Friday Flash Week of 11/6/20

SkillsUSA Celebrates Career Essentials Certified Teachers

During October, we celebrated more educators who became SkillsUSA Career Essentials certified teachers. They are now exceptionally equipped to use the Career Essentials curriculum as a turnkey tool to help learners define, implement and measure their career-readiness skills. These educators are now part of a national network of educators committed to preparing learners for success in the workforce:

**Maryland**
Ronald Scott, North Point High School for STI

**Missouri**
Lauri Redmon, Career and Technology Center at Fort Osage

**Nebraska**
Jesse Zweep, SkillsUSA Nebraska State Office

**South Dakota**
Katie Paulson, SkillsUSA South Dakota State Office

**Tennessee**
Andrew Smith, TN College of Applied Technology

**Texas**
Terri Altmann, Rebirth Empowerment Education

**Virginia**
Twila DeMasters, Central Virginia Community College
Francie Dye, Central Virginia Community College

**Wyoming**
Janie Wilcox, SkillsUSA Wyoming State Office

To acknowledge the efforts of these teachers, we maintain a digital map that depicts the number of Career Essentials certified teachers in each state. Find the map here: [https://mycareeressentials.org](https://mycareeressentials.org).

If you are implementing Career Essentials Experiences with your students and would like to become a Career Essentials certified teacher, please register for the Career Essentials Implementation Training.
**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; SkillsUSA Championships Toolkit, including 2021 SkillsUSA Championships Technical Standards and local competition guides; Jump into STEM! Toolkit, including 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](http://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](mailto:customercare@skillsusa.org). You can also chat online on the membership registration site.

**Pour the IndusTEA**

On Wednesday, Nov. 18, at 2 p.m. (EST), SkillsUSA will be hosting a career cluster panel discussion specific to each career cluster that we cover. This new, high-energy, informative experience will connect members with business and industry partners. We invite you and your students to attend this event to gain useful insight and information about the industries they are stepping into. **The first 1000 attendees who register here by Thursday, Nov. 12, and attend the event will receive a newly released career cluster T-shirt from the SkillsUSA Store!**

Teachers — use this event as a class session! Through attending Pour the IndusTEA, students will be able to identify trends in their future industry, articulate ways to achieve career success, and be one step closer to becoming career ready, as defined by the [SkillsUSA Framework](http://www.skillsusa.org). No matter if a student is watching from home or sitting in a classroom with others, this event will be impactful. Each person attending the event (whether in a classroom or at home) must fill out the registration form linked above in order to receive the career cluster T-shirt from the SkillsUSA Store.

For further information, please check out the [Pour The IndusTEA page in SkillsUSA CONNECT](http://www.skillsusa.org), SkillsUSA’s new virtual community for members and advisors.
Share Your Messages of Support and Thanks for Our Teachers

Throughout the pandemic, SkillsUSA’s social media has highlighted many SkillsUSA members who have worked to keep our nation moving in the fight against COVID-19. While frontline workers deservedly have taken center stage, career and technical education and our SkillsUSA programs nationwide could not happen without our dedicated teachers and advisors.

As we approach the season of Thanksgiving, we’d like to create a thank-you video to let all SkillsUSA teachers know how valued they are, to let them know we see how hard they work and to show them how much that work is appreciated. We need your help to make that happen. We’re requesting brief videos from SkillsUSA students, state directors, partners, parents, school administrators and other stakeholders offering short messages of thanks for our teachers. Current teachers and advisors are also welcome to submit their own messages of thanks and encouragement to their peers around the nation.

Videos can be shot on smartphones, should be a maximum of 15 seconds, and are due to SkillsUSA by Nov. 13. Let’s ensure our SkillsUSA instructors know they are valued, respected and appreciated for their heroic work.

Submit your video here: https://skillsusa.wufoo.com/forms/share-your-messages-of-support-for-teachers/. If you prefer, upload your video through a file-sharing service like WeTransfer or Dropbox and send the link to director of communications Tom Kercheval at: tkercheval@skillsusa.org.

