

At the root of all achievements at South Fayette is our commitment to academic excellence. The District offers an Honors Academy at the high school level to provide enrichment and advanced courses for students who desire the challenge of a rigorous college-level academic program and who have demonstrated the ability and commitment to work individually. To achieve Honors Academy status, students must be enrolled in at least five advanced placement (AP) courses before graduation.

Over the past year, many South Fayette students have brought honor and recognition to this school, our community and their families through their dedication to excellence and their willingness to challenge themselves and put in the extra effort.

High School students **Kaiting Chen, Stephanie Leger, and Dina Pucci** participated in the Westinghouse Science Honors Institute last year. The program was a series of Saturday workshops featuring guest speakers and lectures on such topics as robotics, plasma physics, archaeology, surgical tools of the future, space exploration, engineering, forensics, nanotechnology, materials processing, etc. Students completing the program have an opportunity to earn prizes, scholarships, and/or summer internships based on the results of a culminating test given in the spring.

Each year, the College Board recognizes high school students who have distinguished themselves academically by announcing AP (Advanced Placement) award recipients. In 2004, South Fayette had nine students earn the distinction of AP Scholar. These students received grades of 3 or higher on three or more AP exams: **Nick Brozack, Kaiting Chen, Rylan Collins, Sheena Henry, Nicholas Jones, Elizabeth Kellander, Mohmood Rasheed, Lora Werkmeister, and Amanda Wuchevich.**

Senior **Ryan Holets** received an appointment to attend the U.S. Air Force Academy following graduation. He competed against almost 12,000 applicants world-wide and was one of only 1,300 who were accepted. The total cost per graduate is estimated to be more than \$346,652. Upon graduation from the academy, Ryan will be commissioned as a second lieutenant in the United States Air Force and he will immediately begin working in one of more than 156 career fields in the world's premiere aerospace force.



The ninth and tenth grade South Fayette Calcu-Solve team of **Kaiting Chen, Adrienne Vollmer, Jean Zhang and Rylan Collins** received first place honors in their most difficult team competition last winter. The South Fayette team posted a high team score to defeat second place Mt. Lebanon and third place Baldwin/Whitehall. Kaiting Chen captured second place overall in the individual competition.

ACADEMICS:

HIGH SCHOOL

Students from South Fayette’s Technology Student Association took part in the Pennsylvania Technology Student Association State Finals at Seven Springs Resort. Throughout the day, students were challenged in the areas of technology problem solving, construction systems and structural engineering. In the Technology Problem-Solving competition, the South Fayette teams of **Ben Ivancza** and **Ryan Holets**; and **Ben Ellis** and **Darryl Schulz**, qualified for the State competition. In the CAD-Architectural 2D Design portion, **Prashant Gabani** and **Matt Schuck** were top finalists, and **Jordan Shoenberger** took first place, qualifying all three of them for the State competition. In the CAD- Engineering 3D Design competition, **Ben Ivancza** took 1st place with his solution, qualifying him for the State competition. In Structural Engineering, South Fayette teams dominated the competition taking four of the six qualifying positions for the State competition. The following were the South Fayette teams in 3D Design: **Prashant Gabani** and **Matt Schuck**; **Michael Colavecchia** and **Frank DeThomas**; **Ben Ivancza** and **Ryan Holets**; and **Jason Colon** and **Ben Ellis**. In the Manufacturing Prototype event, **Ryan Holets** and **Ben Ivancza** took a 3rd place finish, and qualified for States in that competition as well.

The Future Business Leaders of America (FBLA) group, under the leadership of Mrs. Terry Hart, participated in the Regional Leadership Conference and Competition held at Bishop Canevin High School on January 21, and nine students of the 25 who competed from South Fayette qualified for the State Leadership Conference and Competition. The honored students were: **Kaiting Chen**, 1st Place, Java; **Louis Civitarese**, 2nd Place, Business Procedures; **Doug Fleisner**, 3rd Place, FBLA Principles & Procedures; **Nicole Gaab**, 3rd Place, Business Math; **Andrew Lesniakowski**, 2nd Place, Banking & Financial Systems; **Mahmood Rasheed**, 1st Place, Impromptu Speaking; **Eric Sharrow**, 1st Place, Business Law; **Dan Struth**, 1st Place, FBLA Principles & Procedures; **Mike Venetti**, 1st Place, Public Speaking II.

Justin Scott was selected to attend the Summer Seminar on World Affairs at Duquesne University during the week of June 20-24, 2005. The seminar emphasized critical thinking and problem solving exercises, and a close dialogue between students and nationally-respected experts in each of the topic areas. Among the issues were “Defining America’s Role in the World,” “Crisis in the Middle East,” “Future of U.S.-European Relations,” “Challenges and Prospects for Africa,” and “Changing Dynamics of America and Asia.”

Student writer **Cassie Quinn** was selected to write for the Pittsburgh Post-Gazette one day a week on teen issues. Her first story was a book review on “The Summer of the Traveling Pants.” She wrote one article weekly for eight weeks.

SOUTH FAYETTE HIGH SCHOOL:
THE CLASS OF 2005

118 STUDENTS GRADUATED
ON JUNE 17, 2005
IN THE 77TH COMMENCEMENT
CEREMONY AT
SOUTH FAYETTE HIGH SCHOOL

60% GRADUATED WITH HONORS
(3.5 GPA OR HIGHER)

94.5% PLAN TO CONTINUE
THEIR EDUCATION
(69.5% IN A 4-YEAR COLLEGE,
14% IN A 2-YEAR COLLEGE,
AND 11% IN A BUSINESS OR
TECHNICAL SCHOOL)

2005 SAT SCORES

	VERBAL	MATH
SOUTH FAYETTE	526	546
STATE AVG.	501	503
NATIONAL AVG.	508	520