SUPERINTENDENT SHAFER CONGRATULATES FIVE BTMF STUDENTS WHO QUALIFIED FOR DECA’S NATIONAL CONFERENCE

Aspiring business leaders score big in DECA’s Atlantic City conference before schools closed

PATERNON – Superintendent of Schools Eileen Shafer today congratulated five students from the School of Business, Technology, Marketing and Finance (BTMF) at the John F. Kennedy Educational Complex who had qualified – before the health-related school closings – to participate in the International Career Development Conference (ICDC), a national event sponsored by DECA (Distributive Education Clubs of America).

The International Career Development Conference that was scheduled to be held in Nashville, TN in April has been canceled due to COVID-19 social distancing precautions.

Sammia Begum, Mackiah Henry, and Arnett Pena, all BTMF juniors, placed to compete at the ICDC with their Startup Business Plan: Mission Aquaponics.

BTMF’s senior twins, Anyeli and Enyeli Galvez, also placed to complete at the ICDC with their marketing campaign, The Castle: Where Knights do their Banking. The campaign promotes The Castle, a student-run bank at the John F. Kennedy Educational Complex. The Galvez sisters each won $1000 scholarships.

“I want to congratulate our students for representing Paterson Public School so well in DECA’s statewide competition,” said Schools Superintendent Eileen F. Shafer. “While I know it is disappointing that the national conference has been canceled like so many activities this year, we are no less proud of our students and no less grateful to the people who worked to bring out the best of our students’ abilities. That’s why I want to thank their teachers, administrators and parents who continuously support them as they develop their skills for success.”

The five national finalists were among 31 BTMF students who attended NJDECA State Career Development Conference (SCDC) that was held in Atlantic City from March 2 to March 4.

Other honors that were awarded to BTMF students at the state conference were:

- BTMF’s Chapter President Savanah Vargas was awarded a $1,500 scholarship.
• Ezaz Syed, a junior who serves as the chapter’s social media director, was honored as NJDECA’s January 2020 Student of the Month.

• Ninth-graders Janecia Bygrave and Chelsey Medina, along with junior Jacky Delgado, received a mini award for their marketing campaign, Take a Bliss Break with Blistex.

Teacher Martine Grant is the faculty advisor to the DECA Chapter at BTMF.

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