

To:

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

September 23, 2011

From: Joshua Klemp, State Director



State Director's Report

Advocacy at its BEST!

SkillsUSA held its' Washington Leadership Training Institute from September 17th-21st. We had six state officers at-

tend along with new advisor Roberta Millette and myself. It was probably one of the best WLTI's that I attended ever. The students we really on their game and

represented our state well. We flew in Saturday for the opening dinner and the keynote speakers were the

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Important Dates

- October 5- Advisory Board Meeting
3:30 pm CCRI- Warwick
- October 12 - State Officer Meeting
4:00 pm CCRI-Warwick
- October 28 - Fall Leadership Conference
8:30 - 1:30 CCRI-Warwick
- October 30 - Making Strides Against Breast
Cancer Walk 8:00 am Roger Williams Park
- October 31 - Pin Designs Due

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founders of an organization called “Purple Heart Homes”. Purple Heart Homes works to support our veterans. Their story was inspiring and a great way to kick off WLTI.

We left our hotel early Sunday morning and travelled to our nation’s capitol. There we took a tour of some significant monuments, including the new Martin Luther King Jr. Memorial. After touring we went to the Holocaust Museum and then rounded out the day with a cookout and community service project at the National SkillsUSA center.

Monday the students spent all day in trainings that would help them with their presentations to Congress. In preparation all of our officer had to complete a four page essay on Perkins along with a brochure and Power-Point on how Perkins supports their respective schools. Roberta and I spent the day in a series of panel discussions about Perkins and SkillsUSA news.

Tuesday was a long day for the team. We had a special guest that joined us on all of our congressional visits. Mr. Russ Hoffbauer is the President of the SkillsUSA Board of Directors and an executive with State Farm Insurance. State President,

Dakotah Bowen, opened all of our meetings with an introduction as to why we were there. She was both articulate and poised and it set a great tone for each of our meetings. Senator Whitehouse pledged to “make sure that Perkins is not cut again and maybe even increased”, Senator Reed pledged “we will make sure there are no more cuts to Perkins”. Each Senator spent over a half hour with the group.

For our afternoon meetings we met with Kirtley Fischer of Rep. Langevin’s office and Chris Bizzacco of Rep. Cicillines’s office. Both offices pledged their support for Perkin’s. Rep. Langevin is the co-chair of the Congressional CTE caucus formed by ACTE. He joined the caucus as chair last year at the request of our state officer team. The caucus is also joined by Rep. Cicilline.

Following our visits, we went to Arlington National Cemetery and laid a wreath at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier. Then we stopped by the 9/11 Pentagon Memorial for a moment of reflection. The day ended with dinner and an evening social to give the student a chance to relax after an intense couple of days.

On our last day, Wednesday, students had a final interview for their statesman award, the highest leadership award that can be earned in SkillsUSA. I am happy to say that all of the attending officers completed the requirements and accepted their awards.

The team did an outstanding job and I am so proud of them. Please feel free to sit down with them to hear first hand about their experiences.

Highlights for the Week

Delia Nelson, Advisor for East Providence has decided to step down as her school’s co-advisor. Delia is expecting a second child and will be on maternity leave in the spring. I wish Delia and her family the best of luck!

Stepping in for Delia will be Automotive Instructor, Joe Barroso. I am very excited Joe will be joining the team. Please add his email to your address books. jbarroso@epschoolsri.com

The State Officer tea voted to move forward with the final changes to the SkillsUSA RI constitution. We will have a final vote on the changes at

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the Advisory Board meeting
on October 5th.

I will be meeting with
England Tech in the next
couple of weeks to work out
the early details of a new
HVAC/R contest for the
2012 SkillsUSA
Championships.

That is all for now. Thank
you so much for all of your
support for SkillsUSA
Rhode Island. Please contact
me at jklemp@ccri.edu if
you have any questions.

*Advisor
Action Item*



High School Membership Rosters Due– October 5

All membership should be submitted electronically this year. All schools should have received and excel spreadsheet from the state office. We tried this last year and it worked out well. There are 4 sections to the membership spreadsheet.

Sheet 1 Guide- ChapterNam (School), TrainingProgram, Student First Name,
Student Last Name, Graduation Year

Sheet 2 Guide - Gender Information. All I need is the total number for each.

Sheet 3 Guide - Race Information. All I need is the total number for each

Sheet 4 Guide - Disability/LEP. All I need is the total number for each.

At the end of the year I will also need to know how many of our members from each chapter have graduated. I only need to collect the above information for the High School Division. This is all information I need to report to the Department of Education.

Nominating Committee Seeking Names

*Advisory
Board
Action Item*



Advisory Board will be holding elections during the October 5th meeting. The following elections 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 October 5th. Colleen can be emailed at: ColleenMurray@newportrischools.org

You can also contact the office at jklemp@ccri.edu if you have any questions about roles and responsibilities.

