



**MEDIA INFORMATION
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
May 14, 2014**

Jackson students excel during National BPA Competition

Jackson, Mich.— Two students from the Career Center’s Computer Programming course took their knowledge to the top level, as they participated in the Business Professionals of America (BPA) National Competition in Indianapolis earlier this month.

“Competing at BPA Nationals gives these students a chance to show off their hard work and knowledge,” said Stephen Keinath, programming instructor at the Career Center. “Making it to this level is an awesome achievement. They might not realize it now, but this experience will last a lifetime. It validates their efforts and opens a lot of doors.”

Dominic Nixon (senior, Western High School) continued all the way to the end, **earning first place in Computer Security.**

“It really is exciting, as I’ve researched and studied computer security for nearly five years” said Nixon, when asked about how winning the award felt. “There isn’t a better way to leave high school.”

Payton Dunning (senior, Hanover Horton) also competed, showing well in Computer Programming Concepts.

Both students intend to pursue an education in computer science upon graduation. While still deciding on which institution to attend, Nixon plans to study Cyber Security, while Dunning plans to head to Jackson College (followed by Michigan Tech) in pursuit of a degree in Computer Science.

The Jackson Area Career Center’s BPA club is offered as a benefit and option to students who are enrolled in either of the Computer Information Technology programs.

More about BPA:

Business Professionals of America is a national organization for high school, college and middle school students preparing for careers in business and information technology. The organization’s activities and programs complement classroom instruction by giving students practical experience through application of the skills learned at school.

#####

See below for photos and captions.

For more information

Steve Keinath
Programming Instructor
Jackson Area Career Center
(517) 990- 6627
steve.keinath@jcisd.org

Kim Medlock
Communications Coordinator
Jackson County Intermediate School District
(517) 768-5216
kim.medlock@jcisd.org



Photo, above (from left to right): Instructor Steve Keinath, Dominic Nixon, and Payton Dunning at the national BPA competition, held April 30-May 4, 2014.