

To:

- State Officer Team
- Advisory Board
- RI Association of CTE Directors
- Technical Committee Chairs
- Professional Members
- CTE Staff at RIDE

November 2, 2011



From: Joshua Klemp, Association Director

## News from the Director

The SkillsUSA RI Championships are just around the corner. This year is projected to be the largest year in our championship's history. We are starting some new events this year, but none are gaining more excitement than our "Exploratory and First Year Career and Technical Showcase". This event was designed by a committee lead by Chariho Advisor, Jill Shurtleff and I. Many states use this

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### Important Dates

- **November 7th** - HVAC Contest Meeting  
4 pm, New England Tech—Post Road
- **November 8th** - CTE Regs. Public Hearing  
4 pm, East Prov. High School
- **November 9th** - State Officer Meeting  
4 pm, CCRI - Warwick
- **November 14th** - Photography Contest Meeting  
4 pm, CCRI –Warwick Room 0072
- **November 15th** - Cosmetology Contest Meeting  
4 pm , CCRI –Warwick Room 1134

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event as tool for recruitment and retention. This is a great opportunity to engage more students in the competitive events program. All projects are judged to a standard, so there will not be a single first, second or third place. The Showcase will be open to the public after judging has been completed. We feel this would be a good way to incorporate middle school students; inviting them to tour the showcase and possibly participate in the 2013 Championships. Attached to this update email are the rules for the "Exploratory and First Year Career and Technical Showcase". Please let me know if you have any questions.

- October 26th was the second of four public hearings on the proposed CTE regulations held at Coventry High School. I spoke on behalf of our members. It was great to see so many instructors get up and share their concerns. For me, the best part was hearing from alumnus Sam Greene. A graduate from the Warwick CTC, Sam won the National Silver Medal in the Internet-working competition back in 2009. Sam spoke about the opportunities afforded

to him from his involvement at the C&T center and his membership in SkillsUSA. His testimony was moving and I know he is only one of many.

- Approximately, 125 students and teachers participated in our Annual Fall Leadership conference last Friday. Student leaders learned more about SkillsUSA RI and how to run their school chapters. The day started with a networking activity organized by the state officers. We then continued the day with the students completing workshops on teambuilding and time management. Both are important for being able to develop a strong program of work. After a break for lunch, chapters then started to tackle the seven aspects of the SkillsUSA Program of Work. It was a great day for the students and they all walked out ready to complete the work they had started. The surveys we all positive and will be shared at the next advisory board meeting.

- Last Saturday, October 29th SkillsUSA RI participated in a Youth Charette sponsored by the RI Department of Education and the Business Innovation Factory.

SkillsUSA Rhode Island had four students and alumni representing the organization (Rachel Wilkinson and Forrest Smith (34th Officer Team), Michelle Tente (35th Officer Team), and our current State Reporter, Kennia Castillo from the Providence Career and Tech. Academy). The students were tasked with the mission of designing a new model for how we deliver education. I was placed at the "kids" table (a table of adults) where there was some lively conversation with some of my colleagues in education. I was so proud of how each of the students and alumni presented themselves and the organization. At the end of the day each group had to present on how their schools would operate. There was no surprise to see that CTE was a component of all of the schools. SkillsUSA RI looks forward to being a part of this continued conversation.

- We had our first real taste of winter last Sunday. However, the snow and cold did not stop SkillsUSA RI students from participating in the

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annual “Making Strides Against Breast Cancer Walk” sponsored by the American Cancer Society. Early estimates suggest the team raised close to \$2,000 and I counted about 25 walkers on Sunday; however, it is hard to calculate because participants showed up anytime between 8:30 and 10:30. My belief is that we had more people there and were not counted by me. If your school was there please send me an email so that I can get an accurate count. The Coventry Chapter made awesome t-shirts and I have already heard chapters talking about plans for next year. Thank you to all those who participated.

