

## Greetings From the Hill Country of North Mississippi



John Grady Taylor

This year is flying by at a rate that seems unreal. With National CTE month quickly passing us by, don't forget to show the world the fantastic

and amazing talents of your students and their accomplishments both in the classroom and their student organizations. The more the public, including, businesses and industries, see and hear how amazing our CTE students are the more they will want to become involved, opening doors previously nailed shut. I encourage you to use every opportunity to help CTE students be seen and recognized.

At the beginning of this school year I challenged each of you to help students find the "relevance". As all of schedules fill up with CTE and student organizations activities for the spring, this gives us the perfect opportunity to demonstrate the relevance of CTE and our students to the world around us. Even though many in our communities

know we exist, most do not know how "relevant" our teaching and our students are to the livelihood of our communities. Stand up and be seen, be counted, and be heard as a loud and proud supporter of CTE and the relevance it provides for our students, our communities, and our state.

Going forward I want to encourage each of you to make plans to attend the 2020 MS ACTE conference, "Navigating the Future", in Biloxi, MS, at the Gulf Coast Convention Center. We have already begun planning what will be an amazing conference for all who attend. While the planning and development of the conference is centered around the needs and desires of each affiliate group, let me encourage you to share successes from your center or program through presentations. Don't be afraid to share. The call for proposals from RCU was emailed this morning and remember Career and Technical Education in Mississippi is not an individual competition! It is a TEAM sport and we all play for the same team.

As we enter the spring semester I understand that moving through a school year can wear even the most excited and exuberant teacher down as well as the most studious

and dedicated. I want to encourage each of you to fight the burnout and remember that the students are wearing down too. Be resourceful and creative in your educational activities to keep everyone engaged and the curriculum "relevant", but don't forget to take a moment to breathe and enjoy the smiles and successes of your students and help them enjoy CTE. After all, education and CTE are our passions and if we cannot take a moment to enjoy our passions and help others enjoy their successes, we are missing a major focus of career and technical education.

Finally let me take a moment to thank you for the opportunity to serve as your MS ACTE president. I want to encourage each of you to attend summer conference, recruit new members and join me in spreading the news of CTE to everyone who will listen. I would also like to thank our Executive Director, our heart and soul, Mrs. Linda Bath, for the amazing and tireless effort she puts into making MS ACTE great.

I am looking forward to "Navigating the Future" with each of you this summer and moving forward.

## Greetings From the MS ACTE Office

*Submitted by: Linda Bath*

On behalf of MS ACTE, I want to thank you for showing your support for career/technical education by being a member of ACTE.

As I'm sure you know, the MS ACTE Summer Conference will be held at the Mississippi Gulf Coast Coliseum and Convention Center in Biloxi. Conference registration begins March 3, and call for proposals must be submitted to the RCU by March 31. The link for submitting your proposal is <http://www.surveymonkey.com/r/MS-ACTE2020>. For a list of hotels that have blocked rooms for the conference, go to the RCU website, [rcu@msstate.edu](mailto:rcu@msstate.edu), and click on the Professional Learning menu, then click on the MSACTE Conference button to see a list of participating hotels. The Mississippi Department of Education and the RCU are working hard to make this a very beneficial conference for all our career/technical personnel.

Dr. Blaise King, Chair of the Resolutions Committee, has asked that if you plan to retire this year or you have an ACTE colleague who has passed away during the past year to please send him that information so he can prepare a Resolution to be presented at our summer conference. His email address is [blaise.king@madison-schools.com](mailto:blaise.king@madison-schools.com).

Our ACTE Region IV Conference is April 15-17 in New Orleans. I hope you will consider attending since this is a very close location for us. Information about the conference can be found on the national website, [acteonline.org](http://acteonline.org). Click on Professional Development, Events, Region Conferences, and then Region IV Conference. The conference hotel sold out their blocked rooms; however, they are planning to add more to the block. It could be March 3 before the added rooms are in the system.

If I can be of assistance to you, please contact me.

