



# MAINE TOWNSHIP HIGH SCHOOL SOUTH

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April, 2019

## 207's Best: Technology Leader/Innovator

Maine South is pleased to recognize Violet Kamienski as one of 207's Best in the area of Technology Leader/Innovator.

Violet loves to learn and explore. She loves to think about things in different ways and apply concepts to her life. Her parents have been the most influential people in her life and she wants to make them happy and proud every day. They have always been supportive and want her to be the best which means she needs to take her own path. Throughout her entire Maine South career, she has loved mathematics, science, and technology. Right now, she is converting a file into a virtual reality model for the building in civil engineering and architecture (CEA). Last year, in advanced CAD, she made a digital model of a traditional Chicago bungalow. She was finished early enough that she decided to submit the physical model as well. The physical model, which had 900 schools that had entered, received 2nd prize. The digital model was an honorable mention. She has taken AP B/C Calculus, Multi-variable Calculus, AP Physics 1, AP Environmental Science, AP Econ, PLTW (CEA and Intro to Engineering) and Advanced CAD, where she holds a CAD certification. She has played softball for four years where she's a pitcher and plays first base. She pitched 21 out of the 23 games last year and the team won Regionals and made it to the semi-sectional game. She is a member of NHS, Key Club, an Illinois State Scholar, Spanish Club, a Yearbook editor, and a student of the year in AP Physics and Accelerated Chemistry.

Violet's English 3 and Yearbook Advisor, Dr. Richard Jones, says, "I had the pleasure of teaching Violet Kamienski in English 3 last school year, and I found her to be among my strongest English 3 students--ever. Also, Violet is currently a member of my yearbook staff. Violet is a delight to have in class, as she is perceptive, focused, and even stoic. She's very much from a different era--that is, never on her smartphone and always attentive. She is quick to answer questions, and she is a generous participator in small groups. She shows leadership as well, and she took the lead on two major small-group projects, even, in fact, "picking up the slack" from students who underperformed."

Mr. Alex Stathakis, her Literature of Chicago teacher, says, "While I had limited opportunities to see Violet's innovation in technology, I certainly witnessed first hand the traits that make her a leader and innovator. Violet has a natural love of learning and seeks out as many opportunities as she can to grow as a person. Whether it is in the classroom, on the softball diamond, or in the yearbook office, Violet leads by example and challenges others to consider new perspectives. She is an ideal school citizen whose attitude and work ethic set her apart from her peers. Congratulations, Violet!"

Violet's AP Macro/Micro Economics teacher, Ms. Rachel Santucci, says, "I couldn't be happier that Violet is being recognized. She has a positive personality with incredible self discipline. She is genuine in her kindness and a pleasure to see everyday. Her work ethic is to be admired, she truly is a leader in our class. For good reason, she is favored by her peers! Violet is reliable, enthusiastic and always finds the patience to help a classmate in need."

Mr. Don Lee, Violet's Jr/Sr Fitness & Sport teacher, says "Violet was a wonderful student to have in class - engaged learner/participant, always gave her best effort, and was kind and thoughtful."

Mr. TJ Krause, Violet's Project Lead the Way Civil Engineering & Architecture ACC teacher, says "Violet is an outstanding role model for other students. Her work is always top notch, she is polite, and works well with others. It is a pleasure to have her in CEA this year. I expect we will be hearing great things about her in the future."

Violet's Counselor, Mrs. Stephanie Maksymiu, says "It's hard not to enjoy the rare person who loves rainy days, which in my opinion, is one of many reasons Violet is not only rare, but will be one of those memorable students that we (her teachers) will reminisce about in our old age. Teammates, classmates, and teachers alike benefit from her upbeat and encouraging personality; she works works well with others and is just an absolute pleasure to be around in any situation."

Ms. Kendra O'Halloran, Violet's Chemistry ACC teacher, says "In Accelerated Chemistry Violet proved to have a very analytical and scientific mind, earning the Science Honors award at the end of her sophomore year. She is without a doubt one of the most mature, conscientious and driven students I have had the pleasure to teach in recent years. Violet sets high expectations for herself and does all that it takes to meet them. She is talented both academically and athletically and is well-rounded in every sense of the word. Violet sets an example for other students not only through her strong work ethic and successes, but also through her compassionate and kind-hearted demeanor. What a worthy recipient of this honor!"

Violet's CAD-1 teacher, Mr. Bill Thieme, says "Violet was an exceptional student her sophomore year in my CAD-1 class. She excelled in both the mechanical and architectural portion of the class. Violet was always polite and worked extremely hard."

Mrs. Erin Grimm, Violet's AP Calculus BC teacher, says "Violet is a positive, dedicated and engaged student. She takes advantage of every learning opportunity and does not waiver in effort or sense of purpose. She has excellent reasoning skills and confidently puts them to use when navigating new and challenging situations. Violet displays curiosity, interest and enjoyment in her learning.

Violet wants to go into civil engineering and had an internship this year at an engineering firm in Rosemont where she worked on plans for local municipalities. Her Internship Site, Christopher Burke Engineering, says "Violet is an exceptional, well above average high school intern. She has demonstrated a very high level of technical and analytical aptitude." Violet received "Exceeded Expectations" in every category of her internship evaluation. Due to this internship, she wants to explore civil engineering and is considering a number of schools for this area. She has given so much to Maine South and we could not be more proud of her!

Sincerely,



Dr. Ben Collins  
Principal  
Maine South High School