

# PRESS RELEASE

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## SWIN WORKFORCE JAG STUDENTS PLACE AT STATE

EVANSVILLE, IN - Southwest Indiana Workforce is proud to share Region 11 winners at the state Jobs for America's Graduates (JAG) Competition. 14 students across the 9 Southwestern Indiana counties traveled to state after placing at the Career Development Conference in February.



The 16 JAG programs across Southwestern Indiana Region 11 provide services to young adults to help them get a high school diploma or equivalent, secure a quality entry-level job or pursue post-secondary education that leads to advancement in their career field.

JAG students compete in 12 different categories either as a class or individually. Class competitions include: Chapter Brochure, Chapter Commercial, and Entrepreneurship Plan. Individual competitions include: Cover Design, Career Presentation, Creative Solutions, Critical Thinking, Employability Skills, Financial Literacy, Public Speaking, Writing Skills, and Outstanding Senior.

Students who advanced to the State Competition include:

- Chapter Commercial - Tell City High School
- Chapter Brochure - Tell City High School
- Business Plan - Southridge High School
- Creative Decision Making - Lincoln High School
- Project Based Learning - Lincoln High School
- Digital Invitation and Cover Design - Kate Jones, Lincoln High School
- Career Preparation - Jason Cecil, Lincoln High School
- Employability Skills - BB McCrary, Lincoln High School
- Financial Literacy - Briana Kaiser, Lincoln High School
- Prepared Speaking - Zoe Payne, Southridge High School
- Outstanding Senior - Kaitlyn Clark, Pike Central High School



Students from Region 11 traveled to Indianapolis to compete with other students across the state. Two teams placed at the State JAG Competition on March 14.

The Business Plan team from Southridge High School made up of Cruz Meece, Adam King, and Caden Kramer won first place winning \$500 each. The Creative Decision Making team from Lincoln High School made up of Kate Jones, Lainey Snyder, and Aaliyah Kohlhouse placed third winning \$300 each.



Business Plan Team



Creative Decision Making Team

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Kaitlyn Clark, the Outstanding Senior representing Region 11 won a honorable mention and was awarded with a \$500 prize.

Southwest Indiana Workforce now has 16 JAG Programs in schools. Six programs began in middle and high schools this year. A list of participating schools with the newest schools indicated in bold print are below.

### Region 11 Participating Schools:

- Bosse High School - Evansville
- Gibson Southern High School - Fort Branch
- Princeton Community High School - Princeton
- Jasper High School - Jasper
- Southridge High School - Huntingburg
- Tell City High School - Tell City
- Mount Vernon High School - Mount Vernon
- Lincoln High School - Vincennes
- Pike Central High School - Petersburg
- **Perry Central Community School - Leopold**
- **Boonville High School - Boonville**
- **Wood Memorial High School - Oakland City**
- **George Rogers Clark Middle School - Vincennes**
- **South Spencer High School - Reo**
- **South Spencer Middle School - Reo**
- **Princeton Community Middle School - Princeton**



Outstanding Senior Kaitlyn Clark

Southwest Indiana Workforce JAG Manager Chrissy Ash says, "It's so much fun to see our students experience all the emotions as they competed – excited, scared, nervous—but most of all, proud of both themselves and each other. The hard work of these student was on full display as they showcased their talents, grew as leaders, and continued to take steps toward bright futures."

JAG is a state-based, national non-profit organization within the Indiana Department of Workforce Development (DWD). Region 11 counties include Vanderburgh, Posey, Pike, Perry, Gibson, Knox, Warrick, Spencer, and Dubois.

In Region 11, the JAG program started in the 2007-2008 school year at Vincennes Lincoln High School.

A JAG specialist in each school leads, guides, and encourages the students as they participate throughout the school year in a number of classroom activities and projects, including career presentations, creative solutions, critical thinking, public speaking, writing, and financial literacy. In addition to structured activities, the JAG specialists provide counseling, understanding, and encouragement.

Southwest Indiana Workforce is proud of the JAG Program throughout Region 11 and congratulates all the students for their hard work at this year's competitions.

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WE AIM TO GROW SOUTHWEST INDIANA'S WORKFORCE

The Southwest Indiana Workforce Board is comprised of business and community organization representatives in Southwest Indiana. The Board oversees the workforce development initiatives and the WorkOne Southwest offices in Dubois, Gibson, Knox, Perry, Pike, Posey, Spencer, Vanderburgh and Warrick counties.

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