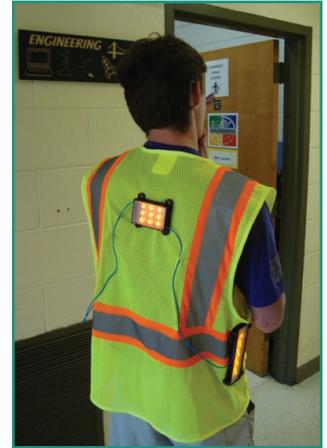
## LCCTE Engineering Students Make LED Safety Vest for School Crossing Guard

Submitted by: Candice Kyzar

The year two engineering students who attend class at the Technical Center in Purvis were asked by a Purvis crossing guard to solve a problem. Dexter Husband, who is a crossing guard in Purvis, has had one too many close calls with traffic in the early morning. He purchased a standard safety vest and asked the engineering class if they could do something to add some additional visibility to the vest for his safety.

The students deliberated a few days about a possible solution. They applied the engineering design process that they learned last year in the engineering one class. The students decided to use 27 super bright amber colored LEDs placed in three custom plastic enclosures. The students then used the 3D printer to make all the plastic parts for the vest. One of the students, Gav Addison, a Junior from PHS, stepped up his efforts and designed and soldered all of the electronic circuits for the LEDs. He also had to build an electronic digital circuit to provide the flashing sequence for the LEDs. The students used the Solidworks CAD program to design and print a box to hold the electronic control board, battery, and the On/Off switch. The students finished the project on time and it was delivered to Dexter last week. They did a great job of taking an everyday problem and coming up with a practical working solution.

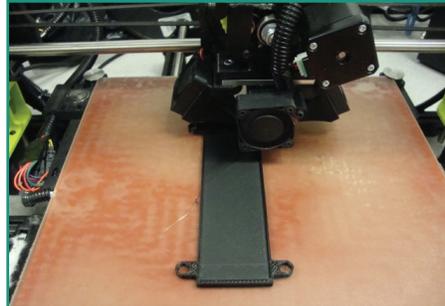
They plan to follow up with Dexter in a few weeks to see if the design met its goals and determine what modifications would be beneficial to make the project work better. This project was a great introduction for the students to understand the job task that an electrical engineer would do at work. Upon completing high school, Gav plans to attend MSU for engineering.



Gav is modeling the vest for a comfort test. (the exposed wires allow the unit to be removed when the vest needs to be laundered)



Gav Addison soldering one of the circuit boards that holds the LEDs.



Using the large 3D printer to make an LED holder for the vest.



Testing out the LED circuit in the classroom.

## Machine Precision Trip to Nissan

By: Mrs. Khalilah Young

On October 24, 2019, Vicksburg-Warren Career and Technical Center Precision Machine class toured Nissan North America in Canton, Mississippi. Students were able to see how Nissan employees construct trucks, cars, and vans. The Nissan staff was able to provide a correlation between the skills the students are learning in their Precision Machine class to the skills they would need for a career at Nissan.



## Family, Career, and Community Leader of America (FCCLA)

Submitted by: Tanya Cole

Students at Warren Central High School appeared to have many of the character traits FCCLA was developed to cultivate. During a recent Student Leadership Conference at Roosevelt State Park in Morton, MS, students engaged in creative and critical thinking activities during many of the small group breakout sessions. Many of the students embodied the Organization's Purpose "To provide opportunities for personal development and preparation for adult life" during their debriefing sessions.

In addition to the conference attendees gathered to hear dynamic speakers, attended leadership sessions, participated in various events and gained valuable skills to use at home, school, and in their communities.



## SKILLS USA at FCAHS!

Submitted by: Melissa Graham

Members of the Forrest County AHS SKILLS USA chapter recently attended a leadership conference at Jones Junior College. Forrest County AHS had three of the nine state officers for SKILLS USA. Students learned about job opportunities related to their career technical training, leadership skills and styles along with interpersonal skills related to the workplace. Mrs. Cherish McGee is the chapter advisor and Architecture & Design instructor at Forrest County AHS.



