

#### THE STATE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT / THE UNIVERSITY OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK / ALBANY, NY 12234

TO: P-12 Education\_Committee

FROM: Ken Slentz

SUBJECT: Panel Discussion on the Benefits of Participation in

Career and Technical Student Organizations (CTSO)

**DATE:** May 16, 2014

AUTHORIZATION(S):

**SUMMARY** 

## **Issue for Discussion**

The P-12 Education Committee has heard from a variety of Career and Technical Education (CTE) stakeholders on the benefits and achievements for participating students. The student panel will provide a complementary perspective based on their participation in career and technical student organizations (CTSO) and its impact on their education and career aspirations.

### Reason(s) for Consideration

For Information.

## **Proposed Handling**

The panel will come before the P-12 Education Committee at their May 2014 meeting.

## **Procedural History**

CTSO's provide another strategy for school districts and BOCES to teach students the key behaviors and attitudes needed to be successful in college and careers. Along with these behaviors and attitudes commonly referred to as "soft skills", students use their technical and academic knowledge through performance-based competitive events to demonstrate their college and career readiness. CTE teachers act as advisors to the local organization chapters. Many of the events are sponsored and judged by representatives of business and industry associated with the specific occupational area.

## **Background Information**

The panelists are members of SkillsUSA, the largest of the 7 student organizations aligned with CTE-related subject areas. Students in SkillsUSA are typically enrolled in trade and technical subjects in school districts and BOCES throughout NYS. Attachment A provides information on each of the 7 student organizations.

### **Students and Advisors**

Robert Schimschack
Machining, Orleans/Niagara BOCES
Advisor - Scott Brauer

Chelsea Tutt Welding, Ulster BOCES Advisor – Kathy Lander

Paige Chaplin Graphic Communications, Southern Adirondack BOCES Advisor – Jeff Plummer

Ty Seeman SkillsUSA State President, Monroe 2 BOCES Advisor - Brandilyn Gage

Ramon Williams
Architectural Drafting, Williamsburg High School of Architecture and Design
Advisor – Evelyn Diaz

Miriam Abbasi Business, Queens Vocational & Technical High School Advisor - Josue Rivera

## **Industry Representative**

Joe Zahra, Intelitek of NY

## **Discussion Questions**

- What specific skills have you gained from participation in your student organization?
- How does your participation in this student organization help you academically?
- What did you learn from participating in the competitive events?
- What will be your future education and career choice?
- How/Why did you choose your program?
- What is most challenging about your program compared to your traditional courses?

## Career & Technical Student Organizations

## Value Added to CTE Programs

# What are Career & Technical Student Organizations (CTSOs)?

CTSOs integrate the career and technical education (CTE) curriculum while promoting leadership skills, career readiness, community involvement, and competition. They continue to be integral to the curriculum and an important part of 21<sup>st</sup> century CTE programs.

## Why start or support a CTSO?

CTSOs benefit a variety of stakeholders. Below are just a few of the many benefits.

### **Students**

- Develop leadership and communication skills
- Gain personal recognition
- Engage in volunteer opportunities
- Increase community awareness
- Enhance decision-making/problem-solving skills
- Network with other students, colleges, and employers
- Experience the democratic process
- Interact socially on a local, state and national level

### **Advisors**

- Academic programs gain value from a CTSO
- Student interest in CTSOs positively impacts course enrollments
- Support from and networking with other advisors is enhanced
- Personal satisfaction results from watching students grow and succeed
- Common Core State Standards are reinforced through student involvement in CTSOs

CTSOs are Chartered by the New York
State Board of Regents

### **School Districts**

- Students are better prepared academically and socially for college and careers
- Students have a positive impact on the school and community
- CTSOs foster relationships between school district and local businesses
- Students develop career readiness skills
- Pride and recognition accrue to the school district –
   each CTSO is Chartered by the Board of Regents

## **Business and Community Leaders**

- CTSOs are a source for future employees
- CTSOs provide a forum to communicate their needs regarding the preparation of future employees
- Creative ideas and new perspectives are brought to business and community by CTSOs
- Business participation with CTSOs fosters positive community minded image

## **Content-specific CTSOs**

**DECA**-formerly Distributive Education Clubs of America. Prepares students for careers in marketing, finance, hospitality, and management. <a href="www.newyorkdeca.com">www.newyorkdeca.com</a> or <a href="www.newyorkdeca.com">www.deca.org</a>

**FBLA**-Future Business Leaders of America. Prepares students in all areas of business and related fields by bringing business and education together through innovative leadership and career development programs. www.nysfbla.org or www.fbla.org

**FCCLA**-Family, Career and Community Leaders of America. Promotes personal growth and leadership development through Family and Consumer Science Education. <a href="https://www.nysfccla.org">www.nysfccla.org</a> or <a href="https://www.nysfccla.org">www.fcclainc.org</a>

**FFA**-formerly Future Farmers of America, now National FFA Organization. Involves students in all aspects of the diverse field of agriculture. <a href="www.nysffa.org">www.nysffa.org</a> or <a href="www.nysffa.org">www.ffa.org</a>

