ORANGEBURG COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT
We Are One
102 Founders Court • Orangeburg, SC 29118
Phone: (803) 534-5454

Wednesday, July 19, 2023

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
Contact: Dr. Erica S. Taylor
Assistant Superintendent for Communications
and Business and Community Partnerships
erica.taylor@ocsdsc.org



OCSD STUDENTS SHINE AT NATIONAL STAR EVENT COMPETITION DURING FCCLA NATIONAL LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE IN DENVER, CO

ORANGEBURG, S.C. – The 2023 FCCLA National Leadership Conference (NLC) took place in Denver, CO from July 2-6, drawing more than 7,900 students, educators, and guests from across the nation. This gathering provided a valuable platform for attendees to expand their leadership skills, sharpen their talents, explore career pathways, and listen to inspiring speakers.

At the heart of the conference were the highly anticipated Students Taking Action with Recognition (STAR) Events. Over 4,300 FCCLA members competed in these events, where they were recognized for their proficiency and achievement in chapter and individual projects, leadership skills, and career preparation. The collaboration between youth and adults in managing the events and evaluating participants allowed students to develop real-world skills and gain valuable insights.

STAR Events play a pivotal role in supporting student development by enhancing their classroom experience and guiding them towards successful career pathways. With more than 30 events to choose from, participants have the opportunity to demonstrate their knowledge, skills, and abilities by actively addressing important issues concerning families, careers, or communities. By researching the topic and implementing projects to advocate for positive change, students acquire valuable skills and industry insights needed to thrive in the 21st century.

We are thrilled to share that **Alexandria Brown, Taylor Brown, Chatara Benyard, Zy'Keira Bethea, D'Anna Franklin, and Mia Williams** proudly represented Orangeburg Technology Center as the State of South Carolina Champions at the FCCLA National Leadership Conference in Denver, CO. They competed in the National Programs in Action, Job Interview, Focus on Children, and Career Investigation STAR Events and achieved 3 Golds and 1 Silver medal. Alexzandria Brown and Taylor Brown placed in the top 10 of the National Programs in Action category in recognition of their outstanding performance.

The students' project, on Human Trafficking, Job Interview Skills, Physical Fitness and Career Research, exemplifies their dedication, creativity, and commitment to making a positive impact on the lives of others. Their accomplishment at the national level is a testament to their hard work, teamwork, and unwavering passion.

About FCCLA

Family, Career and Community Leaders of America (FCCLA) is a dynamic and effective student-led nation-based organization supporting youth on their journey to become the leaders of tomorrow and helping them address important personal, family, work, and societal issues through Family and Consumer Sciences education. FCCLA has over 237,000 members and more than 5,100 chapters across the nation.

FCCLA: The Ultimate Leadership Experience is unique among youth organizations because its programs are planned and run by members. It is the only career and technical intracurricular student organization with a central focus on careers that support families. Participation in national FCCLA programs and chapter activities aids members in becoming strong leaders in their families, careers, and communities.

For more information on FCCLA, please contact *Teresa Brown or Dr. Carolyn Gaillard* at *(803) 536-4473.*

Orangeburg County School District

The mission of Orangeburg County School District, the catalyst of innovation and excellence, is to ensure all students discover and develop their person, purpose, and platform through high-quality educational experiences distinguished by a culture of collaboration, equity, and inclusion; a creative learning environment with inspiring opportunities; a commitment to nurture the academic, physical, social and emotional well-being of all. Visit us online at ocsdsc.org

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