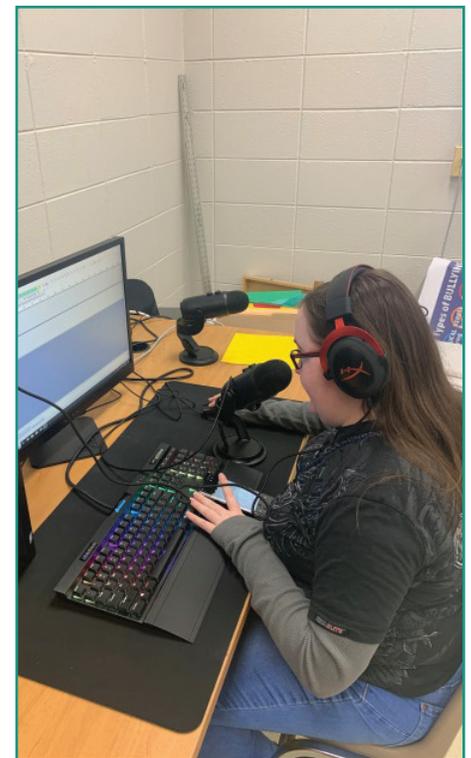
Front (L-R) - Cherish McGee, Niya McNair, Diamond Burkett, Mayra Solano, Jade-Marie Burge

Back (L-R) - Aidan Watts, Josiah Sanders, Jakoby Kidd, Hayden Rose, Ben Newell and Madalyn Byrd.

## Creating Sound Bites in Animation and Simulation Program

Submitted by: Kayla Kivett

Second year Animation and Simulation students are learning how to do a voiceover and create different sound effects to existing videos. This project based learning assignment helps students understand the concept of sound audio. In the spring of 2020, these students will create their own video game, so this project is imperative to them learning all the components of sound audio. Our second year students were excited about this project, and they cannot wait for next semester to create their very own video games.



Isabel Newell records her sound bite for her Animation and Simulation class.

## Chicken Wings at FCAHS!

Submitted by: *Melissa Graham*

Health Science students at FCAHS learned about the muscular system, tendons, ligaments, nerves and blood vessels by dissecting chicken wings. Students also practiced surgical skills by preparing a sterile field, cleaning the wounds and suturing the wings back together. Thanks to Mrs. Judy Grice for making her class fun and educational with these awesome activities!



## Cooking Up A Cajun Cuisine

Submitted by: *Kimberly D. Vaughn*

The Vicksburg Warren Career & Technical Education Culinary Arts II students traveled to the New Orleans School of Cooking. They spent the day working alongside Chef Mark to cook up various recipes using a New Orleans favorite, roux. The students worked in teams to cook one of five recipes: Chicken & Andouille Gumbo, Louisiana Meat Pies, Grillades, Cheese Grits with Poached Eggs or Fresh Fruit Crepes Flambe.



## Teacher Academy Students Volunteer at Special Olympics

Submitted by: *Tracy Hardy*

Teacher Academy students from the Kosciusko-Attala Career Technical Center assisted with a bowling competition for Mid-Mississippi Special Olympics. The student volunteers enjoyed spending the day and bowling with Attala County Special Olympics athletes from Ethel High School, Greenlee Elementary, McAdams High School, and Long Creek Elementary. The Teacher Academy volunteers were as follows: Kayleigh Lindsey, Alyssis Smith, Jamekia Williams, Britlon Grantham, Abigail Sunshine, Chastity Baggett, Britney Campbell, Ailia Clark, Samara Williams, Chloe Cloninger, MaryClare Medine, Alexis Jolly, Celia Smith, and Meagan Weaver.



## Health Science II Students Hold Great American Smokeout Event

Submitted by: Amy Price

In conjunction with the Great American Smokeout, an annual intervention event held on the third Thursday of November by the American Cancer Society, the Health Science II students at the Kosciusko-Attala Career Tech Center recently held a health fair at Bluff Springs Paper Company for its employees. At the health fair, the students provided free blood pressure screenings and information about smoking. Healthy snacks were given as well along with information about healthy eating.

