

Ayala students do well in career, leadership competition

Ayala High hosted the Region 10 FCCLA/FHA Competitive Recognition Events on Feb. 13 and all six of Ayala High's competitors had victories in the contest that challenges students on tasks related to personal growth, leadership development, and career preparation.

More than 150 high school students and advisors attended Ayala to compete in 22 different events, vying for a spot in FCCLA/FHA state competition, to be held in April in Riverside.

Approximately 40 students from Calexico traveled more than two hours to compete at Ayala.

Region 10 FCCLA/FHA includes schools from San Bernardino, Riverside, San Diego and Imperial counties.

Ayala student Myra Zhan earned a first place win in the Job Application/Interview competition. Brittanie Chu earned first place in Illustrated Talk, and Katrina Arano, who placed third in that category, will join her at State. Zheng Dong, Isha Singh and Trinity Tat placed first in the Hospitality/Tourism team event.

Currently, Terry Chern is Vice President of Region 10 and Andrew Chhur is Treasurer. The six male members of the 2015-2016 Executive Council team lead students through the program of the day with the opening general session, student activities and afternoon closing general session.

In 2016-2017, Ayala's Brittanie Chu will be president of Region 10, coordinating the Executive Council and members in leadership activities throughout the year.

"Many of the Ayala staff were in attendance as judges for the various events," said Ayala Food Technology and Nutrition teacher Barbara Allen, who is a co-advisor of the group with Clothing I and II teacher Jennifer Mehaffie. "Thank you to Rhonda Fellows, Christy Koenig, Jennifer Galindo, Linda Schaeffer, Dick Holk and William Dutton for giving up their time to help students achieve success," Allen said. Other District faculty helping with the events were: Dan Galindo from Buena Vista Continuation High, Jim Mehaffie from Ramona Junior High, and Gaylen Roe from Magnolia Junior High.

"It was also a treat to see several retired Ayala staff members at the event, including Marcia Burrows, Sonja Shumaker, Millie Deeton and Norma Reese," Allen said.

Keith Shumaker, an experienced judge for FCCLA/FHA, added his marketing expertise and Cynthia Jung, a 2012 Ayala graduate and former FCCLA competitor rounded out the panels.

See photos below.



