



KENTUCKY DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

NEWS RELEASE

No. 17-111

Aug. 30, 2017

MEDIA CONTACT: Nancy Rodriguez

Office: (502) 564-2000, ext. 4610 | **Cell:** (502) 330-5063 | **E-mail:** nancy.rodriguez@education.ky.gov

KENTUCKY STUDENTS EXCEL AT TSA NATIONAL CONFERENCE

(FRANKFORT, Ky.) – Kentucky students were among the top finishers at the 2017 Technology Student Association (TSA) National Conference in Orlando, Fla.

TSA is a national student organization that supports students engaged in science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM). Students learn through competitive events, leadership opportunities, community service and other activities.

More than 6,000 students competed in 67 STEM-related competitions such as 3D animation, coding, forensic technology and environmental engineering during the national conference in June. More than 60 students from 12 Kentucky middle and high schools represented the Commonwealth.

“We are extremely proud of our student delegates who competed at the national level. It was great to see the Kentucky TSA flag waving during TSA national’s general session and see Kentucky pride beaming on students’ faces,” said Mark Harrell, Kentucky TSA State Director. “The national conference is about more than just competing; students attend leadership events, networking functions and have lots of fun.”

Kentucky Students Bringing Home Top 10 Finalist Awards

TSA Competitive Event	Student Name, Place	TSA Chapter
Digital Photography – Middle	William Allen, 9th place	Southern Middle School (Fayette County)
Dragster Design – High	Ethan Lewis, 10th place	Morgan County High School
Career Prep – Middle	William Allen, 6th place	Southern Middle School (Fayette County)
Essays on Technology – Middle	Julianna Boulden, 10th place	B. Michael Caudill Middle School (Madison County)
Prepared Speech – Middle	Jillian Jacobs, 10th place	Capital Day School (Frankfort)

In addition to the student awards, Jennifer Williams, a teacher at Lexington Traditional Middle School (Fayette County), was named the Kentucky Middle School Chapter Adviser of the Year and Ricky Prater, a teacher at Bath County High School, was named Kentucky High School Chapter Adviser of the Year.

Three Kentucky schools also were honored with the Chapter Excellence Award; they were: Bath County High School, iLead Academy (Carroll County) and Paul Laurence Dunbar High School (Fayette County).

Laura Arnold, associate commissioner for the KDE’s Office of Career and Technical Education (OCTE), said TSA and other Career and Technical Student Organizations (CTSO) are “an integral part of a student’s career pathway

experience. These organizations allow students to demonstrate technical knowledge and skills in addition to demonstrating essential skills needed to be competitive in the workforce.”

TSA has more than 250,000 members from 2,000 middle and high schools in 49 states. For more information about Kentucky TSA go to: www.kentuckytsa.org.

###

Visit our website at <http://www.education.ky.gov>

Follow us on Twitter at www.twitter.com/kydeptofed and Like us on Facebook at www.facebook.com/kydeptofed