Andrew Frank, president of Bluff Springs stated, "I just turned 50 and went for a regular checkup. Doctors found a blockage, and I got a stent put in. It just goes to show you how important these screenings are. I felt fine and had no idea that I had anything wrong. I think our employees can really benefit from these screenings." During the health fair and blood pressure checks, several people were identified to have elevated blood pressure and were recommended to follow up with their doctor.

Throughout the event, several employees picked up information about quit-

ting smoking and viewed a damaged lung display. Most were surprised to see the lungs of a person who had never smoked, but was simply exposed to smoke via "second hand smoke."

Students handed out information and informed the employees of the tobacco quitline number, 1-800-QUIT-NOW. The cost of patches and other assistance in quitting is often listed as a common reason people do not try to quit smoking. However, the quit line will provide these items cost-free. Along with information on the quit line, employees picked up turkeys reminding them that they would not have to quit "cold turkey."

Also in attendance was Lynn McCafferty of the Mississippi Tobacco Free Coalition of Attala, Leake and Winston Counties.

"Approximately 40 million American adults still smoke, and tobacco use remains the single largest preventable cause of disease and premature death in the country." The coalition's goal is to create an awareness of the dangers of smoking and vaping and promote living healthy lifestyles through daily exercise, good eating habits, blood pressure and health screens along with being tobacco and nicotine free.



## Business and Industry Visits

Submitted by: Laura Prisock

Mrs. Prisock, our CTE Counselor, has enjoyed visiting with different businesses and industries in the area. CCCTC values our relationships with business owners and industry professionals, so we were happy to leave them a bundt cake from our culinary program! We are excited to continue these visits, building relationships within our community that will serve as beneficial resources for our students!



## EMCC Nursing Students & Instructors Visit CCCTC

*Submitted by: Laura Prisock*

East Mississippi Community College instructor, Dr. Karen Taylor, DNP, RN, CNE and her ADN nursing students came today to CCCTC. They discussed all the Allied Health programs that EMCC has to offer, but focused mainly on the Nursing Department. They provided information on the entrance requirements, core courses, and plans of study. They shared invaluable insight into what it takes to

succeed in the nursing program at EMCC, including study habits, time management, and dedication. The nursing students and instructors ended each block by having a Q & A session for students at CCCTC to ask specific questions to be answered. We are so thankful for this opportunity and appreciate the time and effort the nursing students and instructors gave in helping our students.



## Council of Governments Dinner

*Submitted by: Laura Prisock*

The choctaw county culinary arts department hosted the 2019 council of governments dinner sponsored by the Choctaw County Chamber of Commerce on Thursday, November 14. Culinary arts students were responsible for

menu development, food preparation, beverage preparation, dining room setup, and dining service. This event gives students an opportunity to apply their knowledge and skill to serve our community. Students enjoyed treat-

ing Choctaw County dignitaries to a special meal in the culinary arts dining room. The menu included appetizers of harvest tea and a charcuterie board, caesar salad, chicken cordon bleu, marinated green beans, and baked rigatoni, and lemon or chocolate delight for dessert.

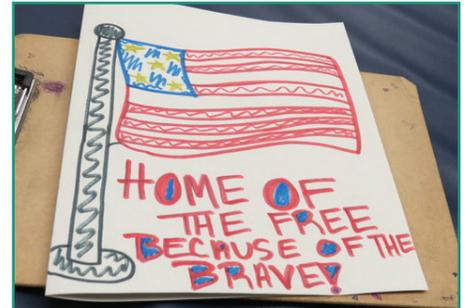


## CCCTC Sends Thank You Cards To Troops With 100,000 Thank You Project

Submitted by: *Laura Prisock*

All of the students at CCCTC have been participating in a service project called 100,000 thank yous. A radio show based in Nashville, TN started the project three years ago and it has been a huge success. Each year schools, churches, community organizations, and individuals from across the country write or create thank you notes and cards and mail them to the radio station. Throughout the next year, these thank you notes are taken to our deployed mil-

itary members. Last year, the project resulted in over 200,000 thank you notes being delivered to our troops. We are thankful to have students and staff who support our military and were more than happy to give their time to pass along their appreciation to those serving in our military. If you would like more information on the project or how you can get involved, you can get details at [100000thankyous.com](http://100000thankyous.com) or [theybentli-show.com](http://theybentli-show.com).



