

## **New Jersey SkillsUSA Friday Flash 1/6/23**

### **News From Your State Office**

#### **Message From the State Director:**

Welcome back! I hope you all had a great holiday season. We are starting the countdown to our state competitions, so please make sure to keep checking the contest updates on our website. If you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact our office.

#### **Cyber-Security**

We need to know how many schools are sending competitors for the Cyber Security competition, so please contact our office and let us know as soon as possible. Also, if you are judging and you need a hotel room, please contact our office so we can ensure that you have accommodations. *We are in serious need of industry professionals, teachers, and judges in order to execute this new competition this year.* If you can provide us with any of the following, it would be greatly appreciated and it would help us get this competition off the ground:

- A preemptive count for enrollment in the competition- how many of your students are going to compete?
- An idea of what standards you have covered/will have covered by the contest date-is the competition even feasible if the students are too far behind at this point?
- People you may know in the industry who would be willing to assist and/or offer guidance- can we expand networking for this competition to make it successful?

#### **April 1st Competition Food & Accommodations**

Advisors are required to be sure that their students have dinner before the Awards Ceremony. Here is a list of some local culinary options:

1. The food courts at the Bridgewater Mall
2. The South Bound Brook Firehouse (I used them when I was an advisor at Sussex, and I spoke with them. They are excited to do it again! They provide: hamburgers, hotdogs, french fries, soda, cole slaw, ice cream, etc. and can accommodate up to 110 people. If you are interested in this option, contact me and I will send you their contact information. They are about ten minutes from Somerset Vo-Tech.)
3. You can negotiate with the Bridgewater Marriott for dinner

#### **Criminal Justice Competition**

The registration details have been updated to allow each chapter to register two Criminal Justice competitors for the March 10 competition at Cumberland Co. Tech.

#### **A message from Mercedes-Benz USA**

Mercedes-Benz USA is happy to again be hosting the NJ SkillsUSA Automotive Cluster competitions in March of 2023.

For 2023 we will also be taking on another competition area Automotive Maintenance and Light Repair (MLR). This is a national competition focusing on some basic automotive tasks such as

multi-point inspection and checking for DTC's with a diagnostic tool to name a few. (Refer to the national technical standards.) requirements).

What

SkillsUSA New Jersey Automotive Competition

- Automotive Service Technology (AST)
- Maintenance and Light Repair (MLR)
- Career/Post-Secondary Fair

When

Thursday, March 30<sup>th</sup> 2023

Where

Mercedes-Benz USA Learning and Performance Center – Northeast

150 New Canton Way

Robbinsville, NJ 08691

### **Important Dates**

- Jan. 9- RSVP due for Hospitality Instructors Meeting: Woodbridge Wegmans 01/30
- Jan. 15-Membership Deadline: All student competitors' names must be listed as members of SkillsUSA on a national SkillsUSA membership roster.
- Jan. 26- Advisor Meeting: RSVP required for the 01/26 Advisor Meeting to Review the 2023 Championship Details.
- **Jan. 30- Championship Registration Deadline: State Championship Registration closes.**
- Jan. 30-Hospitality Instructors Meeting

### **News From Your National Office**

*(Please take advantage of some of these great opportunities for you and your students!)*

**Plan Now for SkillsUSA Week** SkillsUSA Week is Feb. 6-10, and you can participate by honoring your community supporters, connecting with local business and industry professionals, or making a presentation about your program and SkillsUSA chapter at a school board meeting. Your chapter can plan activities using the [SkillsUSA Week Chapter Guide](#). A student designed SkillsUSA Week T-shirt is now available in the [SkillsUSA Store](#) to outfit officers and members for your celebration. The T-shirt features the art of Clara Brown from Upper Valley Career Center in Piqua, Ohio.

**New Report Highlights "The SkillsUSA Advantage"** A new report from the Student Research Foundation affirms what more than 14 million members served since 1965 already know: SkillsUSA involvement better prepares students for personal and professional success. "The SkillsUSA Advantage" report shows that SkillsUSA members consistently outperform peers not enrolled in a career and technical student organization (CTSO) in seven key areas, including meeting potential employers, being excited about their chosen career path, gaining work experience, being excited about school and more. Among the more than 27,000 high school students surveyed, this SkillsUSA advantage hold true regardless of gender, race/ethnicity or socioeconomic status. The report clearly underscores the importance of removing barrier to ensure that all potential members have an opportunity to join. Share this validating new report with administrators, partners, parents and more to help spotlight SkillsUSA's life-changing, career-shaping effect. [Download "The SkillsUSA Advantage."](#)

**Show Us What You Made ... and What You're Made Of!** SkillsUSA is still showcasing the great accomplishments our students make every day as skilled workers and leaders in the #MadeInSkillsUSA social media campaign. Share photos on social media that highlight something your students made with their hands (a construction project, a hairstyle, a culinary creation, etc.) or a personal achievement earned through SkillsUSA (landing an internship, delivering a speech, leading a meeting, etc.). To participate, simply post a photo with the hashtag #MadeInSkillsUSA. [Learn more here](#). For questions, contact Hayley Uffelman, SkillsUSA's social media manager.

**New SkillsUSA Scholarship Application Now Open** SkillsUSA students can now apply for multiple scholarships by completing just one SkillsUSA scholarship application. Most scholarships are available to both high school and college/postsecondary members. Eligibility criteria for each scholarship is noted on the application so that students know which ones they are eligible to receive. The SkillsUSA master scholarship application is open until April 1 and is [available here](#). The following scholarships are included under this application: AHRI Clifford T Rees Scholarship Bob Westphal Memorial Scholarship Fieldpiece #MasteroftheTrade Scholarship #KeepCraftAlive Scholarship Larry Rash Memorial Scholarship Marsha Daves Scholarship NTHS Scholarship Separately, SkillsUSA students can [apply for the Sharon Melton Myers Scholarship](#) until April 1 or the [Student Research Foundation \(SRF\) Community Contribution Scholarship](#) until July 26. For scholarship resources and tips on how to submit a quality application, visit the [scholarships page on the website](#). If you have questions, contact Megan Flinn.

**SkillsUSA Technical Fridays Workshops** Join us for "SkillsUSA Technical Fridays," a series of virtual workshops led by industry experts to help teachers develop specific technical skills relevant to their career fields. Leave the sessions with new knowledge and skills to implement in the classroom. [Learn more about the workshops here](#). On Jan. 20, from 4-5 p.m. ET, Greg Klever of Penske's technical school and national partnership relationships will lead a "Tires and Brakes" session that will uncover the proper tools, inspection, serviceability and troubleshooting for air disc brakes. The workshop is free but space is limited. [Register here](#). If you have questions, contact Karolina Belen.

**Upcoming Professional Development Opportunities** Please join other SkillsUSA advisors for upcoming Professional Development offerings. Advisors in their first, second or third year can look forward to new advisor trainings on Jan. 27 or Feb. 10 from 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Completion certificates are provided for each session. Learn more on [our online training calendar](#). Advisors can also [access this Google Doc](#) to learn how to use their professional membership benefits. [A PDF of the 2022-23 Professional Development Opportunities is available here](#). For questions, contact Karolina Belen.