



HOLMDEL TOWNSHIP SCHOOL DISTRICT

"A COMMITMENT TO EXCELLENCE"

Office of the Superintendent of Schools
65 McCampbell Road
Holmdel, NJ 07733
tel: 732-946-1800
fax: 732-946-1875

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Steve Tetreault, 732-946-1808

HOLMDEL STUDENTS TAKE SECOND PLACE IN STATE TECH EVENT

HOLMDEL (March 31, 2017) – On Wednesday, March 29, students from the William R. Satz School in Holmdel went to The College of New Jersey (TCNJ) to take part in the state-wide Technology Student Association's (TSA) 2017 State Middle School Conference. Students from both seventh and eighth grade worked individually and in teams to take part in events ranging from solar-powered car races to head-to-head catapult design and performance competitions for distance and accuracy.

TSA is a New Jersey organization that encourages the application of science, technology, engineering, and mathematics skills to real-world issues, giving students the chance to apply what they learn academically in a different venue.

The Satz chapter of the TSA is coordinated by Technology Education teacher Christen McCafferty, who helped guide students in preparing for their individual events. Students were eligible to take part in two events - a "live" competition the day of the conference, and a "pre-conference" event that students prepare and submit ahead of time for judging on the day of the conference. This year, Satz students all elected to focus on the on-site competitions.

The two dozen students who took part spent the day at TCNJ. When they weren't competing in their events, which were staggered throughout the day, they were able to watch other ongoing events and displays of the pre-conference items.

Mrs. McCafferty congratulated all the TSA members who competed at the state competition, and offered special recognition to the Microcontroller Design team of Anna Briamonte, Mary Briamonte, Riya Shah, Sarina Shah, and Shaili Shah, who placed 2nd in the entire state in their event.

"Enhancing facilities for technology, engineering and design within the district's 7th-12th grade complex is a priority in the Holmdel 2020 Initiative," said district Supervisor of Technology, Engineering and Media Centers, Caren MacConnell, "It is amazing to think about what these students – members of the HHS classes of 2021 and 2022 will be able to do in the future as a result of these planned state-of-the art enhancements to our facilities," she added. The district recently unveiled plans for this initiative which they plan to put before voters in September. A presentation on this plan can be viewed on the district website [here](#).