



**Zachary Kramar**  
**President**

*Advisor:*  
*Mrs. Zwart*

The last month for the New York State SkillsUSA State Officer team has been a busy one. Each state officer had to work with their partner for their breakout room at Fall Leadership to make a schedule and activity plans. Alongside that, each duo had to make a materials list and give it to our State Director, Mrs. McCloskey in order for her to have enough time to purchase the materials so the teams could have them for their rooms. The state officers, already with a decent sized workload, have also been completing tasks at their individual chapters. My chapter at the Southern Adirondack Education Center recently held our open house, and at that open house we had different people manning tables in order to talk about SkillsUSA, what it stands for, and why their students should join or participate in it. Our chapter is also preparing to elect chapter officers for this year, as well as finding students who could go to the Fall Leadership Conference and possibly have a future in SkillsUSA.

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**Emily Wagner**  
**Secretary**

*Advisor:*  
*Mrs. Essig*

For the month of October we had our Area 1 conference. The conference in my opinion went well. Area 1 did a great job at adapting to what was thrown at us that day and to that I am very proud, we demonstrated the SkillsUSA Framework essential Element of Adaptability and Flexibility to see our Area 1 meeting was successful. I hope that we were able to grab the attention of the kids who attended to make them want to be an active member in our organization. Something I would also like to mention is the potential of some of the kids I saw in that room. They all seemed engaged and had prior knowledge of what SkillsUSA was and what our mission was. I feel like I'm starting to get more comfortable and confident in facilitating it gave me a confidence boost that I really needed before fall leadership.

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**Angelina Vargas**  
**Treasurer**

*Advisor:*  
*Mrs. Brissing*

Not Submitted

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**Skylar Albin**

**Reporter**

*Advisor:*

*Mr. Stratton*

During our September officer meeting, our local chapter officer team decided that me and fellow chapter officer, Maggie O'Donnell, would facilitate our October meetings. During October we would focus on Technical skills and Grounded in Academics. On October 2nd at our chapter meeting for our members we facilitated a guess who activity. This activity runs the same as the board game, with the exception of instead of guessing people, they guess professions, using Job Specific Skills. Through this activity students talked and engaged with one another to discover and explore specific skills related to professions. At our chapter officer meetings this month we talked about ways to start fundraising and get more volunteers for The Making Strides for Breast Cancer walk. Several of our chapter members, chapter officers, advisors and our principal participated. It was a cold, rainy day, but a really fulfilling one to know all our donations were going to such a great cause.

On October 26th we had our last chapter meeting of the month. Here we facilitated the can you be moldable activity. We gave each group a container of dried playdough and gave prompts to try to create the Statue Of Liberty with the dried playdough. We repeated the activity with fresh playdough. The members seemed to have a great time with this activity, and through our debriefing questions we discussed the importance of professional development and being flexible as a skill employers want you to have. Our Area II kick-off was held this month also. My BOCES hosted the event and we had roughly 45-50 students participate. Dalayna DeVoe, Gianna Spartano and myself facilitated the student event, highlighting several activities that were not only fun but also focused on the SkillsUSA Framework.



**Alexander Galfo**

**Parliamentarian**

*Advisor:*

*Mr. Valentine*

During this month in my chapter we held a fundraiser/ chicken barbecue and it went great. This fundraiser was to help raise money for our schools SkillsUSA chapter. Starting at the end of September we started this fundraiser and sent out 100 tickets in my class the first week alone and they all came back within three days. Each student gets 10 tickets and sells them for \$10 a piece, then \$5 of that ticket sale money goes towards their own skills fund. So each member can earn up to \$50 per 10 tickets. Then other members, like myself, can just help sell these tickets to help the members who can't fundraise or pay for themselves to go to SkillsUSA events and Activities. We like to have extra money to hopefully send someone to a SkillsUSA event who might otherwise not be able to participate.

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**Jacob Szumigala**  
**Historian**

*Advisor:*

*Mr. Valentine*

October was a great month for SkillsUSA. A little stressful again, with football and school, the time just seems to be more and more limited. We held a local chicken bbq fundraiser at my chapter where we made a decent amount of money to send our competitors to the state competitions. We also had our Area 1 meeting where Emily, Kayla, and myself got the opportunity to reenter the mindset of facilitation. All in all it was a successful month for SkillUSA for me.



