

Dear SkillsUSA Advisor, (SkillsUSA 2020-2021 #6)

Item #1: CTSO JAT Session #2 - SkillsUSA Maryland Advisor's Meeting!

SkillsUSA Maryland advisors will be meeting **Wednesday, September 23, 2020, 3pm-6pm**, for the annual back-to-school advisor's meeting. This will be a SkillsUSA Maryland-exclusive experience focusing on state and national updates, new programs and resources, conferences and competitive events. Please make sure that all new and experienced SkillsUSA advisors attend these important meeting. Prospective advisors and other instructors interested in learning more about SkillsUSA Maryland are also welcome to join the meeting.

As an added incentive to attend - all SkillsUSA advisors joining Wednesday's meeting are eligible to win prizes raffled by the SkillsUSA Maryland Board of Directors!

Here's the Zoom Meeting link to the SkillsUSA Maryland Advisor's Meeting. See everyone Wednesday at

3pm: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85147018134?pwd=RDVhMU5JQ1NCZ2QrUWZZbmZwb255Zz09>

Item #2: SkillsUSA CONNECT – Create Your Account Today!

SkillsUSA is excited to announce the launch of their new virtual community to further build our partnership of students, teachers and industry representatives. This amazing resource is offered free to all SkillsUSA advisors and students.

What's available in CONNECT?

Student and Teacher Discussion Forums.

Teacher Professional Development Trainings.

Advisor Resources.

Chapter Officer Experiences.

Program of Work Information.

Electronic Framework Essential Element Assessment.

Empowering Experiences.

State and Chapter Groups.

...and more being added all the time.

Create your account by logging-in at register.skillsusa.org and click the CONNECT logo for registration instructions. State Director will provide authentication code upon request.

Item #3: Membership Incentive Time — Register by Nov. 15

Becoming a professional member of SkillsUSA is one of the best ways to demonstrate to students the opportunities that membership provides. Professional members receive online access to the following as a benefit of membership: Framework Integration Toolkit consisting of 45 separate resources, Program of Work Toolkit for in-person and virtual chapter activities, Championships Toolkit including 2021 SkillsUSA Championships Technical Standards and local competition guides, Jump into STEM! Toolkit plus virtual lesson plans.

As a special membership incentive, those who register at least 15 student members plus one or more professionals by Nov. 15 will receive a complimentary copy of *JumpStart 2.0*, a collection of 33 mixers and icebreakers to engage SkillsUSA students in meetings, workshops and other activities.

JumpStart 2.0 will help you find immeasurable success in the rewarding and fulfilling venture of being a SkillsUSA advisor as you coach your students to excellence. We hope you enjoy making this resource a part of your classroom and chapter environment.

Visit register.skillsusa.org to register yourself and student members. If you or any chapter advisors need assistance with SkillsUSA membership or registration, our Customer Care Team is ready to answer questions about starting a new chapter, ways to engage chapter members or strategies to strengthen an existing chapter. Customer Care Team members are on call 8 a.m.-5 p.m. on Monday, Wednesday and Friday; and 11 a.m.-7 p.m. on Tuesday and Thursday (Eastern Time). To reach the team, call 844-875-4557 or email customercare@skillsusa.org. You can also chat online on the membership registration site.

Item #4: NASSP Democracy Powered by You(th)

NASSP Student Leadership has launched a nationwide get-out-the-vote initiative with [DoSomething!](#) All schools — public, private, charter, etc. — are welcome to

participate in *Ready, Set, Vote*, the largest online voter registration drive led by students. Completely free, the online voter registration tool allows students *at any school* to create personalized voter captain pages to help get their age-eligible peers and community registered to vote this year.

Volunteer credit from NASSP and DoSomething, opportunities for scholarships, and even school competition awards (most number of registrations by state, most creative campaigns, etc.) are available as part of this initiative this fall.

Election Day is November 3. Visit [this link](#) to get info to share and learn more.

Item #5: Empowering Experiences

SkillsUSA has developed innovative educational resources and new professional development materials that support teachers and students regardless of where learning takes place — in the classroom and lab, at home or a hybrid of the two. As you know, students are more engaged when they have rich content and meaningful experiences. We also know that students (and teachers!) value consistency and need greater support than ever before.

The SkillsUSA community is committed to helping students attain the highest level of academic achievement and personal transformation while developing their personal, workplace and technical skills grounded in academics from the SkillsUSA Framework.

SkillsUSA's Empowering Experiences were created to help students find new ways to connect, engage, and stay motivated around SkillsUSA. Students have shared that through SkillsUSA membership, they are seeing community, growth and recognition. Each of these themes have been ingrained in the experiences that have been created. Through Empowering Experiences, students will be encouraged to engage in as many experiences as they would like to.

Here are just a few of the many experiences now available or coming soon, and all of the Empowering Student Experiences are accessed through **SkillsUSA CONNECT**.

SkillsUSA Spotlight Member of the Month

A toolkit provided to chapters highlighting a local SkillsUSA leader. Additionally, there are opportunities for those local chapter members to be recognized at the national level.

SkillsUSA Recruitment Week

The SkillsUSA Recruitment Week is September 21-25. This week equips current members with the tools they need to successfully recruit potential new members. Throughout the week, members can interact with each other locally and nationally through events and challenges for an opportunity to be recognized for their recruitment efforts.

SkillsUSA Real Talk

A video series focused on things a SkillsUSA member needs to know about what is happening that month. This will highlight national programs, experiences, and activities that chapter members can participate in.

Charge — Chapter Officer Video Series

A weekly chapter officer video series that focuses on developing chapter officers to build stronger chapters.

Empowering Advisor Experiences

This fall, SkillsUSA is excited to launch a wide variety of professional development opportunities for advisors. Whether you prefer instructor-led sessions or web-based instruction, SkillsUSA's got you covered! You can participate in sessions related to professional membership benefits, Framework integration, Program of Work, Chapter Excellence Program and educational resources. We want YOU to be successful!

Upcoming sessions include:

September 22nd – Program of Work

September 24th – Experiential Activities to Promote the SkillsUSA Framework

To view the full schedule of opportunities and register to attend, log into your SkillsUSA CONNECT account, choose Professional Development Opportunities from the Advisor Resources tab or click <https://www.skillsusa.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/09/SkillsUSA-2020-Professional-Development-Opportunities.pdf>.

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