Attend ACTE’s CareerTech VISION Virtual Conference

ACTE’s CareerTech VISION 2020 has moved to a fully online, virtual experience this year. The Nov. 30-Dec. 4 event can be attended from the comfort and convenience of your school, office or home and features enhanced programming and immersive professional development to address timely topics impacting career and technical education.

The week-long conference allows flexibility to tailor session times to your availability. All attendees will receive access to over 300 sessions following the event. Attendees will have opportunities to network and participate in interactive experiences through a dynamic virtual platform at this flagship event.

For conference rates, speakers and program details, go to: www.careertechvision.com.
Critical Thinking at Work

Within the SkillsUSA Framework is the Essential Element of “decision making” under the workplace skills component. Critical thinking is a strategy used for decision making, and the need for individuals to use critical thinking to solve problems, identify new solutions, and apply automation is essential in the workplace. Technology can improve job effectiveness and efficiency, but it cannot replace the human ability to process feedback, build relationships, offer recommendations and apply solutions. What's more, critical thinking is not an inherent skill. It must be learned and practiced. “Critical Thinking at Work” is a SkillsUSA educational resource designed to challenge your students with workplace scenarios that provide opportunities to practice decision-making skills.

Professional development sessions related to this resource will be available on Nov. 18 and Nov. 30. To view the full schedule of professional development opportunities and register to attend, log in to your SkillsUSA CONNECT account to view the Professional Development calendar. Or, visit: [www.skillsusa.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/09/SkillsUSA-2020-Professional-Development-Opportunities.pdf](www.skillsusa.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/09/SkillsUSA-2020-Professional-Development-Opportunities.pdf).

Check Out the SkillsUSA Store

If you are looking to strengthen classroom management and build cohesive teams, these resources will be a valuable addition to your collection. Effective teachers give students an opportunity to apply content in a practical manner, and SkillsUSA wants to provide turnkey tools to guide the process. “Resolute” helps students strengthen SkillsUSA Framework skills with sharp focus on critical thinking and the Essential Element of decision making. To support you in coaching and training teams, “Impact” features a series of activities that promote team interaction, trust exercises and problem solving with varying degrees of difficulty. “Accelerate” provides more than 40 proven teaching strategies to enhance classroom learning. These activities are fun, interactive and student-centered. These three resources are available now with special pricing: $38.00 for the bundle – a 15% discount. To purchase, visit: [https://www.skillsusa.org/shop](https://www.skillsusa.org/shop).

#SkillsUSAGivingHopeDay Doubles Up on Hope

The SkillsUSA Hope Fund was founded in 2019 to provide scholarships or support for individual students and SkillsUSA chapters in crisis. Contribute to the 2020 campaign and join us as a SkillsUSA member or supporter who makes a difference. Between now and Dec. 1, participate in #SkillsUSAGivingHopeDay and know that every donation you make to SkillsUSA will be doubled, because, once again this year, contributions will be matched by CareerSafe.

Thanks to the generosity of CareerSafe in supporting the campaign, every donation doubles up to help SkillsUSA, up to $10,000. Follow the 2020 campaign on social media and share the #SkillsUSAGivingHopeDay posts to help spread the word.

Porsche Technology Apprenticeship Program

Despite record unemployment and millions of Americans out of work, graduates of the most recent Porsche Technology Apprenticeship Program (PTAP), offered exclusively in partnership with Universal Technical Institute, have gone immediately to work. One hundred percent of the program’s most recent graduating class received job offers at Porsche dealerships in California, Alabama, Texas, Florida, North and South Carolina, Pennsylvania and New York.

Top students enrolled in UTI’s Automotive Technology Program across 11 campuses nationwide are recruited for PTAP. The PTAP program is offered in a blended format, combining online education with hands-on training in CDC-compliant labs in Atlanta, Ga.; Easton, Pa.; and Eastvale, Calif. Porsche directly supports, equips and invests in the program, allowing students to receive training on all the latest Porsche vehicles and technologies. Tuition and housing costs are covered by Porsche, and the company also arranges local part-time employment for students while they are in the 23-week program. Porsche dealerships across the country offer employment to most students upon — and often before — graduation.

For more information about the Porsche Technology Apprenticeship Program, click here.