## Congratulations to Our State Champion Livestock Judging Team

Submitted by: *Melissa Graham*

Conner Walley, Genesis Williams, Justin Cromwell and Rachel Smith competed in the state competition at Hinds Community College and won first place! They advance to the national competition, which was held in October in Indianapolis. Congratulations on a job well done!



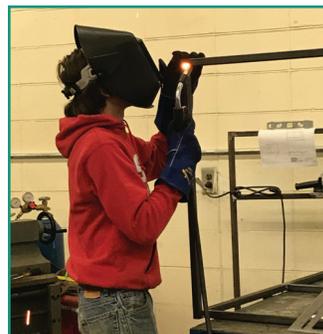
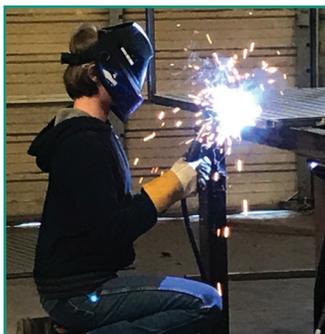
## Welding Partnership

Submitted by: *Heather Crotwell*

The Pontotoc Ridge Career and Technology Center's Welding program has partnered with Master-Bilt in New Albany, MS to collaborate on welding projects that will be used in their facility. Some examples of the projects

include hanging racks, material carts, and storage racks. Students work from a blueprint to cut, assemble, square, and weld the steel into its final form. After final inspection by the instructor, the projects are sent back

to the Master-Bilt facility and put into use. This partnership gives students valuable real-world experience on the sorts of projects they may encounter when they enter the workforce.



## Culinary Arts Students Serve Awards Luncheon

Submitted by: Candice Kyzar

Culinary Arts students from Sumrall and Purvis High School recently served at The Downtown Hattiesburg Association’s Annual Awards Luncheon and Meeting. The students were on hand to assist Flathau’ Fine Foods with set-up, service, and clean-up. This was an excellent opportunity for the culinary students to get hands on experience while working a catered event.

The students attend the Culinary Arts Program at Sumrall High School under the instruction of Tricia Griffin.

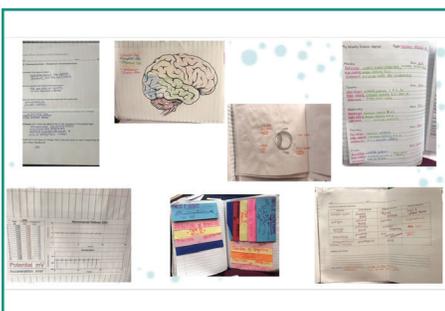
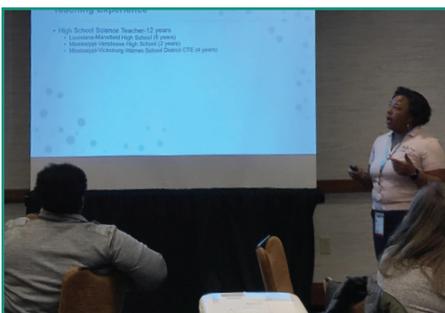


## Biomedical PLTW Summit

Submitted by: Lesley Magee

Biomedical II and III Teacher, Lesley Magee, was pleased to present at the National Project Lead the Way Summit in both San Antonio, TX in November, and Indianapolis, IN in February. She chose to present her ideas on how to merge the idea of students utilizing both technological tools AND interactive notebooks in Project Lead the Way courses. Choosing to focus in on the importance of students reading and comprehending the information given to them and writing their answers to the accompanying conclusion questions for each activity, Ms. Magee showcased how she prints the Introductions and Conclusion Questions for each student to place in their Interactive Notebooks, while simultaneously, utilizing