- Congratulations to Rich Abel, a Computer Technology Instructor, at the Chariho CTC. Rich’s name was entered into a drawing for a \$50 Lowe’s gift card because of an increase in his program’s enrollment. Rich will also receive \$85 worth of SkillsUSA educational materials. Congratulations, Rich!

- November 1st was the third of four public hearings on the proposed CTE regulations held at Davies in Lincoln. State Secretary, Erin Blackmar and State Historian, Kayla Melo spoke on behalf of SkillsUSA RI members. Both students did an out-

standing job representing us. Erin spoke of the personalization she receives from her instructors and Kayla spoke of the positive experiences she has had through her program and SkillsUSA. Both students spoke in opposition for the career cluster component to the regulations. Next week is the last public hearing at East Providence High School beginning at 4 pm in the auditorium.

That is all for this edition. Thank you so much for all you do to support our students and programs.

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## Public Hearings for the Proposed CTE Regulations

### *All Stakeholders*



The purpose of these regulations is to revise and update the 1990 Regulations for Career and Technical Education to reflect the state and federal changes in Career and Technical Education. These regulations detail a comprehensive Career and Technical Education system that ensures the quality of existing programming and promotes the expansion of opportunities for student access and innovation in CTE preparation programming.

The proposed regulations and the summary of non-technical differences between proposed and existing regulations are available for public inspection in person at the RI Department of Elementary and Secondary Education, 255 Westminster Street, Providence, RI requested by email at [Angela.Teixeira@ride.ri.gov](mailto:Angela.Teixeira@ride.ri.gov) or by calling Angela Teixeira at 401-222-8435.

In the development of the proposed Career and Technical Regulations, consideration was given to: (1) alternative approaches; (2) overlap or duplication with other statutory and regulatory provisions; and (3) significant economic impact on small business. No alternative approach, duplication, or overlap was identified based upon available information.

Public hearings on the proposed regulations will be held on:

**- November 8th 4:00 pm East Providence High School—Auditorium**

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*Advisors and  
Technical  
Committee  
Chairs*



## SkillsUSA Rhode Island Championships Contest Meetings

Technical Chairs please let me know if you think we should have a meeting for your contest. Advisors please reach out to your instructors to see if they wish to meet. You can email me with your requests and I will set up the meeting. I can be reached at [jklemp@ccri.edu](mailto:jklemp@ccri.edu).

Please note that some contest meetings have been scheduled and they are listed on the front of this update.

*Advisory  
Board  
Action Item*



## Nominating Committee Seeking Names

Advisory Board will be holding elections during the December 7th meeting. The following offices will be up for a vote:

Board Chair  
Vice Chair  
Secretary  
Treasurer

Anyone interested in running for a position should contact Nominating Chair, Colleen Murray so that your name can be included on the ballot. We will also accept names from the floor on November 7th. Colleen can be emailed at: [Colleen-Murray@newportrischools.org](mailto:Colleen-Murray@newportrischools.org)

You can also contact the office at [jklemp@ccri.edu](mailto:jklemp@ccri.edu) if you have any questions about roles and responsibilities.

*Advisor and  
School Director  
Action Item*



## Instructor Email Addresses

The state office would like to collect email addresses for all instructors. This is an effort to keep build a stronger line of communication between the state office and our professional members.

Please send a list of all current instructors and their email addresses to the state office.

Please email your list to [jklemp@ccri.edu](mailto:jklemp@ccri.edu). Thank you so much for your cooperation.

*All  
Stakeholders  
Action Item*



## **SkillsUSA Rhode Island Advisor of the Year and Career and Technical Educator of the Year Recognition.**

Each year SkillsUSA Rhode Island recognizes an advisor for their work over the past year. The advisor of the year is nominated by his/her school director or fellow advisor. You will find the application attached to this update email. The winner of the Advisor of the Year award will receive a plaque as well as a \$100 gift card sponsored by Lowe's.