*Advisor
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.

Making Strides Against Breast Cancer Walk

For the past three years SkillsUSA Rhode Island has participated in the American Cancer Society's Breast Cancer Walk. We have raised closed to \$6,000 since our participation. We will meet at the Roger Williams Park, Temple to Music for 7:45am. All extra money can be turned in at that point and we will take a group shot of our walkers. If you would like to give online, please use the following link to go to our team page.

<http://main.acsevents.org/goto/SkillsUSARI>

Fall Leadership Conference– October 28th

The SkillsUSA Rhode Island Fall Leadership is an opportunity for your student leaders to network and learn more about the SkillsUSA RI program. We will begin the day with a networking icebreaker that will encourage the students to meet each other. After our networking time, we will then do some chapter team building and time management.

At the conclusion of the conference, chapters should be leaving with the foundation for a strong program of work. Registration will be first come, first serve. There is a limit of 100 seats available for the conference. Lunch will be provided. The dress code for the conference is business casual. No one should wear jeans or t-shirts. State officers are free.

The conference theme is:

SkillsUSA: Champions at Work - Skilled and Motivated.

Participants should consider the following:

How participation in SkillsUSA increases student motivation for success?

How do SkillsUSA partnerships with business and industry ensure that students are prepared for tomorrow's workplace?

What opportunities does SkillsUSA provide to celebrate and honor student achievement?

How does involvement in SkillsUSA keep students in school?

How does participation in SkillsUSA motivate students to pursue their career dreams?

Registration is Due Monday, October 24th.

SkillsUSA State Pin Design Contest

The annual SkillsUSA Rhode Island Pin Design Contest has over one hundred entries each year. The winning pin designs will be used as part of the SkillsUSA Rhode Island Championships and for use at the National Skills and Leadership Conference in June of 2012. The design rules are simple, please follow them exactly to allow fairness in the judging of the designs.

1. All entries must be rendered in color (full color or two colors)
2. Preferably, entries will be created in a design software package such as Illustrator, Photoshop or freehand. Entries may also be hand-drawn, painted or rendered in colored pencils or markers.
3. All entries should be submitted with two versions of the art on a single page. The larger version is for judging. The smaller version is to show what the actual pin will look like. The larger version must be approximately 7 inches wide x 7 inches high for judging. The smaller version should be approximately 1 inch x 1 inch tall to show how the completed pin will look. Both versions should be identical. All wording on the pin must reference the name of the state.
4. The SkillsUSA emblem or SkillsUSA logo (or elements of either) should not appear on the pin.
5. All copyright laws must be followed in the creation of the design.
6. Contestants should include a paragraph or two covering the following:
 - a. The design process.
 - b. Why he/she feels it represents their state.
 - c. What are its unique qualities?
 - d. Why would other students/advisors want to wear the pin?
7. The student who designs the pin selected as the “state pin” will be asked to go on to the national conference to represent Rhode Island in the Pin Design Demonstration Contest.
8. The categories are Judge Pin, Competitor Pin, and State Pin.
9. All designs must be turned into by **October 31, 2011**. Submissions must be emailed to the SkillsUSA RI State Director, Joshua Klemp, at jklemp@ccri.edu. Submitted designs become the property of SkillsUSA Rhode Island. SkillsUSA RI reserves the right to manipulate any submitted design. However, the original designer will get credit.

If you have any questions please contact the SkillsUSA Rhode Island office at 825-2316 or via email jklemp@ccri.edu. Thank you for your support!

**National
SkillsUSA
Corner****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 a capella 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. Questions may be directed to Heidi at 703-737-0610 or hambrose@skillsusa.org.

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.

Lowe's Community Improvement and Community Rebuilding Grants and State Farm Project Ignition Grants

Lowe's Community Improvement Grant - This category is for those schools who are proposing a project that will focus on benefiting their local community or school. In choosing grant winners for the upcoming year, projects that focus on a local need vs. want will stand a greater chance of receiving funding. For this category, a maximum of \$10,000 per grant winner will be awarded. For more information and application please go to www.skillsusa.org/educators/lowes.shtml.

Lowe's Community Rebuilding Grant - This category brings grant project opportunities to a new level in both funding and building leadership skills! Proposed projects in this category will combine the efforts of two SkillsUSA Chapters partnering and reaching out to help a community or school that has been drastically affected by a natural disaster. One of the partnering chapters may be the beneficiary of the project. The maximum grant in this category will be \$25,000 (per project). For more information and application please go to www.skillsusa.org/educators/lowes.shtml.

State Farm Project Ignition Grant- The National youth Leadership Council and State Farm are pleased to announce the availability of \$2,000 Project Ignition grants for public high school students and teachers to address teen driver safety through service-learning. For more information or to apply, go to <http://www.sfprojectignition.com>.
