

Smyrna Work-Based Learning Newsletter



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Smyrna Stands Out at the 98th Annual National FFA Convention

Smyrna High School and Smyrna Middle School FFA students traveled to Indianapolis and represented Smyrna proudly this fall!

Highlights:

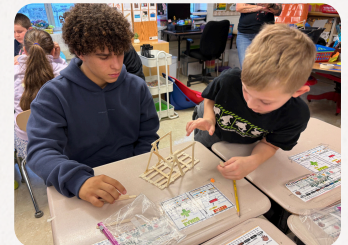
- Smyrna High School was recognized as a 2-Star National Chapter.
- Four Smyrna alumni received their American Degree.
- SHS Ag Mechanics Team and Marketing Plan Team earned a Bronze rating.
- SHS Livestock Evaluation Team earned a Silver rating.

In addition to competing, students were able to tour ag facilities, explore colleges and career opportunities, and participate in student leadership workshops.



Smyrna High School STEM Program Adds New Engineering Outreach Class

Smyrna High School debuted a new Engineering Outreach class this year, giving students in the Project Lead the Way - Engineering pathway the opportunity to enroll in an optional fourth-level elective course. Led by Mrs. Jennifer Tucker, SHS Engineering teacher, and supported by Mr. Justin Malin, Smyrna School District Science Specialist, these senior Engineering students have created exciting, interactive STEM activities for elementary and intermediate school students. The Engineering Outreach students also collaborated with students from the SHS Teacher Academy pathways to learn best practices in lesson planning and student engagement prior to classroom visits, bringing engineering principles to life for our youngest learners.



Upcoming Events

[Smyrna School District Advisory Board Showcase](#)

Friday, March 13th 2026

[Smyrna High School College & Career Fair](#)

Thursday, April 16th 2026

Smyrna HS Computer Science Students Intern with District's Technology Department

The Smyrna School District Technology Department has kicked off year two of their high school student tech internship program. Seniors in the Computer Science pathway are eligible to apply and gain hands-on industry experience in computer repair and troubleshooting, while also earning Work-Based Learning credit.

Interns work on-site at Smyrna High School, Smyrna Middle School, and JBM Intermediate School servicing student Chromebook needs such as missing keys, broken screens, and basic troubleshooting.

MAKING AN IMPACT:

Student tech interns completed 486 repairs last school year, accounting for **23%** of all repairs!



Smyrna High School Teacher Academy Hosts Schoolwide Educators Rising Competition

On December 4th, over 250 students from Smyrna High School's Early Childhood and K-12 Teacher Academy Pathways competed at the schoolwide Educators Rising competition. Contest categories included lesson planning, ethical decision-making, mock interviews, writing and illustrating children's books, and more.

Students competed to earn a spot at the Delaware Ed Rising Conference this February. Good luck to all who will attend!



Partner Spotlight:



Bayhealth has been a strong supporter of Smyrna Work-Based Learning. In addition to supporting the SMS Career Exploration Fair, Bayhealth Workforce Development Specialist and Smyrna alum, Alana King (MSN, RN), partnered with us to organize the "Bay Day" Career Panel, introducing middle school students to the wide range of careers available in the medical field. Professionals from Bayhealth's respiratory, surgery, phlebotomy, emergency, occupational therapy, and even healthcare IT departments engaged students in hands-on activities to explore the tools and skills vital to careers in healthcare.

This fall, students from the Smyrna High School Allied Health Pathway were invited to tour the Thoracic Oncology Mobile Experience (TOME) Truck. Students explored the future of healthcare with groundbreaking technology that changes lives by advancing early detection and diagnosis of lung cancer. Thanks to Bayhealth, students have many opportunities to explore possibilities!





Smyrna Middle School Hosts 8th Grade Career Exploration Fair

On November 5th, all 8th grade students visited the SMS Career Exploration Fair. Students chose six presenters to visit and learn about future opportunities. Also in attendance were SHS Pathway Ambassadors. While the ambassadors had the opportunity to network with professionals, they also served as a critical link, helping students see the connection between pathways and career fields.

Thank you to our presenters from the following organizations: Aunt Cheryl's Cookie Stop, Bayhealth, Benton & Shockley Law, Clayton Police Department, Collett & Sons Welding, Crystal Fox Films (and Arianna Fox), DE Air National Guard, DE Department of Ag, DE Department of Education, DelDOT, DNREC & Kent Conservation District, M&T Bank, McCove Music, Mid-Atlantic Packaging Company, PNC Bank, Richard Y Johnson & Sons, Your Style Hair Salon.



Legal Studies Students Shine at Debate

Students from Smyrna High School and Smyrna Middle School traveled to the University of Delaware to compete in the 'Argue Like a Lawyer' competition hosted by DELREC on Friday, October 17th. Students worked in teams to formulate arguments for or against topics, such as whether AI tools should be used for homework or whether teens under age 13 should use social media. Students then went head-to-head against other schools to debate these topics.

Students from both schools' Legal Studies classes, Mock Trial club, and Speech and Debate club were invited to attend this event. Both schools proudly placed second in their divisions!

Calling All Alumni!



Want to stay involved with the Smyrna Eagles? We want to hear from you.

Connect with us on the last page of this newsletter!

Work-Based Learning in Action



Students from Smyrna HS agricultural pathways learn about grain bin rescue from the Smyrna Fire Department at Ag Safety Day on October 6th.



SHS Marketing & STEM students attended the Delaware EDGE Grant Pitch Competition to see professional entrepreneurs in action.



SHS Culinary Pathway students have sharpened their skills while catering multiple school events. Their signature charcuterie board presentations are a favorite!



Girls from Ag. Structures, Ag. Power, and STEM pathways engage in hands-on learning about careers in energy at the Girl Power event in Salisbury.



Smyrna High School Career Pathways

2025-2026

School of Agricultural & Natural Resources

Animal Science & Management
Natural Resource Management
Plant Science
Agricultural Power & Engineering
Agricultural Structures & Engineering

School of Business, Finance, and Marketing

Academy of Business Information Management
Academy of Finance
Accounting
Computer Science
Digital Communication Technology
Marketing Today

School of Education

Early Childhood Teacher Academy
K-12 Teacher Academy

School of Leadership Studies

Aerospace Science & Leadership
Jobs for Delaware Graduates
Legal Studies

School of Performing & Visual Arts

Digital Art
Digital Photography
Instrumental Music
Studio Art
Theater Arts
Vocal Music

School of STEM & Professional Studies

Allied Health
Culinary & Hospitality Management
Engineering - Project Lead the Way

Connect With Us



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Industry Partnership Options



Classroom Guest
Speaker



Career Fair
Participant



Advisory Board
Member



Worksite Tour



Mentorship of
Student-Led Project



Job Shadow
Opportunity



Student Employment
or Internship



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Interested in connecting with
our students through
Smyrna's Career Pathways?

Fill out our [Industry
Partnership Interest Form](#) to
get started!

