

## WV Governor Proclaims February HSTA Month

On Tuesday, January 31, 2012, Health Science Technology Academy (HSTA) celebrated their Day at the Legislature with events that included an awards ceremony at the capitol in Charleston and a special meeting with Gov. Earl Ray Tomblin.

Gov. Tomblin signed a proclamation on Jan. 27th officially declaring February as HSTA Month. HSTA was recognized as national "model created in West Virginia by West Virginians that networks globally to provide 21st century skills necessary for success while ensuring the well-being of future generations of West Virginians, our economic stability and our quality of life, making West Virginia a great place to live and work."

The noon-time awards ceremony honored one outstanding student from each of the 14 HSTA regions. Chosen from McDowell County was Caitlyn Ball for academic accomplishments as a HSTA student and dedicated ser-

vice to the McDowell County HSTA Local Governing Board. Presenting the award were Senator John Pat Fanning, Delegates Clif Moore, Daniel Hall, and Linda Goode Phillips.

Since 1994 HSTA has reached out to 9th -12th grade under-represented students to support them through high school and college and follow them to professional school to ultimately help prepare them for a career in the health sciences.

The goals of the program continue to be to increase the college going rate among under-represented students in the West Virginia; to improve science and math education; to empower communities through leadership development of their youth; and ultimately, to increase the number of health care providers in West Virginia's currently underserved rural communities. Ninety-seven percent of HSTA students attend college and ninety-four percent graduate from college.



Pictured above L-R are: Delegate Daniel Hall; Tammy Grubb, HSTA Program Specialist/Field Site Coordinator; Delegate Clif Moore; Senator John Pat Fanning; Award Recipient Caitlyn Ball; Ed Evans, HSTA Teacher; Delegate Linda Goode Phillips. Also in attendance but not pictured Senator Truman Chafin. (Submitted by: Tammy Grubb)