



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Smith Named 2020 VATFACS Outstanding Administrator

Woodbridge, VA – August 13, 2020 – The Virginia Association for Teachers of Family & Consumer Sciences (VATFACS) honored its award and scholarship recipients during a virtual ceremony on June 29, 2020. Chevelli Smith, Assistant Principal at Gar-Field High School with Prince William County Public Schools, received the 2020 VATFACS Outstanding Administrator Award. Recipients of this award have shown consistent support for Family and Consumer Sciences programs. Administrators may include building principals, local family and consumer sciences supervisors, and career and technical education directors.



Prior to becoming an administrator, Ms. Smith was a classroom teacher for 19 years and is currently an assistant principal supervising the Family & Consumer Sciences department at Gar-Field High School. Ms. Smith has been instrumental in increasing the number of FACS teachers at Gar-Field and the number of FACS course offerings over the past three years. Ms. Smith's support of Family & Consumer Sciences includes advocating for a school culinary club that includes students in Special Education, English Language Learners, and Gifted students. Enrollment in the student leadership program has doubled and continues to grow. This program coordinated, planned, and hosted the Prince William County Student Leadership Conference in 2018 for both middle and high school students with the supervision and support they received from Ms. Smith. Julia Henderson, a Gar-Field High School Family & Consumer Sciences teacher states, "Her caring personality and positivity radiates through her interactions with everyone in the building. She is constantly supporting teachers and students to grow and learn by building a culture that is inclusive."

About the Virginia Association for Teachers of Family & Consumer Sciences (VATFACS): VATFACS is an organization dedicated to promoting Family and Consumer Sciences in Virginia public schools to improve the lives of our students, their families, and our communities. VATFACS' mission is to promote professional development opportunities for family and consumer sciences teachers in Virginia, provide opportunity for collaboration with family and consumer sciences professionals, and support the purposes of the Virginia Association of Career and Technical (VA ACTE). VATFACS awards scholarships and graduate fellowships to individuals who have exhibited the potential to make contributions to the family and consumer sciences education (FCS) field.

About the field of Family & Consumer Sciences:

Family & Consumer Sciences (FCS) is the comprehensive field of study focused on the art and science of living and working well in our complex world. Our primary areas of focus include culinary arts, hospitality, and tourism; education and training; food science and nutrition; health management and wellness; housing and interior design; human/child development and family relations; personal and family finance; and textiles, apparel, and retailing. Sustainable practices, consumerism, and leadership principles are woven throughout the content areas. Through research, experiential education, and technology, our professionals help people develop the essential knowledge and skills to lead better lives, be work and career ready, build strong families, and make meaningful contributions to our communities. FCS professionals are found in settings such as academic education at the early childhood, elementary, secondary, and higher education levels, community education for adults and youth, including Cooperative Extension programs, business and industry, government, and health and human services.

For more information, please contact:

Heather Jones

Reporter, VATFACS

703-909-9171

heatherjonesm@gmail.com

###