

WCSD NEWS



Jenna Franco Named to County Agricultural Advisory Committee

Congratulations to John Jay High School Junior Jenna Franco! She was appointed to the Dutchess County Agricultural Advisory Committee and its Education Subcommittee as a Youth Leadership member, along with Stissing Mountain High School senior Cailin Halladay. County Executive Molinaro said, "Today, we celebrate not only Dutchess County's agricultural legacy and current prosperity but the future of farming in our community. Our Agricultural Advisory Committee will benefit from these young women's experience, expertise and perspective."

Jenna is an active member of John Jay's FFA (Future Farmers of America) and she is planning to major in plant/horticultural sciences in college. "My dream is to one day own a flower farm, but I also hope to increase agricultural accessibility to people throughout the world who might not have access to fresh foods, and don't think they can grow their own. Plants are resilient and can be grown almost anywhere!" As a Youth Leadership Committee member, she hopes to "make agriculture more accessible to everyone, and promote programs in which students can go outside, get their hands dirty, and hopefully gain some love for agriculture."

FFA Co-Advisor Mary Jane McFarland added, "Jenna has been an amazing addition to our chapter this year. She has competed on our Agricultural Issues team, and has been the driving force in connecting our FFA to the East Fishkill Senior Center. We have begun to care for the gardens at the Senior Community Center, where our students will be growing vegetables and flowers that the senior citizens can take home."

Jenna has gained more than just agricultural knowledge from the FFA. "Ms. McFarland has been so encouraging and her genuine care for every student in our chapter is amazing. The officers are some of the best and nicest people I've ever met. I will always cherish the friendships I've made in the FFA."



Left to Right: Dutchess County Executive Marc Molinaro, Cailin Halliday, Jenna Franco, and County Legislature Chairman Gregg Pulver.

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