

To:

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

November 23, 2011



From: Joshua Klemp, Association Director

News from the Director

Thanksgiving is the time of the year where I, and probably most of you, reflect on what we are thankful for in both our personal and professional lives. I know that as the

Director of our organization, I am thankful for all of our stakeholders that volunteer their time and expertise, working with me to developing quality programming for our

members. Especially, our volunteers from business, industry and education that come together to evaluate our students' skills. I am so

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Important Dates

- **November 23** - Marine Service Technology Contest meeting - New England Tech. - 4pm
- **November 24** - Happy Thanksgiving
- **November 30** - Graphic Communications Industry of RI, SkillsUSA Fundraiser (more in this issue)
- **December 5** - RI CTE Directors Meeting - New England Tech.- 12:30pm
- **December 7** - SkillsUSA RI Advisory Board Meeting - CCRI- Warwick - 4 pm

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excited for our new format for the Championships and all of the great things we are doing in the CTE community.

- Congressman Langevin has recently taken an interest in our Advisor of the Year and Outstanding Career and Technical Educator Award. I am working with his local office to have the Congressman participate in the awarding of these two honors. Please get your nominations to me as soon as possible.

- On November 7th, we finalized plans for our new HVAC contest. Our new contest chair is Brian Sullivan. Brian was an educator in Massachusetts and had several students compete at the national level and one student that received a medal. The contest will be held at New England Tech.

- The Coventry High School SkillsUSA chapter held an assembly on SkillsUSA. The assembly was not mandatory and they had 300 students in attendance. The assembly was lead by the student leaders and I was so impressed with their ability to stand and speak in front of their peers. I was

happy to address the group and highlight some of the chapter accomplishments from this past year. The CTE Director, Lori Ferguson, also addressed the students on the opportunities that SkillsUSA offers. Great job to advisors, Lynn Ann Swain and Roberta Millette for organizing such a well attended event!

- The final public hearing on the draft CTE regulations was held at East Providence High School on November 8th. State Officer Kayla Melo spoke on behalf of the officer team. In addition, several of her fellow classmates and SkillsUSA RI members from the center spoke on the regulations. Thank you to all that were able to attend and those of you that got up and spoke either in favor of, or opposed, to the regulations.

- I have had some meetings with The Rhode Island Nurses Institute Middle College, they are a new charter school in Downtown Providence. They have decided that they are going to enroll all of their students into SkillsUSA. I am really happy to have them on board. Please take a moment to welcome our newest advisor,

Colleen Hitchings
(chitchings@rinimc.org).

- Brandaris Maritime is a business in Wickford that, in addition to running their business, does marine service technology training for at risk youth in our state. Recently, they contacted me because they are interested in using the Skill Connect Assessment as their end of training assessment. I was invited to take a tour of the nautical worksite and was able to hear more about their training. The next step is working with them to develop the best way to use the assessment for their program.

- Judith Kaye, from Lifespan, came to CCRI last week to address the SkillsUSA and DECA chapters about ethics and diversity in the workplace. Judy is a professional trainer and consultant on the subject. She was great with the students and very engaging. If you are interested in having Judy talk to your students, just send me an email.

- We held our cosmetology contest cluster meeting last

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week. It was great to have the educators and teachers working together to improve the quality of the contests. Big thank you to our contest chairs Jonette Aurelio from United Beauty, Paula McCarthy from J.C. Penny Salon and Kerin Belisle from Supercuts.

- The final results have come in for the “Making Strides Against Breast Cancer Walk” and when you combine our online fundraising campaign with what was raised offline we come in at just about

\$3,500. That is more money than last year. Big thank you to everyone that raised money. Especially, to the students at Coventry, Cranston and Providence for raising the most money; respectively.

- We had approximately 125 designs submitted for the annual pin design contest. The state officer team voted on the designs and we managed to cut that number down to 35. The advisory board will vote on these finalists at our next meeting. Thank you to all

of the schools that participated in the contest.

- Our state officer team has increased. Nury Serpa will represent Davies on the state officer team. Nury is a freshman in the Exploratory program right now. However, she has a strong interest in the Graphic Communications program.

That is all for now. Thank you all again for everything that you do for our students. I hope that you and your family have a safe and Happy Thanksgiving.

National Perkins Update!



National Perkins Update from ACTE

Recently, the CTE funding allocation that went to school districts on October 1 was unexpectedly reduced. Due to unprecedented language in the continuing resolution that passed in September, programs that receive advanced appropriations saw their funding cut by 1.5 percent. For CTE, Perkins was cut by \$12 million.

