



For Immediate Release  
July 19, 2010

Contact: Allison Kaufman  
Phone: (616) 365- 2227  
Email: [allisonkaufman@kentisd.org](mailto:allisonkaufman@kentisd.org)

**LOCAL TECH STUDENTS TAKE TOP AWARDS**  
**IN REGIONAL/STATE COMPETITIONS**

GRAND RAPIDS – Kent Career Technical Center (KCTC) students took top honors in three statewide competitions where students pitted their knowledge and skills against others across the state. In all, students earned 11 gold, 5 silver, and 4 bronze awards.

“These competitions are a great way for students to show what they have learned in preparing for a wide variety of careers. We are so proud of all their achievements and the great staff who taught and encouraged them,” said Kevin Konarska, Superintendent of Kent ISD.

SkillsUSA Michigan supports students with career interests in technical, skilled, service, and health occupations. The organization provides educational opportunities and reinforces learning through team-oriented competitions. On April 16-18, seven students from KCTC traveled to Lansing and took gold medal honors in Chapter Display, Technical Preparation Showcase, and Culinary Arts. This accomplishment qualified them to compete at the National competition June 21-26, in Kansas City. Deb Riolo, KCTC Graphics Instructor said, “This experience has given me a renewed spirit by sharing each of these talented students’ excitement and success.”

Health Occupations Students of America (HOSA) educates students about career opportunities in the health field, and promotes the quality delivery of healthcare. HOSA coordinates competitions where students apply skills and knowledge they have been taught throughout the program.

-More-

After qualifying in the top rankings at the regional competition, KCTC students went on to compete against 1500 students at the state competition in Traverse City where they placed within the top ten teams. Students competed in: Concepts of Health Care, Public Service Announcements, Medical Reading, and Biomedical Debate. This year, four of the KCTC groups placed in the State's top ten. Deb Vandyke, Academic Support Teacher noted, "I am extremely proud of our students, not only for their competition achievements, but also for their outstanding manners and professional behavior."

Michigan Industry and Technology Education Society (MITES) is a non-profit organization that provides academic experiences through competitions and science fairs. KCTC students took top honors in Precision Machining, Graphics, and Engineering Technology. The winning projects ranged from graphic design to engineering technology.

### **SkillsUSA State Winners (Gold winners competed at the national competition)**

#### **Chapter Display**

CAD/Site Design Program  
 Graphics/3D Animation Program  
 Graphics/3D Animation Program

Levon Cimonian, Grandville HS-Gold  
 Jason Helsel, Northview HS-Gold  
 Kaleb Nation, Grandville HS- Gold

#### **Technical Preparation Showcase**

Graphics/3D Animation Program  
 Graphics Program  
 Graphics Program

Dylan Isom, Sparta HS-Gold  
 Kayla Katsma, Thornapple Kellog HS-Gold  
 Brian Vulcan, Caledonia HS-Gold

#### **Culinary Arts**

Hospitality/Culinary Program

Connor Gibbins, Rockford HS-Gold  
 Vera Hogg, Byron Center HS- Bronze

#### **3D Visualization**

Sebastian Conley, Sparta HS- Silver  
 Alexandra Saenz, Rockford HS- Silver

#### **Commercial Baking**

Zarah Smith, Kent City HS- Silver

#### **Quiz Bowl**

Cameron Eidenier, Forest Hills Central HS- Bronze  
 Maureen Johnson, Rockford HS- Bronze  
 Brandon McBain, Kenowa Hills HS- Bronze  
 Ruben Brown, East Kentwood HS- Bronze  
 Eric Shemanski, Grandville HS- Bronze  
 Noah Baker, Comstock Park HS- Bronze

-More-

## HOSA Regional Competition Results:

### Concepts of Health Care

Jami Armstrong, Rogers HS-1<sup>st</sup>  
Bree Koster, Byron Center HS-2<sup>nd</sup>

### Public Service Announcement

Lyndsey Brenner, Rogers HS- 1<sup>st</sup>  
Kerri Dubois, Adult Student-1<sup>st</sup>  
Alicia Givens, Grandville HS- 1<sup>st</sup>  
Bailey Jones, Grandville HS- 1<sup>st</sup>  
Jennifer Selvius, Grandville HS-1<sup>st</sup>

### Forensic Medicine

Karla Ortiz, Rogers HS- 1<sup>st</sup>  
Jonathan Morales, Rogers HS- 1<sup>st</sup>

### Medical Reading

Shae'tiaunna Barrnetine, Rockford HS-1<sup>st</sup>  
Keith Lannon, Rockford HS-1<sup>st</sup>  
Sara Palasek, Kenowa Hills HS-1<sup>st</sup>

### Biomedical Debate

Jasna Husic, Rogers HS- 1<sup>st</sup>  
Marissa Kelly, Byron Center HS-1<sup>st</sup>  
Jomasea Paylay Potters House HS- 1<sup>st</sup>

## MITES Regional Competition Results:

### Precision Machining

CNC 2D  
Hand Tools Sets & Combination  
Simple Moving Parts Single

### Graphics

Office Printing- Single Color  
Graphic Arts- Group Project  
Graphic Arts- Group Project

### Engineering Technology

CAD Detail Mechanical Drawing  
CAD Detail Drawing with a Pictorial  
Pictorial Illustration Assembled Drawing

### Site Design Management

Architectural CAD Photo-Realistic/Cad Presentation  
CAD Architectural Working Drawing- Commercial  
CAD Architectural Working Drawing- Commercial

Austin O'Connor, Cedar Springs HS - 1<sup>st</sup>  
Austin O'Connor, Cedar Springs HS- 3<sup>rd</sup>  
Aaron Jawrowski, Rockford HS- 7<sup>th</sup>

Kelly Brewer, Sparta HS- 1<sup>st</sup>  
Kyle Calbetzer, Homeschool- 4<sup>th</sup>  
Nicholas Sjoerdsma, Sparta HS- 4<sup>th</sup>

Levon Cimonian, Grandville HS-2<sup>nd</sup>  
Levon Cimonian, Grandville HS-4<sup>th</sup>  
Zachary Tramper, Tri-County HS-1<sup>st</sup>

Kevin Denhof, Adult Student- 2<sup>nd</sup>  
Kevin Denhof, Adult Student- 3<sup>rd</sup>  
Cameron Lopez, Forest Hills Eastern HS-4<sup>th</sup>

###