

2018 DECA International Career Development Conference Recap

Participants:

- Michael Leonard, Co-Advisor
- Claire Elko (12) [Travel and Tourism Team Decision Making Event](#)
- Sara Katonka (11) [Travel and Tourism Team Decision Making Event](#)
- Jada Khalil (11) [Human Resource Management Decision Making Event](#)
- Brittany Gallo (10) [Community Service Project](#)
- Cora Schaab (10) [Community Service Project](#)



Background

The International Career Development Conference (ICDC) is the highest level of academic competition in DECA. This year's conference saw 19,300 high school students converge on Atlanta to compete. ICDC drew students from all 50 states as well as Canada, Spain, Korea, China, Germany, and Guam.



Accomplishment

Claire Elko was recognized on stage at the new Mercedes Benz Stadium for scoring in the top 14 of 360 participants on Product Service Management Career Cluster Exam for Travel and Tourism Team Decision Making. Claire, a senior, will be attending UCLA in the fall.

[Click here to watch Claire on stage at Mercedes Benz Stadium](#)

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Experiences

While in Atlanta the students had several opportunities to extend their learning and have experiences that will contribute to forming them into well rounded young women. Some of the experiences include:

- [Stone Mountain Park](#)- Students traveled over 1,600 feet by sky car to reach the top of the largest granite formation in the United States. Students explored the three acre area atop the mountain before hiking the 1.3 mile trail to the bottom.
- [Ebenezer Baptist Church](#)- Students visited this historic Atlanta church where Rev. Martin Luther King Jr. served as Pastor.
- [The King Center](#)- Students deepened their understanding of Dr. King and his mission to improve the lives of African Americans and strive for racial equality through non violent protest.
- [The World of Coca Cola](#)- Students explored the multi-billion dollar Atlanta based Coca Cola. They learned the history and impact on the Atlanta community.
- [The Georgia Aquarium](#)- The Georgia Aquarium is the second largest aquarium in the world. Students had the opportunity to explore the world of thousands of species.
- [The DECA 5K for MDA](#)- The students ran 3.1 miles through downtown Atlanta in support of the Muscular Dystrophy Association.

