

Sachem North Soars at NY State DECA

Sachem North High School is pleased to announce that fourteen students led by their advisor, Ms. Kelly Penwell, competed at the New York State Career Conference of the Distributive Education Clubs of America (DECA) from March 9 through March 12, 2010 in Rochester, NY.

DECA is a student-centered organization whose program of leadership and personal development is designed specifically for students enrolled in business education classes. It is a co-curricular organization and serves as an integral part of the classroom instructional program.



Students learn the vocational understanding necessary to compete in marketing, management, business and merchandising careers while still in school.

Our students had the opportunity to compete with students from all over New York State in both academic testing and role play scenarios based on actual business situations. With more than two thousand students in attendance, the competition was intense; however our students earned an impressive eleven medals by the end of the competition.

Seniors, Harold Roberts and Sara Rizik earned six medals and two trophies in the category Business Law and Ethics Team Event. Not only did they achieve one of the highest scores in the academic portion of the competition, they also scored 93 points on their role play. These scores positioned them in fourth place overall in New York State, and they earned a berth to the National

Harry Roberts, Ms. Penwell and Sara Rizik

isville, Kentucky in April.

Second year DECA member and Junior, Ryan Barrett, scored a top ten finish in the category of Free Enterprise Economics. He was awarded a medal for his impressive results.

Sophomore, Jon Rizik earned a fourth place finish in New York State in the category of extemporaneous speaking. This competition is designed such that each student is presented with a topic and they are given ten minutes to formulate a cohesive speech presentation to be delivered to a panel of judges.

Seniors Tom Sasso and Mike Turo both earned academic medals in the category of Sports and Entertainment Management. This category is the most competitive category in the competition.

The Sachem North DECA chapter was honored by New York State DECA for increasing its membership by more than ten percent. Sachem North DECA president, Tom Sasso accepted the medal on behalf of our chapter.

Additional Sachem North students who competed in the state competition include Elisa Auguste, Emily Alvarado, True Capalbo, Joe Covas, John Favazza, Janiero Lawrence, John Mc Carthy, Chris Roden

The bus ride home from Rochester was filled with thoughts of next year's competition, what the students had learned, and potential partnerships for team events in next year's competition. All of the students were optimistic and hopeful about continuing their association with DECA on both the high school and collegiate level.

The entire business department is extremely proud of all of our students who competed in this competition. Many of our students entered new categories, and everyone worked extremely hard to represent Sachem North with the highest regard.

The Sachem North DECA Chapter would like to thank everyone who made this competition a reality for our students including all of the DECA parents, Mr. Dockweiler for chaperoning, Business and Career Development Chairperson, Mr. Sullivan, Mr. Paquette for all of his help preparing students for the role play portion of the competition, and Mr. Costa for all of his support. This is truly an experience that the students as well as Ms. Penwell and Mr. Dockweiler.

