

## **CHS Students Excel at Central Jersey Regional DECA Conference**

Cranford High School Students impressed us once again with 44 DECA members advancing in the top of their business events at the Regional DECA Competition which was held on Jan. 7th, 2016, at Kean University.

This made them not only eligible to compete in the New Jersey DECA Leadership Conference in Cherry Hill, NJ on February 24th-26th, but also marked another milestone for Cranford's DECA Chapter with membership of 135 members and a record-topping 44 delegates advancing to the State level.

The DECA Program is aimed at helping students prepare for business careers. The program, an association of marketing students, builds self-esteem and leadership skills, and teaches students to practice community service. The students are advised by Business Management teachers Donna Cathcart and Cindy Keyasko.

Of the 44 students to advance, four received first place, and five received third place. In addition, all students below placed in the top ten of their business specialties. For the competition, each student completed a one-hour written test focused on their area of interest — then read, prepared for, and executed role-play scenarios.

Business, marketing, and accounting professionals served as judges for more than 1,500 students attending the regional competition from across Central New Jersey.

Students coming in first place: Kelly Drake for Food Marketing Series, David Debole for Marketing Management Series, Jon Debaro for Sports and Entertainment Marketing Series, and the team of Tom Feeney and Kyle Pollock for Sports and Entertainment Marketing Team Series Event. Third place winners were; Natalie Schenker for Food Marketing, Ben Bacall for Marketing Management and Administration, Grace Chen for Quick Serve Restaurant Management, Nathan Glazer for Sports and Entertainment Marketing Series and Jillian Walter for Hotel and Lodging Management.

Also placing in their respective events was: The team of Patrick Hoey and Owen McDermott, and Hannah McCarthy and Erin Infante for Sports and Entertainment Marketing Team Series. Placing in the area of Accounting Applications are Jakub Iwaniuk and Michael Podbelski. Placing in the category of Automotive Services Marketing are Brett Mallon, Phillip Triano, Ryan Donovan and John Monahan. Placing in Business Finance Services are Kaitlin Ciuba and Thomas Steele. Students placing in Food Marketing Series: Rebecca Piasek, Jen Shore, Matthew Capone, Mairead O'Donovan and Natalie Schenker. In Hotel and Lodging Management, Katherine

Drewniak. In Human Resource Management are Megan Power and Marianna Muratore. Placing in Business Law and Ethics Team Event was the team of Adriana Pinto and Brittany Welsh-McIntyre. Placing in Principals of Hospitality and Tourism were Maria Venturo and Christian Rivera. Placing in Principles of Marketing was Kevin Schwartz. Placing in Restaurant and Food Service was Roisin O'Donovan. Placing in Quick Serve Restaurant Management Series was Olivia Delveccio, Kayla Principe and Lucas Ramadan. Placing in Sports and Entertainment Marketing Series was Spencer Pascal and Chloe Levy. Placing in Marketing Management was Amanda Bush. Philip Halek placed in Principles of Business Management and Thomas Armstrong also placed in Principles of Finance.

Decca prepares emerging leaders and entrepreneurs for careers in marketing, finance, hospitality and management in high schools and colleges around the globe.

*Congratulations to all Cranford High School students on a job well done!*