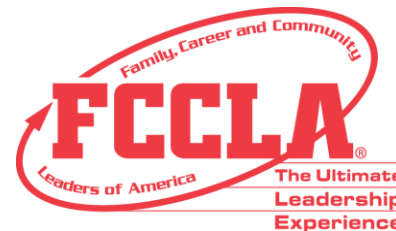


For Immediate Release

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FCCLA Youth Advocate for Continued Support of Career and Technical Education

*Students Met with Their Legislators to Express Appreciation for Family and Consumer Sciences Inclusion
in Perkins Reauthorization*

October 9, 2018, Washington, D.C. – Students and teachers from across the country traveled to Washington to participate in the Family, Career and Community Leaders of America (FCCLA) Capitol Leadership meeting.

Each year, hundreds of youth leaders in bright red blazers converge on Capitol Hill to engage with national legislatures to advocate for important education policy issues. This past summer, FCCLA members successfully advocated for the reauthorization of the Carl D. Perkins Career and Technical Education Act which established continued federal support for Career and Technical Education which recently passed as the *Strengthening Career and Technical Education for the 21st Century Act* commonly referred to now as Perkins V.

At the recent FCCLA Capitol Leadership meeting FCCLA members from across the country met with legislatures to thank their representatives for supporting inclusion of language in Perkins V for Family and Consumer Sciences programs. These courses provide instruction and experience to enhance real world skills in order to develop strong workforce readiness. “FCCLA members know the value of youth leadership and dedication. Many are strong youth advocates in their states, and they want to communicate with their legislatures effectively. I do not doubt that these students will continue to affect change in the future and help our country’s leaders see the positive value in youth advocates,” said Sandy Spavone, Executive Director of FCCLA.

Additionally, attendees heard from panel experts focusing on four specific career pathways: Hospitality and Tourism, Visual Arts and Design, Human Services, and Education and Training. They learned about the variety of opportunities within each career path. Capitol Leadership is the first of several gatherings FCCLA will host throughout the 2018-2019 school year to provide similar opportunities to students around the nation.

About FCCLA

Family, Career and Community Leaders of America (FCCLA) is a dynamic and effective national student organization that helps young men and women become leaders and address important personal, family, work, and societal issues through Family and Consumer Sciences education. FCCLA has more than 160,000 members and more than 5,300 chapters from 49 state associations, Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands.

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