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February 7, 2020  
State Director’s Friday Flash Report:  

Dear Advisors:  

We are happy to announce The State Pin Design Finalists: (In no Special order)  

Jolene Deily  Bohlen Tech Center  
Andrew Padilla  Orange Ulster BOCES  
Daniel Hunt  Jefferson-Lewis BOCES  

Congratulations.  
These students have been chosen as the three finalists in the pin design contest. The designs that they submitted were chosen from about 120 entries. They will need to register for States as a contestant in pin design.  
This contest is not just a state contest. Pin Design is also a national contest where students from every state bring their state winning design to Nationals and complete. If their Design is the First-place winner, at States, then they would be eligible to go to Nationals.  

We will unveil, at States, the winning design that will be on the conference T-Shirts and the 2020 State Pin at the Opening Ceremony Wednesday evening and will award the medals at the Awards ceremony on Friday morning.  

Again, Congratulations to the Finalists.  

A big THANKS to all who submitted designs as there were many, many good designs. Those that did not make the finalist list please keep up the great work and if around next year please submit a design.
Membership:

Now is the time to get your membership submitted. March 1, 2020 is the deadline and it is coming fast along with regionals and other events. DON’T WAIT TO SUBMIT YOUR MEMBERS.

We want to ensure you and your students benefit from every opportunity New York SkillsUSA membership and National Membership provides. By submitting your membership, you will open members to receive leadership and Skills membership benefits. It is too easy to put off submitting when things are very busy but now that the holidays have passed, we have regional events and the State Conference ahead and you need to get your membership submitted. Please encourage students to be part of SkillsUSA.

Regionals:

Staff and I will do our best to attend your Area Regional Conference. It is always nice to see the hard work that advisors have done to keep these events going and the hard work the students do to compete. Best of luck at your regional event.

Jackets:

If you’re interested in ordering jackets, Midge is putting in an order for jackets. It’s not too early to send her your order so you get your jackets by competition time.

CONTESTS: Please keep checking the Website and the Standards for update

Please contact Ellen Coughlin coughlinsgotskills@gmail.com if you have questions on the NY Contest Standards or questions on the contests. Please: Do not send questions to Nationals SkillsUSA as they are busy, and they only send them back to us.

On the NY State website under the Conference tab is the list of State Contest Standards. It is here where we post changes to the contest standards. If a contest has a change then you will see a symbol 🦴 of NY next to it that indicates that there is an important change to the standard.

All the Staff can answer most questions on the Standards, but those questions should be directed to Ellen Coughlin and her Cluster Chairs. Please take the time to read these standards and do not think that if you had last year’s that they will be the same as this year.

Note: An important update to Collision Damage Appraisal has been posted.

The following contests are currently in need of chair persons. Please let me know if anyone is interested. Ellen

Job Interview

Quiz Bowl

Extemporaneous Speaking (just for 2020)

Basic Health for 2021- shadow current chairs in 2020

Community Service and Community Action Basic – one chair can do both.
**State Conference:**
The State Conference packet and all the forms including the Pre-registration are on the web site nysskillsusa.org Check under the conference tab and the forms tab for the information you are looking for. Again, this year we will have the State Conference Packet that you should print off. It is your guide and contains what you will need for the State Conference.

**Important Dates**
February/March is Area Competitions: We wish everyone the best in their area competitions. Remember the State Leadership and Skills Championships are open to all members whether they went to Regionals or not.

**From National SkillsUSA:** SkillsUSA Scholarship Opportunities Now Open for Applications

Applications for several scholarships are now open to benefit SkillsUSA students in pursuit of higher education or certification in their chosen field. Help spread the word so SkillsUSA students can take full advantage of these opportunities:

- SkillsUSA in conjunction with the National Technical Honor Society (NTHS) will award four $1,000 scholarships to SkillsUSA members who are also members of NTHS. Two will go to college/postsecondary winners and two will go to high school division winners. Awards will be made directly to an accredited educational institution with an active NTHS chapter. Recipients may only receive one NTHS/SkillsUSA scholarship per lifetime. Deadline for applications is April 1. For more information and to apply: [http://www.skillsusa.org/membership-resources/scholarships-financial-aid/national-technical-honor-society/](http://www.skillsusa.org/membership-resources/scholarships-financial-aid/national-technical-honor-society/)


For additional scholarship information, continually check the website at [https://www.skillsusa.org/membership-resources/scholarships-financial-aid/](https://www.skillsusa.org/membership-resources/scholarships-financial-aid/)

**Submit Your Membership by March 1**
The SkillsUSA national membership deadline is March 1 each year, but many state deadlines fall earlier. SkillsUSA serves more than 365,000 students and instructors each year and answers the call of American industry by helping to produce better-prepared employees for the technical workforce. The organization has 4,882 school chapters with over 19,000 training programs in 53 state and territorial associations. More than 20,000 instructors and administrators are professional members of SkillsUSA.

