



JAGUAR NATION

JUNE 2018 • VOLUME 7, No. 8

SOMERSET COUNTY VOCATIONAL & TECHNICAL HIGH SCHOOL

SCVTHS STUDENTS AND STAFF RECEIVE RECOGNITION AT UNITED NATIONS EVENT

PRINCIPAL'S CORNER

Dear Jaguar Nation,

Students and staff have been working hard this Spring on all the required state testing for both academics and our career & technical programs. We looking forward to some fun-filled, end of school year events:

- Friday, June 1 - Annual Junior-Senior Prom, Bridgewater Marriott
- Thursday, June 7 - Senior Class Italian Dinner Fundraiser, Prepared by Culinary Arts Depart; Proceeds will support Senior Class activities
- Wednesday, June 13 - 7 to 9pm
2nd Annual Senior Awards Night - Auditorium.
- Monday, June 18 - Annual Field Day & End of Year Picnic -
- Tuesday, June 19- Trip to Dorney Park
- Thursday - June 21 - Graduation practice
-Senior Class Breakfast
-Graduation Ceremony - 7 pm

We also want to wish our 30 students who are competing at the National SkillsUSA Conference in Louisville, Kentucky, the best of luck! Students and advisors are leaving on June 25 and will be returning home on June 30.

On The Field

Baseball and Softball seasons are coming to a close, and our athletes will be honored at a Sports Banquet on Wednesday, June 6 held in the high school cafeteria. Congratulations to all our students and coaches for a great season!

Sincerely,
Diane M. Ziegler



(above): SCVTHS students and instructors at the United Nations Headquarters in New York City: (left to right): Mr. Guillermo Reina, Ms. Daysi Lakhilif, Ayush Shah (Raritan), Brianna Broderick (Flemington), Elizabeth Dietrich (Green Brook), Nikhil Patel (Franklin Park), Catherine Chen (Warren), Daniel Stracquaine (North Plainfield), Anjana Nair (Franklin Park), Matthew Natividad (Somerset), Novena Petryk (Manville), Lily Chang (Hillsborough), Kristine Chin (Hillsborough), Sandra Raju (Hillsborough), Rahul Ubriani (Somerset), Madison Pitts (South Bound Brook), Ms. Ann Griswold, Ariel Smith (Franklin Park), Brian Coletta (Green Brook), Mr. Rafael Catalán and Ms. Teresa Morelli.

On April 6, 2018, five students from the Academy for Health and Medical Sciences and one instructor at Somerset County Vocational & Technical High School (SCVTHS) received awards while attending the 2018 Committee of Teaching About the United Nations (CTAUN) Conference, "Stepping Up to Protect the World's Children" at the United Nations headquarters in New York City.

The five students, who attend both SCVTHS and Raritan Valley Community College, had their posters selected out of hundreds submitted by college and university students in the annual contest promoting the theme of this year's Conference. The students who were selected are Catherine Chen of Warren, Sandra Raju of Hillsborough, Matthew Natividad of Somerset, Rahul Ubriani of Somerset, and Julia Garaffa of Skillman. The students presented their posters and received their certificates in front of more than 500 attendees at the Conference.

SCVTHS Spanish Instructor Guillermo Reina was one of six educators to be selected as a recipient of the 2018 Excellence in Education Award at the Conference. Mr. Reina was selected for his leadership of a global project entitled, "Developing Global Awareness on Health Issues in Indigenous Regions of Latin America." Mr. Reina, his

students and the non-profit organization DB Perú used the guidelines from the Asia Society and its Global Competence model to develop their project. DB Perú is a non-profit organization with a goal to bring sustainable healthcare and education to the communities of the Napo River in Perú.

"We were the only high school from New Jersey selected from dozens of applicants. We are very proud of the amazing work our students did and that our school was recognized in front of hundreds of scholars, university faculty, college students and leaders from UNESCO, UNICEF and the United Nations," said Mr. Reina.✱

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



SOMERSET COUNTY VOCATIONAL & TECHNICAL SCHOOLS
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A US News & World Report Top Ranked High School!

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SCVTHS
CLASS OF 2018
COMMENCEMENT

Thursday - June 21, 2018 • 7 pm

SkillsUSA
National Leadership & Skills Conference
Louisville, KY
June 25 - 29, 2018



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JUNE 2018

SCVTHS RANKED AMONG BEST IN UNITED STATES

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



First Place Winner - Newsletter Category

U.S. News & World Report and the North Carolina-based RTI International has recently ranked Somerset Vocational & Technical High School among the best high schools in the United States. In total, the U.S. News & World Report analyzed over 20,500 public high schools in the nation, and ranked nearly 6,000 of the highest-scoring schools as Gold, Silver or Bronze. Somerset County Vocational & Technical High School was selected along with 3,237 other high schools as Bronze medal winners.

According to U.S. News, the selection was based on the key principles that a great high school must serve all of its students well, not just those who are college-bound. In addition, the high school must be able to produce measurable academic outcomes to show that it is successfully educating its student body across a range of performance indicators.

Somerset County Vocational & Technical Schools Superintendent Dr. Chrys Harttraft spoke of the ranking by saying, "We are proud of our Bronze level designation. It is a testament to our hard-working students, teachers and staff. The Bronze award recognizes achievements of a diverse group of students, the excellent preparation of all of their sending districts in the County, as well as their success in Career and Technical Education. Our instruction does not include AP courses and therefore we are not considered for the Silver or Gold awards. However, we do value our partnerships with two and four year colleges, allowing many of our students to accumulate between 3 and 64 college credits during their tenure at SCVTHS," stated Dr. Harttraft.

SCVTH Principal Diane Ziegler added, "At our school, we have eighteen programs we offer to students



(l-r): Somerset County Vocational & Technical Schools Superintendent Dr. Chrys Harttraft and Somerset County Vocational & Technical High School Principal Diane Ziegler

in grades 9-12. Within our course offerings, students and families have many options when choosing to attend our school, and we are able to provide extra assistance or enrichment working on a small group or individual basis. Receiving award recognition such as this is validation that our programs and our teachers are providing students a diverse education and preparing them for college, career or both."✱

For more information, contact James Strickhart at jstrickhart@scvts.net or (908) 526-8900, x7169.

STUDENT OF THE MONTH Steven Salmeron

Steven Salmeron, a freshman in the Mechatronics, Engineering and Advanced Manufacturing Program (MEAM), has been selected as Somerset County Vocational & Technical High School's Student of the Month for May 2018. Steven is the son of Carlos and Cecilia Salmeron of Bound Brook.

SCVTHS English Instructor Chris Miller nominated Steven for the Student of the Month Award because, "He is very thoughtful and conscientious about his work. More importantly, Steven never hesitates to help his classmates succeed." Mr. Miller added, "Steven is the ideal student."

Steven has proven his academic excellence by being named a member of the Principal's Honor Roll for all of the three marking periods he has attended SCVTHS.

Outside of SCVTHS, Steven works at Kumon, where he tutors younger students in reading and math. Steven also tutors younger students on a one-to-one basis at their homes.

In his free time, Steven enjoys reading books and spending time with his family. Steven's future goal is to ultimately become a biomedical engineer, so that he can help those in need.✱



Student of the Month

Steven Salmeron