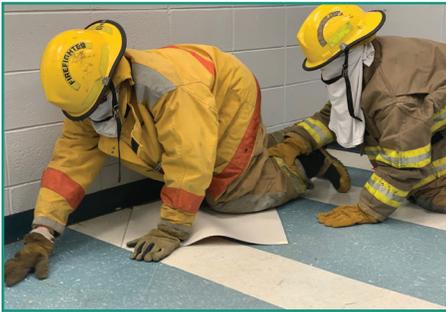
the interactive online curriculum from Inkling to actually complete the activities and check for understanding. Using this process, Ms Magee is able to routinely check the students’ progress through weekly formative and summative assessments and notebook checks. The presentation was given to an audience of approximately 25-30 teachers in each of the three sessions, for a total of approximately 90 teachers from all over the United States and they all seemed interested in the topics, asked great valid questions, and left with something to utilize in their own classrooms. While attending the Summit, Ms. Magee was also able to attend a couple of sessions to increase her own enthusiasm about teaching these courses!



## FCAHS Law & Public Safety

Submitted by: *Melissa Graham*

Students in Todd Smith's Law & Public Safety class at Forrest County Agricultural High School receive a great deal of hands on training. The Forrest County Fire Department loans electronic fire extinguisher equipment to FCAHS for students to learn the proper techniques for PASS: Pull, Aim, Squeeze and Sweep. Also, students practice search and rescue while blindfolded and wearing turnout gear. This simulates a fire situation where vision and mobility are limited by smoke and the weight of firefighting equipment.



## CTC and Milwaukee Tool Form Partnership

Submitted by: *Tracy Hardy*

The Kosciusko-Attala Career Tech Center and Milwaukee Tool have partnered to provide tools for classrooms and career information to students. Students from the Construction, Welding, and Automotive Service programs toured the Milwaukee Tool plant in Greenwood and learned about internship programs available as well as life long career opportunities. Milwaukee Tools also donated tools to the three career tech programs. The tools are a great addition and students were excited to get them.



Students from the Construction, Welding, and Automotive Service programs toured the Milwaukee Tool plant in Greenwood and learned about internship programs available as well as life long career opportunities. Milwaukee Tools also donated tools to the three career tech programs. The tools are a great addition and students were excited to get them.

## CTC Students Participated in Guard X

Submitted by: *Tracy Hardy*

Students from the Kosciusko-Attala Career Tech Center participated in Guard X and received a hands-on MS Army National Guard experience with hand held weapons, field artillery, drones, computers, radio communication devices, and paladin operations. Students were shown a video concerning the benefits of the MS Army National Guard, given refreshments, and had the opportunity to talk to different National Guard personnel concerning their roles in the military.



# FBLA District Competition at Jones College

Submitted by: Kim Hinton

FBLA students participated in district competition at Jones College. Fifty-six competed and 44 students placed and have the opportunity to compete at State Competition in April. The results are as follows:

## First Place:

Michael Fimiano – Accounting  
 Jericho Gardner, Caleb Rogers, and Phoebe Stutts – Banking & Financial Systems  
 Maggie Dickens and Macy Eaton – Hospitality Management  
 Maddie McElroy, Quinn Puckett, and Trinity Young – Marketing  
 Camille Davis – Introduction to Business  
 Raburn Paris – Public Speaking  
 Archer Taylor – Introduction to Parliamentary Procedure

## Second Place:

Mallory Foster, Mary Ashley Lindley, and Sarah Brooke Russell – Banking & Financial Systems  
 Amara Savage – Cyber Security  
 Eli Graham, Alex Lawson, and Rachel Russell – Global Business

## Third Place:

Macy Anderson, Mallory Anderson, and Ethan Pope – Hospitality Management  
 Vegas Markworth & Shane Spiers – Marketing  
 Kearstin Craft, Lizzy Davis, and Susan Worley – Sports & Entertainment Management

## Fourth Place:

Olivia Tutor, Lanie Updegraff, and Jordyn Williams – Entrepreneurship  
 Hannah Buse, Alexis Essary, and Angel Redmond – Global Business  
 Brooke Wheat – Introduction to Public Speaking  
 Ella Brooke Seymour – Job Interview  
 Jaylen Woullard – Organizational Leadership  
 Corban Tew – Political Science

## Fifth Place:

Jayla Brunson – Impromptu Speaking  
 Jacob Benson – Introduction to Financial Math  
 Peyton Scanlon – Political Science

