Granada Hills Charter students show off their business acumen

May 3, 2017 - It turns out that Granada Hills Charter students are pretty business savvy, on top of being smart in the classroom!

Last month, a team of 13 GHC students competed at the annual DECA International Career Development Conference (ICDC), held in Anaheim – and they walked away with several top finishes. Keerthi Korisal won the Retail Business Simulation, with Akshay Allam finishing fourth. Korisal’s victory was GHC’s first ICDC championship. Ivan Tagarao made it to the semifinals of the Restaurant Business Simulation and a 10th place finish.

In a separate competition at the event, the duos of Alex Soronow and Stephanie Ruiz and Danalee Chew and Philip VanScoyk were top 16 finishers in the Stock Portfolio Competition. This competition pits the team’s mock stock market portfolios, as measured over a three-month period – in this case from September to December 2016. During that period, GHC’s stock picks beat the S&P 500 Index by 10.8%. Its five top teams, which competed in Anaheim, topped the S&P 500 Index by a whopping 25.2%!

Members of the other teams were Alex Arrellano and Bryan Goldstein, Julie Murillo and Frenchy Wane, and Daniel Springer.

The final team member at the competition, Bria Rosenberg, took part in the Financial Literacy Promotion Project.
“All of our students were super engaged throughout the conference,” said teacher Andrew Nelson, chair of GHC’s Career Tech Ed Department. “They have put in hundreds of hours of preparation over four years, so it’s great to see it pay off.”

DECA is focused on helping high school and college students prepare for careers in marketing, finance, hospitality and management. Its high school division has about 200,000 members in 3,500 schools and the college division has more than 15,000 members at 275 colleges and universities. About 18,000 high school students, business people and others gathered at the Anaheim conference.

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About Granada Hills Charter High School: Granada Hills Charter High School, the largest charter school in the nation, is an independent public school in the San Fernando Valley. A fiscally independent conversion charter school, Granada Hills Charter has a current student enrollment of approximately 4,650 and an annual student wait list of over 2,000. The School’s student body is considered one of the most diverse, with more than 40 languages other than English spoken at home and over 60 nationalities represented. Over 2,300 students are eligible for the National School Breakfast and Lunch Program. As a 501c3 non-profit benefit corporation, the School’s Governing Board is the legal entity overseeing all school policy and its $55 million operating budget. The school is ranked #1 “Best Charter High School in California,” #4 Most Diverse Public High School in California” and “#19 Standout School in America” by Niche.com in the 2017 Best Schools rankings.