ACTE and other education groups have heard from the Office of Management and Budget and the Department of Education that if the new continuing resolution, expected to be enacted later this week, does not include language on reductions to advanced appropriations, then the funds cut in October will be reinstated to states and then to school districts.

ACTE has been working with Capitol Hill and the education community to remove that language from the bill, but we need your help!

The American Association of School Administrators (AASA) and ACTE have worked together on a form that will help you share the impact of these recent cuts with your Members of Congress.

To take action go to the following link:

<http://www.acteonline.org/ctepolicywatchblog.aspx?id=16925&None%20-%20Use%20Default=3512>

Thank you for all of your work. For additional information on the 1.5 percent cut, please see this letter that ACTE and AASA sent to Capitol Hill and this letter from the Committee for Education Funding.

*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, his/her'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.

*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 December 7th. Colleen can be emailed at: Colleen-Murray@newportrischools.org

You can also contact the office at 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. Thank you so much for your cooperation.

*National
Perkins
Update cont.*



Efforts for Perkins Paying Off; Still Work To Do

The House and Senate Appropriations Committees have released their allocations for Fiscal Year (FY) 2012. Due to the advocacy efforts of the Association for Career and Technical Education (ACTE), NASDCTEc and the entire CTE field, Perkins funding has been maintained in both bills. This is a great victory for the CTE community. However, level-funding for Perkins is not "in the bag," according to ACTE. Negotiations on how to complete work on the appropriations bills are still taking place and we have to remind Congress how crucial Perkins funds are to our students, communities and businesses.

Read the full message by going to the SkillsUSA advocacy site, and we encourage you to send a letter to your senators and representative. Log on to the SkillsUSA website at www.skillsusa.org. Then, click [about us](#), [advocacy and legislative](#) and [advocacy site](#). [Fill in your zip code](#) and then click on [compose your own message](#), and please construct a letter to send to your senators and representative to encourage their support of Perkins and other education and workforce programs.

*Advisor
Action Item*



SCHOLARSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

There are several scholarships opportunities available for students on the SkillsUSA website. Please pass the word.

- National Technical Honor Society Scholarship (four @ \$1,000 each)
Deadline, **April 1, 2012**
<http://www.skillsusa.org/students/nths.shtml>
- Sharon Melton Myers Memorial Scholarship (\$500)
Deadline, **April 30, 2012**
<http://www.skillsusa.org/downloads/PDF/scholarships/smmscholarship.pdf>
- Alumni Merit Scholarship (two @ \$500 each)
Deadline, **May 15, 2012**
<http://www.skillsusa.org/supporters/alumnischolar.shtml>



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.

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.

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) and on Facebook it is 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 26th 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.** 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.

*All
Stakeholders
Action Item*



NATIONAL OFFICE ANNOUNCES WEBINARS COMING IN 2012

Three national web conferences are scheduled for 2012. It's your chance to hear from and communicate with national staff. We'll provide some training and information on professional development, some updating and motivating advice and tips on being a national leader.

Please join us for one or all of these events. Invite students, officer teams, key advisors, fellow instructors, alumni and others.

Value of Professional Development - January 18, 2012, 1 p.m. (EST)

No matter who you are or what you do, professional skills can make or break you. Business and industry look for quality employability skills, not just technical skills. Find out why this set of skills is important to your future success.

URL: <http://web.ganconference.com/?meeting=4471090>

Telephone: 888-222-0475

Attendee code: 5692952

SkillsUSA Week: Skilled and Motivated - February 7, 2012, 1 p.m (EST)

Use this webinar to help kick off SkillsUSA Week celebrations. Hear from your SkillsUSA leaders on the state of the organization. Listen to a special guest speaker on what it means to be "Skilled and Motivated" which is this year's theme. You will also have the opportunity to ask questions.

URL: <http://web.ganconference.com/?meeting=1736891>

Telephone: 888-222-0475

Attendee code: 5692952

So You Want to Be a National Officer? - March 14, 2012, 1 p.m (EST)

Have a student you think would make a good national leader? Have they wanted to run for a national SkillsUSA office but weren't sure how? Then this webinar is for those advisors or students! Our experts will provide an overview of the national officer candidate procedures and national officer responsibilities. They will also get to hear first-hand experience from a current national officer.

URL: <http://web.ganconference.com/?meeting=8705179>

Telephone: 888-222-0475

Attendee code: 5692952
