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## Connecticut CTE Showcase

### Online Personal Finance Course—Brookfield High School



The following summary is from “The Paw Print”, Brookfield High School’s school newspaper: “Brookfield High School has officially leaped into the internet-era with the introduction of the online Personal Finance Class. For the second semester of the 2014-2015 school year, the Board of Education has included an alternative to classes that meet regularly during the school day, made possible by a grant awarded to several high schools in Connecticut by the State Department of Education.

The class counts as half of a credit, falling under Business Education credits which can count towards the one Career and Technical Education credit students are mandated to meet for graduation from Brookfield High. Currently, 39 students are enrolled across the two sections of the class that has been established for this school year. Undoubtedly, engaging in online learning while still in high school will prove beneficial in the future.

A student commented: “Since it’s an online class, it helps me prepare for any online classes I might have to encounter in college. I have learned a lot and had to organize my free time to fit this course.” Another benefit is the time management skills online learning teaches students. Since class does not convene at a designated time or day, students must spend their personal time wisely to complete assignments posted online. The Personal Finance Class has made waves at Brookfield High School this year. Students are sure to thrive in all of their future endeavors due to the strong basis of their education at Brookfield High School.”

For more information about this course please contact Susan Troupe, [troupes@brookfieldps.org](mailto:troupes@brookfieldps.org).

### Career and Technology Education Career Pathways Stratford Public Schools

Research shows, students who think about their future during high school years tend to complete more years of education and earn higher salaries! The Career Pathway programs offered at the Stratford Public Schools provide students with the opportunity to “test drive” a career. This program involves a multi-year sequence of courses that integrates core academic knowledge with technical and occupational training to provide a pathway to post-secondary education and a head start into a wide range of successful careers. The career pathways offered are: Business & Finance, Culinary Arts, Health & Medical, Human Development, and STEM. For more information about this program please contact Diane Christiano at [christiano@stratfordk12.org](mailto:christiano@stratfordk12.org).



## Da Vinci Festival—Masuk High School, Monroe

The Monroe Board of Education has created an annual *DaVinci Festival!* This special two-day event is a culminating, district-wide celebration of the Technology and Art. The festival is held at Masuk High School each spring, encompassing all schools in the district, and showcases the wide-range of the Technology and Art offered in the Monroe Public Schools. The festival is a journey through the high school that takes the community members through the elementary, middle and high school Technology and Art programs.

Every art student in the district, as well as every student enrolled in CTE courses, have work on display for the public to see. The Masuk CTE Department displays work from students in Video Production, Culinary Arts, Wood Construction and Electricity, Computer Aided Drafting and Design, Photography, Video Game Design and Robotics. It has become a truly unique experience and an event that the whole Monroe community has come to enjoy.

The Masuk High School gymnasium is transformed into a huge gallery displaying artwork made by students from kindergarten through eighth grade. The journey continues upstairs to another gallery of high school art students. Visitors to the high school are greeted by Culinary Arts students serving hors d'oeuvres that they have prepared. Next, Masuk student photography is creating a bridge between technology and art. Viewers can venture into the movie theatre where Video Production students show off their portfolios of work. There are also displays created by Wood Construction and Electricity students. Highlighted are craftsman projects including benches, chairs, cabinets, one-of-a-kind designed birdhouses, a rabbit hutch and examples of home wiring. The journey concludes with student-built-and-operated robots streaking across the floor and the 3D printers creating prototypes of the students' drawings. Also on display are architectural model houses and examples of technical drawing from our CAD students. Everywhere one looks there is a marvel of design and technology exposing our students to real world, 21st century skills. These skills are embraced by the Monroe Public Schools and community. For more information about this event, please contact William McDonough at [wmcdonough@monroeps.org](mailto:wmcdonough@monroeps.org).



### Future Business Leaders of America (FBLA) Future Health Professionals (HOSA) Community Service Awards 2015



The following CTSOs Community Service Projects were recognized by the Connecticut State Board on June 3:

Manchester High School's FBLA community service chapter project was to aid struggling middle school students in developing essential test-taking skills to help them increase their Smarter Balanced Assessment scores. The tutoring program helped with test scores and exposed students to "Study Island," a computer program that gave them extra assistance with classwork or homework in a creative and innovative way. Manchester High School's FBLA chapter also benefited from this experience, as middle school students became more aware of the FBLA and the opportunities the organization presents. The chapter plans to continue the program next year.

The East Haven HOSA members developed projects that focused on initiatives of the U.S. Surgeon General and local health departments this year. Students planned and ran three blood drives; developed a nutrition and food allergy presentation using resources provided by the health department and presented it to a pre-school, a youth program at the YMCA and kindergarten classes; staffed flu clinics run by the health department; assisted in a five-town mass vaccination drill; and developed a mental health and school violence awareness campaign and fundraiser to benefit people in the Newtown and Jonathan Law tragedies.



## Technology Student Association State Conference

It was my pleasure to represent the CSDE at the 2015 CT State Technology Student Association (TSA) Conference held at the lovely new Killingly High School facility in Dayville, CT on Saturday, April 25, 2015. The event consisted of 19 high school events and 15 middle school events. In addition to the outstanding student participants, Mr. Jim Hutson, the TSA Advisor, had invited several TSA Alumni who flew in from other states including California and Virginia. At the opening ceremony, each alumni testified to the excellent and lasting effect of the leadership opportunities they had experienced as part of TSA through both middle and high school, and their appreciation for Mr. Hutson's guidance and support. I judged the Extemporaneous Speaking, Prepared Speech and Debating Technology Issues in partnership with a member of the local school board. All the students clearly put a great deal of effort into their speeches and debate research. It is wonderful to see the positive growth of students who participate in the activities and take advantage of the leadership opportunities available through a Career and Technical Student Organization (CTSO). The opportunity to present with and experience what other students across Connecticut are doing, as well as the exposure they receive at the national level gives these students a more global perspective. Well done! For more information about this conference contact Marcy Reed at [marcy.reed@ct.gov](mailto:marcy.reed@ct.gov).

## CTE Calendar 2015-2016

Date	Event	Location
October 15, 2015	CTE Conference	Cromwell Crowne Plaza
October 21, 2015	CBEA Conference	Southbury Crowne Plaza
October 26, 2015	FBLA Fall Leadership Conference	Southbury Crowne Plaza
November TBA	Perkins Administrators Meeting	TBA
April 4, 2016	FBLA Spring Leadership Conference	Cromwell Crowne Plaza
TBA	Spring CTE/Technology Conference	TBA
April, 2016	Personal Finance Conference	Southbury Crowne Plaza

## Have a great summer!

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