**Kayla Waddell-Martin**  
**Area I VP**

*Advisor:*

*Ms. Probst*

October has been a whirlwind of progress, challenges, and exciting opportunities. The Area 1 meeting held in Buffalo was a fantastic opportunity for collaboration and growth. We engaged in fun activities planned by the State officers from Area 1. We all had an amazing time teaching the framework and even telling the juniors who attended about fall leadership and getting them excited for that conference. I have also been working with my Chapter to plan our fall festival party for the SkillsUSA members at our local BOCES. We planned our activities, created an outline for the event, and then went over other things. Our breast cancer walk will be held on October 27th. I also got the chance to work on my activity plans and schedule for Fall Leadership. I had an amazing time working with the other state officers from my area, and putting on a fantastic Area 1 meeting.

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**Delayna DeVoe**

**Area II VP**

*Advisor:*

*Mrs. Fiorenza*

In the month of October, I continued to prepare for the New York State Fall Leadership Conference. I planned activities and along with the help of another state officer that I will share a room with, we planned out a perfect fitting schedule. Although we are ready for almost anything that gets thrown our way. We are extremely excited to influence and reach out to SkillsUSA members from all over the state! In addition, my chapter had our monthly meeting, bringing a representative in from a program that promotes inclusivity. Our chapter would like to focus on the connection between students who play sports and the students that aspire to play sports, such as the special education students. Throughout this program we hope to make it very apparent to others, in the school, that diversity is something that is beyond Boonville. Along with the busy month our chapter had, we added a fundraiser to the mix in order for the chapter to cover some of the expenses of regionals, states and possibly nationals! The pre-work for competitions is underway and I am continuing to teach my peers. Whether it be help with wording on a phone call or pointing them in the right direction, they know I am available to them as a resource!

On October 30th, I will hold a facilitation at my school for students and faculty, in order for them to learn what SkillsUSA stands for and how it affects the students in their classes. Expressing how it is an asset and the knowledge they will gain is essential for the faculty to understand, as they are not fully informed of the organization. In addition, the seventeen essential elements will be explained further, along with the emblem and some leadership components. Lastly on October 24th, New York State Area II held an Area Kick-off event for the students and advisors at Oneida- Herkimer- Madison BOCES. During this time myself, along with two other state officers facilitated around 50 students, getting them excited and engaged for the full year ahead of them. Members drove a good distance in order to attend and as a small team of 3, Gianna, Skylar and myself demonstrated a little bit of what they have to look forward to, if attending Fall Leadership!

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**Mikayla Linehan**

**Area III VP**

*Advisor:*

*Mrs. Choppa*

In October, in my local chapter, WSWHE BOCES, I talked about SkillsUSA in many different ways. I was discussing Fall Leadership Plans with my teammate Zach Kramar. On Tuesday, October 10th, we were given a plan that made us devise a schedule to go by at FLC by facilitating the 40-50 students in our rooms. Zach and I came up with different activities that consisted of the 17 essential elements of the SkillsUSA Framework. Making the schedule, we had to remember the main topics we had to cover: parliamentary procedure, elevator speeches, framework stories, and our community service project, along with the public relations project. During this day, my advisor, Chef Zwart, was talking to the class and held a meeting for all students at the school who were interested in running for a chapter officer. From those students, they had to write an essay on why they should be chosen to attend the Fall Leadership conference this year. Among the four students that I talked to in the PM class. Chef Zwart wanted me to tell them how the SkillsUSA experience has been for me so far and how it's impacted my life from when I first started to where I am now because of the opportunities I have been given. This way, it will provide students with the leeway if they would like to run for a state officer position. Also, this month was our Open House on October 17th. During the night, I was networking with many parents and students to discuss what SkillsUSA is. I told them that SkillsUSA is a Career and Technical Organization to prepare students for employment opportunities in the workforce. My members and I, who are also involved in SkillsUSA at my local chapter, had a table that had pamphlets to give out and discuss how many competitions there are and that there are Technical and Leadership contests, so there is something for everyone. Being at the open house with my peers has helped



**Willem Weston**

**Area IV VP**

*Advisor:*

*Dr. Landers*

My school's local SkillsUSA organization elected the officers for my local chapter. I have contacted area 4 leaders so my minutes can start including their input. We are doing turkey dinner donations for 25 families at our center, and we are continuing to volunteer at the happy to help food pantry. I also met with the officers and talked to them and helped them learn what SkillsUSA is.

