



TST BOCES Student to Participate in Special Olympics World Games in Austria



TST BOCES student Kinsey Henry will have the amazing opportunity later this month to compete in the Special Olympics World Winter Games in Austria. Henry will represent the USA in Women's Snowshoeing as she competes in the 100m, 200m and 4x100m relay race events. The opening ceremony will take place Saturday, March 18, and the games will run through Friday, March 24. The Groton student also attends the Career Exploration Program at TST BOCES.

Teacher Rocky Baughman

was one of the people who helped Henry get involved in the Special Olympics. "[Kinsey] seemed to love the competition and was opening up and making friends with a lot of other athletes," Baughman said. "She won the admiration of her coaches and fellow athletes. I am so proud of the gracious, caring, helpful, strong young woman she has become."

Henry has been participating in a number of different events through Special Olympics for about five years.

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20th Annual February Frenzy Basketball Tournament

TST BOCES Smith School always strives to promote inclusivity through fun activities like the February Frenzy Basketball Tournament, an annual event now in its 20th successful year.

Students and staff gathered together in the gymnasium to watch the exciting competition. Events like this tournament foster opportunities for students who don't usually interact to meet and develop relationships.

Teams, made up of three students paired with one staff member, played in games designed to promote normalization and acceptance through athletics events.

"Athletic events are very calming in regular high school and since these students don't

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“Kinsey’s self-esteem has soared,” said counselor Laura May, speaking about the benefits of her participation in Special Olympics. “Her social and communication skills have really blossomed. Her willingness to try new things and to meet new people has increased dramatically.”

Two years ago, while looking for an event to do in the wintertime, Henry decided to start snowshoeing because it seemed well suited to her athleticism and her affinity for running. That turned out to be true, and she won a gold medal in the event at a statewide competition, which in turn, lead her to be selected for the World Games.

“I am absolutely thrilled that she has been chosen to go to the World Games,” Rocky Baugman said. “What an exciting opportunity for her and her family, something that very few people get to experience and something that will be a last memory for her lifetime.”

Most of the money to support local athletes comes from regional Special Olympics chapters. There will be fundraising efforts to help cover the costs of the trip, including the Freezin’ for a Reason polar plunge in Ithaca March 25. The effort to raise money on TST BOCES’ behalf for the polar plunge is being led by fellow Career and Tech Education student Eric Eastman.

To help, visit www.polarplungeny.org/ithaca and donate to "Team Kinsey." You can also support Kinsey Henry and donate to the Special Olympics by clicking [here](#).

February Career and Tech Student of the Month Awards

Student	Program	Home District
Edson (Brad) Udpike	Food Services	South Seneca
Reilley Meeks	Outdoor Recreation Services	South Seneca
Kaylee Clark	Cosmetology	Groton
Jordon Yelvington	Auto Body	Ithaca/Smith Sc.
Cheyenne Dawson	Welding	Trumansburg
Brianna Clark	Early Childhood	Trumansburg
Elliott Felko	Career Exploration Program	Groton
Alex Preston	Digital Media	Trumansburg
Jacob Heliseva	Computer Technology	Dryden
Harleigh Vestal	Criminal Justice	Dryden
Andreanna Hockenberry	Nurse Assisting	Newfield
Chris Parlett	Heavy Equipment	Lansing/RAS
Dakota Swansbrough	Outdoor Recreation Services	Candor
Alexandria Rought	Cosmetology	South Seneca
Auburn Noce	Early Childhood	Trumansburg
Devin Maxim	Food Services	Dryden/Smith Sc.
Alex Stinson	Auto Body	Lansing
Luke LoPinto	Welding	LACS
Aaron Hallett	Career Exploration Program	Candor
John Rapone	Digital Media	Trumansburg
Matt Bub	Computer Technology	Trumansburg
Michael MacCheyne	Heavy Equipment	Trumansburg
Kaitlynn Oudekerk	Nurse Assisting	Groton
Ariel Walker	Criminal Justice	Ithaca



TST New Visions Students Celebrate 100th Anniversary of Agricultural Education at the State Capitol



Nine students from the TST New Visions FFA Chapter joined over 100 of their peers and teachers from across the New York at the State Capitol to celebrate the 100th anniversary of the Smith-Hughes National Vocational Education Act of 1917. As a result of this landmark federal legislation, a cohesive national system of career and technical education (of which agricultural education is a part) was developed and continues today.

During the two-day celebration, students and teachers had dinner with government officials, including Commissioner of Agriculture and Markets Richard Ball, who presented a Proclamation from Governor Cuomo commemorating the occasion.

