

Congratulations to our Smoky Hill High School Automotive students, who recently returned from the State SkillsUSA contest with an unprecedented showing! Our Chapter Display teams developed and constructed three entries this year (more than we've ever created) and returned home with 1st, 2nd and 4th place awards. Josh Gilbert also placed 3rd of 24 in the challenging Auto Service Contest, where Smoky Hill had a record 5 finalists. Owen Echols also finished in the top 6 in the Job Interview Contest.

Chapter Display State Teams:

1st place: Harlan Thomas, Austin Whetham-Cogburn and Caleb Echols.

2nd place: Spencer Cox, Kenny Fritts and Trevor Josephs.

4th place: Colton Storm, Gabe Demers and Tracey Peterson.

Our teams assembled their projects in our glass classroom for display through the end of the year. Come by and see their creativity (their T rex) and awesome educational value (brake trainers).

As the SkillPoint Certificate underscores, in addition to technical proficiency in automotive technology, they must also demonstrate superior workmanship, creativity & originality, innovation, teamwork, and educational value. Our teams demonstrated professionalism through their actions, their dress and their interviews, and they represented our school with dignity and class at all times, even while in the Colorado Springs community.

Please congratulate all of our automotive students, and especially Josh Gilbert and Luis Gasca, who will represent the State of Colorado at the National Greater New York Automotive Contest in Manhattan next week. Smoky Hill (now in our 8th year-in-a-row as the only school in Colorado to send students to this national contest) will compete over 2 days in a skills contest in conjunction with the New York International Auto Show.

Go Buffs!

Brian Manley

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