



PRESS RELEASE

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Calvert Career and Technology Academy teacher, Rick Villano, named as the 2025 Maryland ACTE New Teacher of the Year by the Maryland Career and Technical Administrators (MCTA) chapter of the Association for Career and Technical Education (ACTE).

Rick Villano has been nothing short of transformational in his role as the Electricity Teacher at Calvert Career and Technology Academy, ensuring the success of a high-quality Career and Technical Education (CTE) program. Stepping into the position at a critical time when the program was at risk of being discontinued due to the lack of a qualified instructor, Rick immediately brought stability, expertise, and a renewed sense of purpose to the program.




In his first year, Rick achieved an extraordinary 100% graduation rate, coupled with a 100% post-graduation placement rate. These results reflect his ability to prepare students not only for successful completion of the program but also for seamless entry into the workforce or further training. His deep industry knowledge, honed over 40 years as an electrician with the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers (IBEW), ensures that his students receive training that is both relevant and rigorous, aligning with current industry standards and demands.

Rick's impact goes beyond the classroom. In his first year, he mentored a first-year student who earned second place at the SkillsUSA state competition, an impressive achievement that underscores Rick's ability to inspire excellence and develop talent at all levels of experience. His dedication to student success is evident in his individualized approach, fostering both technical proficiency and personal confidence.


Through his leadership, Rick has not only revitalized the electricity program at Calvert CTA but has also set a new benchmark for what a high-quality CTE program can achieve. His commitment to ensuring student success is a testament to the power of passionate, skilled educators in transforming both programs and lives.

Mr. Villano will move on to compete in the Northeast, United States ACTE Region I competition during the spring.

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