“For years, agricultural education programs have encouraged millions of young people to pursue higher education and become strong leaders in their chosen fields,” Ball said. “The Smith-Hughes Act was a major part of strengthening that effort across the country and I am thrilled to be part of the celebration of this historic milestone. Here in New York, we are proud to be a national leader when it comes to agriculture education and I am grateful to be part of an administration that recognizes the importance of carrying that legacy forward.”

The celebration continued on Tuesday with two events for students. First, students led interactive demonstrations in the “Well” of the Legislative Office Building. The TST New Visions program along with nine other FFA Chapters, displayed their knowledge about hydroponics, maple production, animal science, research and more. TST New Visions students from Candor, Ithaca, Trumansburg, Newfield and South Seneca School Districts presented their research projects and discussed their experiences in agricultural education with thousands of people, including elected government officials.

The second program was for chapter presidents in which Bella Culotta (Ithaca) and Ryan Besemer (Lansing) attended a Chapter Presidents Leadership Conference, where they attended workshops, as well as a private session in the Executive Chamber with the Lieutenant Governor. Additionally, they watched the State Assembly in action and attended a Senate Agriculture Standing Committee Meeting, where some of their peers provided testimony about the importance of

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February Frenzy Basketball Tournament

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attend a regular high school we wanted to give them a normalizing and similar experience,” said Dustin Stuhr, a Smith School teacher responsible for organizing and running the tournament.

Staff members did not shoot the ball, instead they encouraged the students to score, building their confidence. Students were all smiles as they participated in fun, highly competitive games.

TST Hosts Blood Drive with the Help of Nursing Students

The TST BOCES nursing classes had the opportunity to observe and learn from phlebotomists at the annual Red Cross blood drive held at the TST gymnasium.

Nursing students helped by signing in members of the community and monitoring patients to make sure they had enough food and water after giving blood.

The Red Cross offered scholarship and internships to the nursing students who were instrumental in promoting the turnout for the blood drive. The students were ready for the challenge, hitting and surpassing their goal. Thanks to the great work of BOCES students, the Red Cross and the members of the community who donated, the blood drive was a success.

The Red Cross hopes to have another blood drive in June with the continued help of the medical students.

TST New Visions Students Visit State Capitol

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agricultural education. Finally, Jack Murphy (Trumansburg) shadowed Senator Cathy Young's staff as they hosted a Senate Finance Committee meeting in the Capitol.

When asked about the event, Michele Kline, teacher of the TST New Visions in Life Sciences program, added "It is always rewarding to bring students to our State Capitol. This celebration helped policymakers truly see the value of agricultural education, but more importantly, I believe providing opportunities for our students to see government will allow them to be more comfortable participating in government as adults."

The TST New Visions in Life Sciences is a program sponsored by the Cornell's School of Integrated Plant Science and offered by TST BOCES for high achieving high school seniors from nine area high schools. For more information about the program, visit: tstboces.org/newvisions

TST BOCES

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Career Development and Occupational Studies: CDOS Corner

CDOS Work-Based Learning Coordinators Deb Demers and Michelle Pronti recently administered a needs assessment to determine the best use of resources for the remainder of the grant, which runs through June of 2018. The assessment addressed three areas: Curriculum, Work-based Learning Opportunities and Career and Technical Educational programming. Based on the 27% of stakeholders who responded, they will be focusing on ways to support school districts in building opportunities for students to earn the CDOS Credential.

Administrators, school counselors and special education teachers agreed that they are most worried about students who have lost interest in attending school or are at risk for not graduating, struggling seniors and students who have no post-graduation plans. They clearly identified a need to provide students with work-based learning opportunities either in the district or in a local business within the community. A third area of concern was preparing students for their greatest employment potential by integrating job success skills into already existing high school classes and curriculum.

Planning meetings are being scheduled with key staff members in each component school district to talk about the best ways to support their specific needs over the next year and a half.

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JOIN US FOR THE ANNUAL CTE OPEN HOUSE

THURSDAY, MARCH 23, 2017 FROM 6:00 - 8:00 PM



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Tompkins Seneca Tioga BOCES shall continue its policy of providing educational opportunities for all students who wish to enroll in any course without regard to race, color, creed, national origin, political affiliation, sex, age, marital or veteran status, disability, religious practice, ethnic group, gender expression and identity, weight, or genetic predisposition. TST BOCES provides equal access to the Boy Scouts and other designated youth groups.

For information regarding the nondiscrimination policy, contact David J. Parsons, Assistant Superintendent for Administrative Services, 555 Warren Road, Ithaca, NY 14850. He may also be reached by phone: 607-257-1551.