



JAGUAR NATION

JANUARY 2019 • VOLUME 8, No. 3

SOMERSET COUNTY VOCATIONAL & TECHNICAL HIGH SCHOOL

SCVTHS GIVES BACK DURING THE HOLIDAY SEASON

PRINCIPAL'S CORNER

Dear Jaguar Nation,

It is hard to believe the end of 2018 is nearly upon us. I am proud of the hard work and dedication I see each and every day from our students and from our staff. Visiting classrooms has allowed me the opportunity to see the many examples of learning and engagement happening in our school. It is truly rewarding to see the number of students highly involved in activities, clubs, and athletics. I am proud to be a part of a community that values education.

I wish everyone a wonderful holiday season!

Athletics:

- 1/4 - 2nd Annual Alumni Night - Alumni are invited to attend a boys and girls home basketball game to support our school and have fun seeing former classmates and teachers!
- 1/10 - PTO Meeting - General membership meeting. All parents and staff are invited to attend and learn more about how the PTO is involved in supporting our students and teachers!

Check out our sports schedule on our website and come on out in a show of support and cheer our teams on. Go Jags!

Sincerely,
Diane M. Ziegler



Students in the HOSA (Health Occupations Students of America) Club and Health Occupations Program with some of the collected coats from their Jersey Cares Winter Coat Drive. (l-r): Jessica Olivera-Hernandez of Bound Brook, N'Keya Gager of South Bound Brook, Amethyst Milochik of South Bound Brook, Tiffany Powser of Bridgewater, Brittany LaFace of Warren, Madison Pitts of South Bound Brook, Jayda Upton of Watchung, Carolyn Romero of Bound Brook, Sarah Yagual of Bound Brook and Stephanie Machado of South Bound Brook.

During the holiday season, students and staff at Somerset County Vocational & Technical High School participated in various events with the hopes of bringing joy to those who are less fortunate.

In November, the 19th Annual Holiday Food Drive generated enough food baskets to support 11 local families in need with a complete Thanksgiving meal including a turkey, fresh pie created by the Culinary Arts students and all the trimmings. This year, the junior class won the donation contest and earned themselves a pizza party for their efforts.

Throughout the month of November, students in the HOSA (Health Occupations Students of America) Club and Health Occupations Program collected a total of 52 winter coats during their Jersey Cares Winter Coat Drive.

On December 1st, the annual Holiday Cut-A-Thon & Toy Drive generated a grand total of \$905 and collected 23 toys. All proceeds from the event were donated to Cure Search for Childhood Cancer Research and the toys to Memorial Sloan Kettering Pediatric Center.

As part of their yearly activities, the students in the

TOPS (Technical Occupational Preparation for Success) Student Council collected toys for the Agapé House in Somerville and visited the Bridgeway Care and Rehabilitation Center in Bridgewater. SCVTHS Culinary Arts students pitched in by making cupcakes for the Bridgeway event so the council members could decorate them with the residents during their visit. The TOPS students also colored holiday pictures and gave manicures to the residents. Additionally, SCVTHS staff member Sharleen Leahey played the guitar and led a singalong with the residents.❄️

For more information on this story contact James Strickhart at (908) 526-8900, ext. 7169 or jstrickhart@scvths.net.



SOMERSET COUNTY VOCATIONAL & TECHNICAL SCHOOLS

14 Vogt Drive • P.O. Box 6350 • Bridgewater, NJ 08807 • (908) 526-8900

A US News & World Report Top Ranked High School!



Find us on
Facebook



Follow us on
Twitter



Visit our site
scvths.org



JAGUAR NATION

JANUARY 2019

VETERANS AND GOLD STAR FAMILIES VISIT SCVTHS

JAGUAR NATION

Volume 8, No. 3 • January 2019

Duane Wallace • Editor & Designer

James Strickhart • Editorial

Sharleen Leahey • Graphic Production

Janet Cantore-Watson • Photography

SOMERSET COUNTY VOCATIONAL & TECHNICAL SCHOOLS

VOCATIONAL BOARD OF EDUCATION

William G. Hyncik, Jr., President

Gregory Lavee Richard St. Pierre

Roger A. Jinks, Executive County Superintendent

Brian D. Levine, Freeholder Liaison

ADMINISTRATION

Chrys Harttraft, Ed.D., Superintendent of Schools

Raelene Sipple

School Business Administrator/Board Secretary

Diane M. Ziegler, Principal

Maria Johnson, Director of Special Services



This publication was funded by the
Somerset County Board of Chosen Freeholders

Students and staff at Somerset County Vocational & Technical High School (SCVTHS) welcomed a group of over 20 military veterans and five Gold Star Families to their fifth annual event entitled, "An Attitude of Gratitude."

Social Studies Instructor & Army veteran Ed M. Graf organized the event so that his students would be able to interact with the group of veterans and Gold Star Families. "The purpose of the event was to teach the students the importance of Veterans Day and to keep the memory of our fallen servicemen and women alive," said Mr. Graf.

Students from the SCVTHS Culinary Arts Program created and served a meal for the attendees in the school's TradeWins Restaurant. Veterans in attendance were from various posts including the Connecticut Farms American Legion Post 35 in Union and the VFW Kelly Post 2433 Union. The veterans served in various branches of the military and in different wars.

"This year's Attitude of Gratitude event was special because the students were able to spend more time with the veterans," said Mr. Graf.



Students and veterans interact during the An Attitude of Gratitude event.

"Many of the students have taken part in previous events, so they have created relationships with the veterans and made deep connections with these families over the years." Mr. Graf and his students are currently hard at work preparing for the annual Proud to be an American Day event held in May.*

For more information, contact James Strickhart at jstrickhart@scvts.net or (908) 526-8900, ext. 7169.

STUDENT OF THE MONTH

Sharon Samuel



Sharon Samuel

Sharon Samuel, a sophomore in the Academy for Health and Medical Sciences, has been selected as Somerset County Vocational & Technical High School's Student of the Month for December 2018. Sharon is the daughter of Samuel and Tenagne Lakew of Hillsborough.

SCVTHS Social Studies Instructor Dr. Tokarsky-Unda nominated Sharon Samuel for the Student of the Month award because, "Sharon displays an enthusiasm for learning exceeding that of her peers. She is inquisitive and excited about class material. Her enthusiasm has led her to pursue independent learning."

At SCVTHS, Sharon is the president and co-founder of the SCVTHS International Youth Neuroscience Association (IYNA) Chapter. In addition, Sharon consistently achieves Academy Honor Roll status. Recently she served as a SCVTHS Student Ambassador, giving tours to middle school students.

Outside of SCVTHS, Sharon is the Central New Jersey Local Chapter Network IYNA President and serves as their Mentorship Director. Sharon also participates in the Servants Prep & Choir at her church. In her free time, she enjoys reading scientific articles from Cell Press, writing articles for the IYNA Journal and listening to Radiolab podcasts.

Last summer, Sharon participated in the Teen Research and Education in Environmental Science Program at the University of Pennsylvania. As part of the Program, Sharon was involved in a research project on minimizing the adverse effects of chemotherapy drugs on patients and the environment, conducting her work under the guidance of Dr. Jeffery Field.

Sharon's future plans include becoming a physician-scientist, with an emphasis in research in the field of biochemistry, similar to the work she performed in her research project this past summer.*