**HOSA**-Future Health Professionals of America. Promotes career opportunities in health care to enhance the delivery of quality health care to all people. <a href="https://www.newyorkhosa.org">www.newyorkhosa.org</a> or <a href="https://www.hosa.org">www.hosa.org</a>

**SkillsUSA**-formerly Vocational Industrial Clubs of America (VICA). Serves teachers and high school and college students who are preparing for careers in trade, technical, and skilled service occupations, including health occupations. <a href="http://nysskillsusa.org">http://nysskillsusa.org</a> or <a href="http://nysskillsusa.org">www.skillsusa.org</a>

**TSA**-Technology Student Association. Provides leadership and opportunities in technology, innovation, design, and engineering. Students learn to apply STEM (science, technology, engineering, and mathematics) concepts through co-curricular programs. <a href="http://nystsa.com">http://nystsa.com</a> or <a href="https://nystsa.com">www.tsaweb.org</a>

The state and national websites give information on starting a club or chapter and developing membership. You may also contact the people listed for information specific to CTSOs in New York State.

NEW YORK STATE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT
Career and Technical Education (CTE) Team
Eric F. Suhr, Bureau Chief
89 Washington Avenue, Room 315 EB
Albany, New York 12234
(518) 486-1547 ● (518) 402-5114 (fax)
esuhr@mail.nysed.gov

CTSOs make good CTE programs great ones!!

#### **New York State**

**Career & Technical Student Organization Contacts** 

Career & Technical Student	
Organization Contact(s)	SED Contact
DECA	
Mitchell Beresa	Eric Suhr
Chair, Board of Trustees	(518) 486-1547
mberesa@aol.com	esuhr@mail.nysed.gov
Mary L. Peres	
State Advisor	
(518) 678-8578	
clpmlp@aol.com	
FBLA	
Elizabeth Garofalo	Eric Suhr
Chair, Board of Trustee	(518) 486-1547
egarofalo@nysfbla.org	esuhr@mail.nysed.gov
Jennifer Judge	
Vice Chair, Board of Trustee	
jjudge@nysfbla.org	
FCCLA	
Karen Thomas, State Coordinator	Dawn Scagnelli
(315) 788-2006	(518) 486-1547
Kthomas189@twcny.rr.com	dscagnel@mail.nysed.gov
FFA	
Juleah Faye Tolosky	Chike Nnabugwu
Juleah Faye Tolosky Executive Secretary	(518) 486-1547
Juleah Faye Tolosky	_
Juleah Faye Tolosky Executive Secretary Jft25@cornell.edu	(518) 486-1547
Juleah Faye Tolosky Executive Secretary Jft25@cornell.edu  HOSA	(518) 486-1547 cnnabugw@mail.nysed.gov
Juleah Faye Tolosky Executive Secretary Jft25@cornell.edu  HOSA Sandra Keller, Board President	(518) 486-1547 cnnabugw@mail.nysed.gov Joanne O'Brien
Juleah Faye Tolosky Executive Secretary Jft25@cornell.edu  HOSA Sandra Keller, Board President (315) 331-6120	(518) 486-1547 <u>cnnabugw@mail.nysed.gov</u> <b>Joanne O'Brien</b> (518) 486-1547
Juleah Faye Tolosky Executive Secretary Jft25@cornell.edu  HOSA Sandra Keller, Board President	(518) 486-1547 cnnabugw@mail.nysed.gov Joanne O'Brien
Juleah Faye Tolosky Executive Secretary Jft25@cornell.edu  HOSA Sandra Keller, Board President (315) 331-6120 Sandra.keller@ymail.com	(518) 486-1547 <u>cnnabugw@mail.nysed.gov</u> <b>Joanne O'Brien</b> (518) 486-1547
Juleah Faye Tolosky Executive Secretary Jft25@cornell.edu  HOSA Sandra Keller, Board President (315) 331-6120 Sandra.keller@ymail.com  SkillsUSA	Joanne O'Brien (518) 486-1547
Juleah Faye Tolosky Executive Secretary Jft25@cornell.edu  HOSA Sandra Keller, Board President (315) 331-6120 Sandra.keller@ymail.com  SkillsUSA Bruce Potter, NY Coordinator	(518) 486-1547 cnnabugw@mail.nysed.gov  Joanne O'Brien (518) 486-1547 Jobrien2@mail.nysed.gov  Cheryl Winstel
Juleah Faye Tolosky Executive Secretary Jft25@cornell.edu  HOSA Sandra Keller, Board President (315) 331-6120 Sandra.keller@ymail.com  SkillsUSA Bruce Potter, NY Coordinator (716) 772-2433	(518) 486-1547 cnnabugw@mail.nysed.gov  Joanne O'Brien (518) 486-1547 Jobrien2@mail.nysed.gov  Cheryl Winstel (518) 486-1547
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Juleah Faye Tolosky Executive Secretary Jft25@cornell.edu  HOSA Sandra Keller, Board President (315) 331-6120 Sandra.keller@ymail.com  SkillsUSA Bruce Potter, NY Coordinator (716) 772-2433 Bpotter56@rochester.rr.com  Scott Brauer, Board Chair (800) 836-7510 ext. 4556 SBrauer@onboces.org  TSA	Joanne O'Brien (518) 486-1547
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