Becoming a professional member of SkillsUSA is one of the best ways to demonstrate to students the opportunities that membership in a national student organization provides. Professional members receive online access to the following as a no-cost member benefit when you submit membership and provide an email address: SkillsUSA Championships Technical Standards, Jump into STEM! Curriculum and SkillsUSA Career Essentials: Foundations.

Once membership is submitted, an email will be sent to you with a PIN to access the items electronically. Visit http://www.skillsusa-register.org to register yourself and student members.

You can download state dues and deadlines here.

SkillsUSA Help Is a Phone Call Away
If you or any chapter advisors need assistance with SkillsUSA membership or registration, hotline operators are ready to help you register, answer questions about starting a new chapter, or provide ideas on how to engage chapter members and strengthen an existing chapter. Operators are available 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Monday, Wednesday and Friday; and 11 a.m.-7 p.m. on Tuesday and Thursday (Eastern Time). To reach the hotline, call 844-875-4557 or email operators@skillsusa.org. You can also chat online on the membership registration site.

Bylaw Amendment Deadline Approaching
Current SkillsUSA members can submit proposed bylaw amendments for middle school, high school or college/postsecondary divisions. Bylaw amendment motions must be submitted in writing to Kim Hegedus at khegedus@skillsusa.org by Feb. 3 by 5 p.m. EST.

SkillsUSA’s National Executive Council and board of directors will review all submissions at the March 11-12, 2020 board of directors meeting. All motions will then be distributed to state SkillsUSA directors by April 20, which is at least 60 days prior to the National Leadership and Skills Conference (NLSC). Motions will then be presented for vote at the official business meeting of the House of Delegates during the 2020 NLSC. Bylaw amendments are governed by Article XII of the high school and college/postsecondary bylaws and Article X of the middle school bylaws. For more information and to view the bylaws, go to: http://www.skillsusa.org/events-training/national-leadership-and-skills-conference/delegate-sessions/ The motion form is located here:https://skillsusa.us9.list-manage.com/track/click?u=0191a4ea465bcb7186d8fb53f&id=131b7767978e=a387fc10c2. If you have questions, contact Kim Hegedus at 317-544-8750 or khegedus@skillsusa.org.
Sign Up for SkillsUSA National Signing Day on May 8
SkillsUSA National Signing Day will be held on Friday, May 8 to celebrate high school seniors and college/postsecondary students who have chosen to pursue a career as a professional in the skilled trades. This year, students who plan to participate must register themselves online. Registration opens on Feb. 24. The deadline to register will be April 24.

SkillsUSA chapters are encouraged to host a local signing day event by inviting business partners, school administrators, teachers, elected officials, SkillsUSA alumni, family and friends to their school to honor students signing “letters of intent” for a job offer, apprenticeship or advanced technical training.

An electronic toolkit of resources will be provided to assist advisors with planning their local chapter event. The toolkit will include event logo, an invitation template, sample social media posts, a sample press release, thank you notes and an event planning checklist. A SkillsUSA National Signing Day table runner will be shipped to chapters that register by Friday, April 24. Additional SkillsUSA National Signing Day merchandise will be available to purchase for easy event planning.

Watch for more information as plans develop. Additional details will be available here: http://www.skillsusa.org/events-training/national-signing-day. If you have questions, contact Kim Hegedus at khegedus@skillsusa.org or 317-544-8750.

Nominations Open for Honorary Life Membership, Outstanding Career and Technical Educator
Nominations are open for SkillsUSA’s national Honorary Life Membership and Outstanding Career and Technical Educator. Nominations must be submitted online, and the deadline is Feb. 15.

- Honorary Life Membership: skillsusa.org/membership-resources/awards/honorary-life/
- Outstanding Career and Technical Educator: skillsusa.org/membership-resources/awards/outstanding-educator-nomination/

If you have questions, please contact Laura Rauch at lrauch@skillsusa.org or 703-737-0619.