapter, under the guidance of Chapter Advisor Carmen Marietta-Francisco, collected 1,600 pounds of food for the Bridgeport Rescue Mission foodbank. Students also hosted a "Fill the Bag" Campaign and a Super Bowl event. The "Fill the Bag" campaign included students across the school filling paper bags full of food to donate. The Super Bowl event occurred during Super Bowl Week. A box was placed in the school's main lobby and students and faculty put cans in the box for the team they thought would win the Souper Bowl.
- Conard High School's Technical Student Association (TSA) Chapter, under the guidance of Chapter Advisor Anthony Truss, worked on a project to close the technology access gap in their hometown of West Hartford. The students collected and refurbished personal computers to donate to other students within the school community. Students worked with the School Guidance Department to confidentially identify students needing computers and then facilitated the delivery of the equipment. Due to COVID-19, this program was halted, but students are working on an iMac this year that was recently donated.

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