

BATH COUNTY SCHOOL BOARD

AGENDA ITEM: INFORMATION { X } ACTION { } CLOSED MEETING { }

SUBJECT: **GOOD NEWS IN BATH COUNTY SCHOOLS**

**Culinary Arts Team – FCCLA National Leadership Competition
Bronze Medal**

**Team Members: Charles Adams
Kala Day
George Miller**

NOTE: 2012 Spring athletic team(s) will be recognized at the September meeting when students have returned to school.

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Bath culinary team earns bronze at nationals



The Bath County High School culinary arts team earned a bronze medal at the national FCCLA competition in Orlando, Fla. Team members are (l-r): Kala Day, sponsor Adaline Hodge, George Miller and Charles Adams. (Photo courtesy Adaline Hodge)

ORLANDO, Fla. — Bath County High School's Culinary Arts team competed at the FCCLA National Leadership Conference and brought home a bronze medal. The competition was held at the Le Cordon Bleu Culinary School.

Team members George Miller, Kaia Day and Charles Adams were challenged to cook Mushroom Pork Scaloppini, Rice Pilaf, and Golden Delicious Apple Cheddar Turnovers in 60 minutes.

"The comments from the 10 judges were positive and constructive for the group. The standards were professional and held the team to the highest standards. It was intense yet the students were on time, had a good

time management plan and produced the two sets of plates for the judges," Bath FCCLA sponsor Adaline Hodge said.

Judges' comments were "good sear on the pork, rice was prepared nicely, yet needed further seasoning; turnovers were a bit dark in color." Minor production efforts made them lose points in knife skills and execution and taste and appearance.

"Overall the experience was intense and invigorating for the team. They learned many things and owned the comments from the judges. They knew with that many eyes on them, the judges would catch even the smallest error. Bath's team is the first to compete at the national level and to earn a medal is a job well done. They competed against 39 other states during the competition," Hodge said.

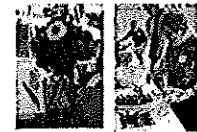
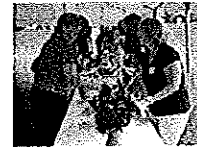
Although they did not earn scholarships at nationals, team members can use the scholarship money they earned in the Virginia FCCLA competition.

"I am so proud of the team for coming to nationals. They worked hard to get here and they did their best. It was intense to have so many people watching and to be in a strange kitchen. It was a great opportunity to make new friends, network with professionals, and gain leadership experience and share success with others," Hodge said. "I think the students learned a lot and will bring that back to the high school. I will take what I learned and apply it to the classroom as well. The students were great, never complaining about the early morning alarms and going all day, every day until midnight and beyond. We all made memories for a lifetime."

This year's student-originated theme for the annual national meeting was "#realitycheck" and the meeting attracted more than 7,000 members. Throughout the five-day convention, participants examined and discussed several critical issues, including family, school and community violence prevention, physical as well as financial fitness, future career exploration and countless community service projects.

Virginia's delegation was made up of 270 members from all over the state. Virginia's national officer candidate, Justin Hess of Richlands High School in Tazewell County, was elected to serve as a 2012-2013 national first vice-president of the organization. FCCLA members traded state pins with attendees. Adams traded the most pins among the Bath students. Representatives from every state were present during the conference along with Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands.

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Attendees also enjoyed the Disney parks during their stay in Orlando after the leadership meetings. Special viewing of the Epcot fireworks was arranged for the Virginia delegation along with a dessert and ice cream social. Members wore special Virginia FCCLA t-shirts while attending the parks, which allowed people to ask questions about FCCLA.

Hodge expressed appreciation to Lauren and Sadie Adams for accompanying the team. "Lauren helped to share the drive and chaperoning duties with the trip. It was her great navigation to local points and restaurants that made the trip especially nice," Hodge said.

Without community and school board support, Hodge said, the trip would not have been possible. "The entire team would like to thank the community and beyond for the monetary funds for making this trip possible. We had little time to fund raise for the trip and thankfully the community provided us with the funds and support to go. We appreciate all of you and thank you for helping us do something that is a first for Bath County," Hodge said. "We could not have gone without your support at our fund raisers and the generous donation checks in the mail. The Alleghany Highlands is a unique place to live and grow up and we are thankful to all the contributors. We also thank our school board for this opportunity of a lifetime."

Family, Career and Community Leaders of America is a national student organization that helps young men and women become leaders and address important personal, family, work, and societal issues through Family and Consumer Sciences education. The organization has involved more than 10 million youth since its founding in 1945.

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