In addition, he/she's name will be submitted for the regional advisor of the year award which includes a cash prize for the winner and their respective school.

Our current Advisor of the Year is Lynn Swain of the Regional Career and Technical Center at Coventry High School.

The Career and Technical Educator of the Year award was developed two years ago as a way to recognize an instructor or administrator who has demonstrated outstanding support for SkillsUSA RI and Career and Technical Education initiatives. Anyone can nominate someone for this award. You will find the application attached to this email. The winner of this award will receive a \$100 gift card sponsored by Lowe's and a plaque for their office or classroom.

Our current CTE Educator of the Year award is Michael Haynes, a Construction Technology Instructor at the Warwick Area Career and Technical Center.

The deadline for this years nomination is **December 1st**. All nominations should be sent to [jklemp@ccri.edu](mailto:jklemp@ccri.edu).



## Call for SkillsUSA Talent

Do you have a talented singer in your state who would enjoy a special performance opportunity? SkillsUSA seeks talented singers for the opening ceremony or awards ceremony during the 2012 SkillsUSA National Conference. We are looking for a SkillsUSA student member to sing the national anthem or another patriotic song appropriate for opening a general session. Singers may sing acapella or to a pre-recorded instrumental track. Send in all audition videotapes on DVD, postmarked by **February 1, 2012** to: Heidi Ambrose, SkillsUSA, 14001 SkillsUSA Way, Leesburg, VA 20176.

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## National Conference Pin and T-shirt Contest

**February 1, 2012** is the deadline for the entries to the SkillsUSA National Conference Pin and T-shirt competition. This event is open to all paid student members of SkillsUSA. What a great way to have a student and advisor from your state recognized in front of a national audience. Paid registration to nationals, a plaque for the teacher and student, plus a school grant to the advisor of the winning student will be announced at a later date. Rules are in the membership kit and are also posted on the SkillsUSA Web site at:

<http://www.skillsusa.org/compete/other.shtml>.

Questions may be directed to Heidi Ambrose at 703-737-0615 or to [hambrose@skillsusa.org](mailto:hambrose@skillsusa.org).

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## BE HEARD, BE SEEN, BE YOU AND BE MORE (BMOR) THROUGH THE 26 SECONDS CAMPAIGN

Did you know that every 26 seconds a young person in the United States drops out of high school? You can help turn that statistic around by participating with SkillsUSA in the 26 Seconds Campaign. By doing so, you can win prizes, scholarships and help SkillsUSA and the student drop-out crisis in the process.

Here is what to do:

Help take back the stat by taking the pledge to graduate via the BMOR Project (direct link: [http://www.facebook.com/26seconds?sk=app\\_270882582923170](http://www.facebook.com/26seconds?sk=app_270882582923170)) and on Facebook it is [facebook.com/26seconds](http://facebook.com/26seconds). When you pledge, **select SkillsUSA as your affiliation**. Then, return to the BMOR Project regularly to participate in the new activities that launch on the 26<sup>th</sup> of each month. Not only will you be eligible to win prizes, you can also help SkillsUSA. The organization with the highest number of graduation pledges and activity participants per month wins a grant.

**Right now, in addition to a chance to win monthly prizes** when you participate, you'll also receive a 26 Seconds T-shirt just for pledging. The online activities are fun, easy and show you how to channel your interests into a future after graduation. The **grand prize is an end-of-the-year celebration** that one lucky student will bring to their school and community. **But, you must complete at least five of the activities to be eligible for the grand prize.**

Plus, you can share videos, photos, projects (like SkillsUSA's Student2Student Program), artwork and creative writings on the Facebook page. **By doing so, your creativity may also be chosen to be featured on [www.26seconds.com](http://www.26seconds.com).** Shine a light on yourself, your school and the importance of high school graduation.

Visit 26 Seconds.com and the Facebook page to see what students like you are doing and share your story.

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