



## PRESS RELEASE

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**Cecil County teacher, Dominic Harris, named as the 2026 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).**

Mr. Dominic Harris, Technology and Engineering Teacher, has demonstrated exceptional leadership. His role as a Technology and Engineering educator for grades 6-8 is foundational to implementing high-quality CTE. He is responsible for delivering a curriculum that builds essential technical skills and problem-solving abilities from the ground up. Mr. Harris directly shapes early career awareness and pathways, aligning instruction with industry standards to prepare students for advanced CTE coursework and future high-skill, high-wage opportunities.

Since joining the faculty in his first year, Mr. Harris has been the epitome of an educator and leader. His contributions to implementing and innovating high-quality CTE are tangible. He has revitalized our middle school Technology and Engineering curriculum, ensuring it is not only standards-aligned but also rich in real-world problem-solving and essential employability skills. His unique certification as a Mediator is a perfect example of his innovative approach; he intentionally cultivates a classroom environment where students master technical concepts while simultaneously learning the collaborative communication and conflict-resolution skills vital for future careers.



Mr. Harris's leadership extends far beyond his classroom walls. He is a pivotal figure in his school's operational and instructional success, serving as the CCCTA Building Representative, Chair of the Faculty Advisory Committee, and Social Committee Chair. In these roles, he advocates tirelessly for CTE resources, fosters staff cohesion, and ensures our school-wide decisions support robust career pathways. His ability to build connections is further evidenced by his mentorship as an FCA Huddle Coach, where he guides students in developing the character and teamwork that complement their technical education.

In summary, Dominic Harris contributes to high-quality CTE not merely as an instructor but as a program leader, advocate, mentor, and system builder. He ensures curricular rigor through his direct teaching, fosters career-connected learning and essential skills through mentorship and unique certifications, champions equity and access, and works within professional structures to enhance the CTE field overall, creating a foundation for student achievement.

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

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