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**Dante Rosario**

**Area V**

*Advisor:*

*Mrs. Olfano*

The month of October was very productive. The first major event was our breast cancer awareness walk. Our chapter managed to raise money and had many students walking alongside us to complete our 4 mile walk around Central Park. We had our November general meeting in which our main activity consisted of a SkillsUSA themed heads up in groups. The goal of the activity was to help build our members workplace skills such as teamwork, communication and leadership. We also had all of our 6 committees make individual calendars of events for the rest of the year. Each committee had to present to the officer team in order to make sure each idea was plausible and achievable, we then put them together into our “ultimate” calendar of events to plan out the entire year. To take a step away from my chapter responsibilities I’ve been overseeing my duties as a state officer. I have been spending a lot of time with my peers working on our NYS fall leadership event. My room partner and I have been putting in the hours in order to create our room schedule all in an effort to try and make every participant's participation as fun and informative as it can possibly be. I cannot wait to further work with my chapter to help bring forth many events, as well as work with my state officer team to make this year's fall leadership a wonderful event.

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**Gianna Spartano**

**Officer-At-Large**

*Advisor:*

*Mrs. Petronella*

At the beginning of October, our chapter at Oneida-Herkimer-Madison BOCES had another membership meeting where one of our State Officers, Skylar Albin led our chapter in a career base activity. This activity was based on guessing who the person's career was. Each side picked a career and we had to come up with in-depth questions to find out what the career was. Then after the activity our chapter president wrapped things up by discussing membership responsibilities, and answered any questions from the group. We also refreshed everyone's minds about our Community Service opportunities where their hours will come in handy to stay a member as well. Lately, Skylar and I were given an opportunity to speak in front of our BOCES Board of Education. We had to prepare a speech based on SkillsUSA, our BOCES program, our future plans, and WLTi. Skylar spoke first introducing herself, talking about what Criminal Justice did for her, SkillsUSA, and her future plans. I then talked about how truly amazed I am to be in a fantastic class like Criminal Justice. I told my story, how I want to be a Criminal Lawyer and what I learned at WLTi. I wanted the board to have an understanding on how BOCES classes truly impact a student's life. At our chapter officer meeting following this event we discussed our community service project this month, Making Strides Against Breast Cancer. We discussed how we were going to raise money for the event, and how to sign-up and encourage others to join us on the walk. During the meeting we also discussed what we are planning moving forward in the months of November and December, but many of them are only in the planning phases, and committee members are actively working on how to put these ideas into action. On October 22nd, we volunteered our time at Mohawk Valley Community College to participate in the Making Stride Against Breast Cancer walk where many families, SkillsUSA members, our Advisors and our CTE Principal participated. This walk was truly great despite the weather. We were taught the importance of supporting causes such as this one. Finally we hosted the Area 2 kick-off at our center. There were several people from all over area 2 who attended this event. Delanya, Skyler and myself helped facilitate the student member event and it went off great. Members were engaged, having fun and learning all about SkillsUSA.



**Rebekah Hodges**

**Officer-At-Large**

*Advisor:*

*Mrs. Bitzer*

Not Submitted



**Kayla Flores**  
**Officer-At-Large**  
*Advisor:*  
*Mrs. Brissing*

During October, at my local chapter we were continuing to work on recruiting new SkillsUSA members. During the open house at Orange-Ulster BOCES we had a table so people could see what SkillsUSA was about and we gave out sign-up sheets so they could join. We are also going to have a joint meeting for all the chapter officers and the other clubs in my school so we will be able to talk about all of our fundraising opportunities that we are all planning during the school year. All our members that are attending fall leadership have been given the paperwork that is required to attend so we can all be set for Fall Leadership conference this November.

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