20 Students from Columbia Area Career Center’s DECA Chapter qualify for International Competition

Hannah Johnson, Kristi Deneke and Scott Fuenhausen, DECA Advisors for Columbia Area Career Center, are proud to announce the results of the DECA Missouri State competition that was held March 11 – 13 in Kansas City, MO. More than 1,900 students from around the state of Missouri competed in the three-day event. Students finishing the top of each event advance to the International Career Development Conference April 20 – 25 in Atlanta, GA.

The following DECA students qualified for state:

Individual Events:

**Human Resource Management**
4th place: Conor Byrne (Hickman)

**Automotive Services**
5th place: Matt Hall (Rock Bridge)

**Marketing Communications**
2nd place: Kate Walter (Rock Bridge/Christian Fellowship)

**Restaurant and Food Service Management**
4th place: Ashley Arneson (Rock Bridge)

**Hotel & Lodging Management**
4th place: Jessica Kanne (Hickman)

**Food Marketing Series**
2nd place: Elisabeth Glass (Rock Bridge)
3rd place: Alex Geyer (Rock Bridge)

**Business Financial Services**
1st place: Pranav Patel (Rock Bridge) – STATE CHAMPION
4th place: Matt Gibson (RB/Fr. Tolton)

**Principles of Business Management & Administration**
1st place: Rose Chambers (Hickman) – STATE CHAMPION
2nd place: Sonya Hu (Rock Bridge)

**Principles of Marketing**
3rd place: Ethan Hayes (Rock Bridge)

**Principles of Finance**
1st place: Price Phillips (Hickman) - STATE CHAMPION
Leadership Delegate
Elena Seville

**Team Events:**

Financial Analysis
2nd place: Walter Bratrud & Fletcher Orr (Hickman)

Sports & Entertainment (team)
5th place: Tyler Montgomery & Drew Gilliland (Hickman)

Marketing Management
5th place: Caleb Mitchell & Jasper Schomaker (Hickman)

**Written Events:**

Independent Business Plan
4th place: Joshua Vincent (Rock Bridge)

**Competitors who medaled but do not qualify for international competition**

Hospitality Services
- Kennedy Grieman & Lauren Reynolds (Rock Bridge)

Financial Analysis
- Tony Gan & Bryce Raube (Rock Bridge)

Buying & Merchandising
- Caitlin Fogue & Hailey Lyman (Hickman)

Entrepreneurship
- Cami Alderson & Olivia Rothwell (Rock Bridge)

The DECA competition is divided into two parts. Students first take an exam which tests basic marketing knowledge. The second portion of the competition is “role play” where students are given a marketing situation in which they must develop a solution and then present that solution to a judge who rates their solution. The final score is a combination of the two parts.