

# IX.C.

## CONNECTICUT STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION Hartford

### TO BE PROPOSED: June 2, 2021

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

**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), New Fairfield High School, New Fairfield;
- Future Business Leaders of America (FBLA), Trumbull High School, Trumbull;
- Family, Career, and Community Leaders of America (FCCLA), South Windsor High School, South Windsor;
- FFA (formerly known as Future Farmers of America), Lyman Hall High School, Wallingford;
- Future Health Professionals (HOSA), Stratford High School, Stratford;
- SkillsUSA, Oliver Wolcott Technical High School, Torrington;
- Technology Student Association (TSA), Killingly High School, Dayville;

and directs the Acting Commissioner to take the necessary action.

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

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, Acting Commissioner of Education  
**DATE:** June 2, 2021  
**SUBJECT:** Recognition of Career and Technical Education Student Organizations

*Executive Summary*

**Introduction**

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. 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.

In May of each school year, the Career and Technical Education (CTE) state CTSO advisors identify one outstanding service award project to be considered for recognition by the Connecticut State Board of Education (Board) at the Board’s June meeting. The Connecticut State Department of Education (CSDE) CTE Unit prepares and presents the proposed CTSO Outstanding Service Award Recipients recommendations for the Board’s review.

**Recommendation**

The CSDE presents the following CTSO chapters and a summary of their service projects for review and consideration of recognition as CTSO Outstanding Service Award Recipients.

CTSO Chapter	Service Project
<p><b>Distributive Education Clubs of America (DECA)</b> New Fairfield High School 54 Gillotti Road New Fairfield, CT 06812  Principal: James D’Amico Superintendent: Dr. Patricia Cosentino Chapter Advisor: Thomas Scherf</p>	<p>Members of the New Fairfield <b>DECA</b> Chapter partnered with the Interfaith AIDS Ministry of Greater Danbury to organize boxes of birthday party supplies for children diagnosed with AIDS/HIV. In the 2020–21 school year, parents were struggling to balance their child’s treatments and everyday life. To assist these families, students created birthday party boxes that included necessities for a child’s birthday party (e.g., cake mix, frosting, candles, individualized snacks and beverages, birthday hats, streamers, utensils, paper plates, cups, etc.). With the assistance of the Interfaith AIDS Ministry, students helped bring birthday happiness to 10 families.</p>

CTSO Chapter	Service Project
<p><b>Future Business Leaders of America (FBLA)</b></p> <p>Trumbull High School 72 Strobel Road Trumbull, CT 06611</p> <p>Principal: Marc Guarino Superintendent: Dr. Martin Semmel Chapter Advisers: Diane Richard and Katelyn Southard</p>	<p>Members of the <b>FBLA</b> Chapter at Trumbull High School organized the Literacy: Literally Life Changing project in honor of NEA’s Read Across America Day. The chapter wanted to spread the love of reading to students in a local school. The members of the FBLA Chapter at Trumbull High School chose to donate books to K-5 students attending the Wilbur Cross Elementary School in Bridgeport. The goal was to donate 100 books, and the FBLA members engaged all of Trumbull High School in this project. This was a multi-step project, requiring careful planning. The project was advertised, books collected and stored, and delivered to Bridgeport. The chapter surpassed their goal and donated 150 books.</p>
<p><b>Family, Career and Community Leaders of America (FCCLA)</b></p> <p>South Windsor High School 161 Nevers Road South Windsor, CT 06074</p> <p>Principal: Frank Rizzuto Superintendent: Dr. Kate Carter Chapter Advisor: Keri Booth</p>	<p>The South Windsor High School <b>FCCLA</b> Chapter did an exceptional job during this difficult year by serving the community through projects such as creating cards for the elderly and children in the hospital, and producing fun, informative videos for families at home. This chapter has three members on the State FCCLA Executive Council responsible for developing sustainable growth for Connecticut and serving as leaders for their school chapter.</p>
<p><b>FFA (formerly known as Future Farmers of America)</b></p> <p>Lyman Hall High School 70 Pond Hill Road Wallingford, CT 06492</p> <p>Principal: Joseph Corso Superintendent: Dr. Salvatore Menzo Chapter Adviser: Claudia Marcello</p>	<p>Members of the Lyman Hall High School <b>FFA</b> Natural Resource Committee (NRC) applied for and were awarded a Living to Serve Grant to help address the removal of the invasive European water chestnut (<i>Trapa natans</i>) from the Hanover Pond in Meriden, Connecticut. The NRC partnered with the Quinnipiac River Watershed Association (QRWA) to schedule a virtual water chestnut removal training hosted by Rivers Alliance of Connecticut in early July for FFA members. Over the summer, five official European water chestnut removal events were held. The events were based at QRWA Headquarters and followed Centers for Disease Control (CDC) COVID guidelines. The QRWA provided boats, and supplies were funded by the Living to Serve Grant. Overall 14 FFA members, 2 FFA advisors, and 22 members of the public assisted in removing European water chestnuts from the five water chestnut removal events. Once trained, individual volunteers were also motivated to continue the removal efforts on their own. Another youth leadership organization, Ball Headz, also participated in the volunteer efforts. The day of the events, an FFA member demonstrated how to remove water chestnuts. Volunteers removed the floating invasive plant and placed it in a trash bag to be composted. The City of Meriden removed the invasive plants from the compost at the end of the events.</p>

