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## ***SANTA MARIA JOINT UNION HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT***

### **PRESS RELEASE**

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December 7, 2021

The Santa Maria Valley Chamber of Commerce (SMVCC), in partnership with the Santa Barbara County Education Office, recently selected SMHS 12<sup>th</sup> grader Nashali Vicente as Student of the Month for October/November in the Business & Finance and Information & Computer Technologies Pathway category.

The program, “Santa Maria Next”, highlights the career readiness training offered in high school pathways and recognizes students who are excelling in various pathways.

Vicente is currently serving as President of the SMHS Future Business Leaders of America Chapter (CTE Student National Organization) where she has been a four-year member. She is enrolled in both the Financial Services and Software, Systems & Development pathways. In addition, she is also enrolled in Web Design Programming, so she can double major in Computer Science and Economics when she attends a university.

Each day, she demonstrates standards of excellence as she assists her classmates with content and questions that provide deeper intellect with regards to the finance content discussed in class, according to Cindy Quaid, Business and Technology Department Chair.

“Nashali is genuinely excited to learn and gain new insight to so many aspects of business,” said Quaid, who nominated her. “She is currently learning to code a website and ranked in the top 1% of a 10-week simulation (Budget Challenge) in her Personal Finance course. She truly deserves recognition for her hard work and leadership.”

#### **In Business and Technology - Santa Maria High School offers three CTE Pathways:**

- ***Financial Services*** pathway; focusing on Accounting & Finance and Personal Finance
- ***Software, Systems & Development***; focusing on Web Design and Video Game Development
- ***Entrepreneurship - Self-Employment***; focusing on Professional Communication, Marketing/Student Store work experience and/or a **AHC Concurrent Business 101** course where students earn both high school and AHC credit.

*After completion of two courses in the pathway, students become “pathway completers” and are then eligible to receive a special recognition at graduation.*

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