



JAGUAR NATION

MARCH 2016 • VOLUME 5, No. 5

SOMERSET COUNTY VOCATIONAL & TECHNICAL HIGH SCHOOL

THREE SCVTHS NORTH PLAINFIELD STUDENTS HELP PREVENT BUS DISASTER

PRINCIPAL'S CORNER

Dear Jaguar Nation,

Our keystone activity celebrating February as Career and Technical Education month was a great success. I am especially proud of all the students who came to school on a Saturday and worked hard to show the public all that SCVTHS has to offer! I want to thank everyone who contributed to making the day be the best it could be.

School Spirit Alerts :

Remember to check our website for upcoming events and help cheer our boys and girls on the court! Special Shout Out to our Varsity boys' basketball team for qualifying to the State finals. We play at South Hunterdon on February 29 at 7pm. Let's take a road trip with our team and show our support! Go Jags!

Upcoming Events:

- Performing Arts debut of "The Laramie Project" - February 26 & 27
- HOSA Blood Drive - March 4
- National Honor Society Induction Ceremony - March 17

Sincerely,
Diane M. Ziegler



(left to right): SCVTHS students Gavin Costello, Kala Wright and Angelo Mel-Tos

On a typical Wednesday morning bus ride on the way to Somerset County Vocational & Technical High School from North Plainfield High School, Kala Wright (a freshman in the Law and Public Safety Program), Angelo Mel-Tos (a senior in the Graphic Communications Program), and Gavin Costello (a freshman in the Welding Program), did not know they would have to jump into action to save their classmates.

The three students, noticing their bus driver had missed a turn to SCVTHS, went to the front of the bus in order to help give the driver directions. Once their attempts to give the driver directions failed and he was unresponsive, they became concerned with the state of the driver and the well-being of their peers. The three swiftly acted to help the bus driver slow the bus down to a stop and let the students off, while also calling 911 for help. It turns out the bus driver was having a medical emergency, and the students' quick response helped to not only save the driver and their classmates, but other motorists on the road that day.

Somerset County Vocational & Technical Schools Superintendent Dr. Chrys Harttraft spoke of the events saying, "We are very proud of our students. Their confidence level to act at such a young age is remarkable. They were able to keep their cool and have the wherewithal to potentially save lives."*

For more information on this story contact James Strickhart at (908) 526-8900, ext. 7169 or jstrickhart@scvths.net.

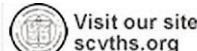


UPCOMING EVENTS

- "The Laramie Project"
presented by SCVTHS THEATER ARTS DEPT.
Feb. 26 - 7:30pm • Feb. 27 - 2pm & 7:30pm
- HOSA BLOOD DRIVE
March 4, 2016 - 8am to 1pm
sponsored by Health Occupations Program



SOMERSET COUNTY VOCATIONAL & TECHNICAL SCHOOLS
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MARCH 2016

NEW MECHATRONICS, ENGINEERING AND ADVANCED MANUFACTURING PROGRAM AT SCVTHS

SOMERSET COUNTY VOCATIONAL & TECHNICAL SCHOOLS

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Duane Wallace • *Editor & Designer*
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First Place Winner - Newsletter Category



(left to right): Beginning in September 2016, Somerset County Vocational & Technical High School (SCVTHS) will be offering a new program in Mechatronics, Engineering and Advanced Manufacturing (MEAM).

The mission of the Program is to educate students to apply mathematical and scientific principles to the design, development and operational evaluation of physical systems used in manufacturing and end-product systems. As part of the partnership, RVCC will offer a minimum of thirteen college credits for students who successfully complete the Program. In addition to earning college credits, students will be able to obtain industry certifications, compete in local, state and national competitions, as well as participate in a robotics club.

Upon graduation from the MEAM Program, students will be ready to enter the workforce or pursue further education in highly coveted Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM) careers.

Beginning in September 2016, Somerset County Vocational & Technical High School (SCVTHS) will be offering a new program in Mechatronics, Engineering and Advanced Manufacturing (MEAM).

The MEAM Program is a partnership between SCVTHS, Raritan Valley Community College (RVCC), and local businesses.

The MEAM Program is funded by the County Vocational School District Partnership Grant through the New Jersey Department of Education's Office of Career and Technical Education.✳

For more information please visit our MEAM Program website at: www.scvths.org/MEAM

STUDENT OF THE MONTH

Kala Wright

Kala Wright, a freshman in the Law and Public Safety Program, has been selected as Somerset County Vocational & Technical High School's Student of the Month for February 2016. Kala is the daughter of Valerie Wright of North Plainfield.

English Instructor Christopher Miller nominated Kala for the Student of the Month Award because she "is a capable and hard-working student and often helps her classmates. Kala is always respectful to her teachers and classmates." Instructor Ms. Kristen Mc Nerney went on to add, "Kala is a very outgoing student with a great academic attitude. She works great in groups, helps out classmates and is always respectful to her teachers."

At SCVTHS, Kala is a member of the girls' basketball team and was named the Law and Public Safety CTE Stellar Student for the month of December 2015.

Outside of SCVTHS, Kala likes to spend time with her family, read, listen to music and research different philosophical subjects. After graduating from SCVTHS, Kala hopes to become an entrepreneur by creating her own high-tech security firm using the latest technology.

On February 10th, while on the way to SCVTHS from North Plainfield High School, Kala was part of a trio of students who successfully stopped their bus after the bus driver had a medical emergency. Kala's actions were heroic as she not only saved her classmates from harm, but also others who were on the road. For these actions, Kala will be recognized at a future Somerset County Freeholders meeting and a joint meeting between the North Plainfield Borough Council and the North Plainfield Board of Education.✳



Kala Wright