

PARIS HIGH STUDENTS RETURN FROM 2018 JAGKY CAREER DEVELOPMENT COMPETITION WINNERS

Twenty-two schools encompassing more than 250 students from across the Commonwealth of Kentucky gathered in Frankfort on March 22 & 23 to participate in JAGKY's annual Career Development Conference (CDC). This year's theme was "Success Against the Odds."

CDC provides students who are in the JAGKY program at schools throughout the Commonwealth an opportunity to compete in categories such as, job interview, employment application, telephone techniques, personal essays, public speaking, and decision making. While students are not competing, they attend leadership development sessions where they learn soft skills, create positive attitudes, and network with peers.

Students from Paris High School, who attended CDC, returned home winners with plenty of career development and life skills to go with the awards. "They represented Paris High School with class and character. Not only did they perform well in actions and deeds but they won awards. They were so excited," stated George Stafford, JAGKY Specialist at Paris High School.

Students receiving awards were:

1st Place in Decision Making - Ben Hyslop, Taylor Kenney, Andrew Coots, and Kelly Nguyen

3rd Place in Job Interview - Hunter Caudill

3rd Place in Public Speaking - Chaz Blevins

In addition, students were encouraged to dream big and step out of their comfort zone. Chaz Blevins shared his dream of being on The Voice by singing to all attendees. "We came here to win or learn and it feels like we did a lot of both," stated Blevins. Hunter Caudill was already looking forward to next year. "This year I placed third in the job interview competition. Next year my goal is first place."

"They trained hard and competed even harder. They showed confidence and pride in their work. This will take them a long way as they enter the work force and/or college/technical school," added Stafford. At Paris High School, the future keeps getting brighter and the opportunities even greater.

Jobs for America's Graduates (JAG) is a state-based national non-profit organization dedicated to providing the needed support in order for students to graduate and find jobs which will enable them to live productive and meaningful lives. In more than three decades of operation, JAG has delivered consistent, compelling results – helping over one million young people stay in school through graduation, pursue postsecondary education and secure quality entry-level jobs leading to career advancement opportunities.