CTSO Chapter	Service Project
<p><b>Future Health Professionals (HOSA)</b></p> <p>Stratford High School 245 King Street Stratford, CT 06615</p> <p>Principal: Jack Dellapiano Superintendent: Janet Robinson Chapter Advisor: Sharon Foran</p>	<p>The Stratford High School <b>HOSA</b> Chapter partnered with the Medical Reserve Corps (MRC) on a community service project that included an awareness campaign regarding receiving the COVID vaccination and wearing a mask. Students completed CDC virtual training courses on vaccinations and proper use of personal protective equipment (PPE). They created pamphlets explaining the importance of wearing a mask, as well as pamphlets explaining how vaccines work. This information was disseminated to educate community members. Additionally, students raised money and made PPE donations to the hospitals and the homeless population in Stratford.</p>
<p><b>SkillsUSA</b></p> <p>Oliver Wolcott Technical High School 75 Oliver Street Torrington, CT 06790</p> <p>Principal: Richard Shellman Superintendent: Jeffrey Wihbey Chapter Advisor: Royal Allard</p>	<p>In response to the overwhelming need for PPE at the start of the pandemic, <b>SkillsUSA</b> Chapter members from Oliver Wolcott Technical High School stepped-up. Students from various trade-technology areas manufactured face shields and headbands for workers at Charlotte Hungerford Hospital, Torrington. Students produced well over 100 items. Additionally, students from the Health Technology Program volunteered and began employment to assist in meeting the healthcare shortage area.</p>
<p><b>Technical Student Association (TSA)</b></p> <p>Killingly High School 226 Putnam Pike Dayville, CT 06241</p> <p>Principal: Elise Guari Superintendent: Robert Angeli Chapter Advisor: Jim Hutson</p>	<p>The Killingly High School (KHS) <b>TSA</b> Chapter assisted the Apponaug Baseball League, a non-profit entity, in repairing and replacing guard rails at the baseball fields to assist children and adults with safe access to watch games. During the COVID pandemic, lumber was scarce. The chapter partnered with a local sawmill and Lowes Home Center to acquire supplies for this project. The lumber was brought to KHS for students to mill and sand all the necessary components. The goal of the project was for KHS TSA students to install the guard rails. However, due to COVID mandates cancelling field trips and travel, the project had to be installed by the chapter advisor.</p> <p>The Apponaug Baseball League appreciated this project because as it allows elderly and handicapped individuals to safely access the field.</p>

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