## Sixth Place:

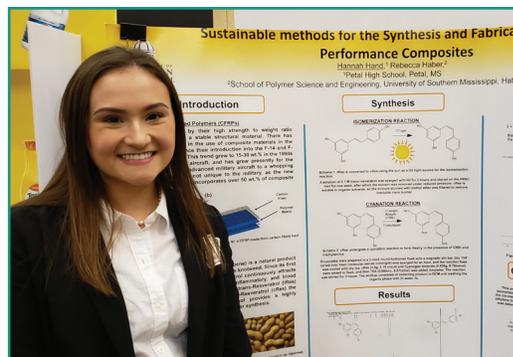
Cambria Tuesta - Advertising  
 Brooke Warren – Economics  
 Dakota Reid – Business Law  
 Logan Kietzman – Introduction to Business



## Science Fair Results

*Submitted by: Krystin Holmes*

Hannah Hand competed in the Region 1 Science and Engineering Fair at USM with her research from the summer REU project. She placed 1st in her class in organic chemistry and received two special awards: the Ricoh Sustainable Development Award and the Justice Manning Award for Environmental Excellence. Hannah also was the International Science and Engineering Fair 1st Alternate and is eligible to compete in Anaheim, California, with students from all over the world in May! This will be an incredible opportunity for her.



## Attala County FFA Participate in Legislative Breakfast

*Submitted by: Tracy Hardy*

Attala County Future Farmers of American (FFA) members from the Kosciusko-Attala Career Tech Center traveled to the Mississippi Trademart and the State Capitol to participate in the Annual Legislators and Sponsors Breakfast.

Over 650 members and guests convened to discuss the importance of MS Agriculture and hear an address from our state Commissioner Andy Gibson.



FFA members then traveled to the Capitol for a special tour given by Representative Kenneth Walker.

In addition to the Commissioner and Rep Walker, students met an array of important people and business representatives from: ICEV Multimedia, Caterpillar, Mississippi Farm Bureau, Electric Cooperatives of Mississippi, Mississippi AG, Mississippi Land Bank, First South Farm Credit, U.S. Army, Bunge, Mississippi Cattlemen’s Association, Mississippi State University, Tugaloo College, Mississippi Department of Ag and Commerce, and Mississippi Department of Education.

## Vicksburg Students Participate in Industry Visits

*Submitted by: Khalilah Young*

On February 21, 2020, sophomore students from both Vicksburg High School and Warren Central High School participated in industry visits across the city. The students from each academy toured businesses that are associated with their chosen career pathway. The students were provided an opportunity to visit Cappaert Manufacturing, Good Shepherd Community Center, Americorps, International Paper, Vicksburg Forest Product, United Way, ERDC, VWSD Central Office, Ola’s Paint Parties On The Go, Adorned the Glamhouse, and The Dragon Fly. The students received career etiquette, training requirements, and strategies on how to acquire and retain employment from business professionals.



*Students from Warren Central High School toured Vicksburg Forest Product*

---

## VWSD CTE Introduction to Engineering

*Submitted by: Beth Krapac*

Project Lead the Way Introduction to Engineering students at the CTE center located at Hinds have been very busy learning how to create pathways for marbles to travel without motors and building Automata boxes. The marble challenge requires a quick study in Physics along with creativity to create pathways for the marble to travel the farthest distance once it is released manually. The Automaton boxes are built two ways: the boxes are first created in the software program Autodesk Inventor in Parts and in Assembly; the physical model is built with a soft wood which is cut with several kinds of saws, table, miter, scroll and band. The students use drills, quick square rulers, glue, screws and nails to put the models together. Many students chose to paint their boxes to express their creativity and to express to the user the story the box represents. The skills taught help students understand teamwork, the Design Process and importance of mathematical modeling in software and the physical modeling that the software represents.

Students will create portfolios showing skills and imagination. The portfolios are used as an act of communication and a tool for self-promotion. Students demonstrate originality, inventiveness, but also accept the restrictions and conventions of professionalism to show that they can get their ideas across in terms that working architects and designers can understand.

