



FRIDAY FLASH



SkillsUSA Week

SkillsUSA Members at Cherokee High School Backpack Project Helps Displaced Kids

Wednesday, February 7, 2018 6:47 PM EST

By Lisa Olliges, Reporter and Weekend Anchor of KOAM TV



It's a community service project that has kids helping kids. SkillsUSA is a club for students in career and technical education classes. And at Cherokee high school, the students are doing a community service project that has them building backpacks.

Sanders buzzed as some students in career and technical education class created cutting boards while others secured the frame of a cabinet. But members of the SkillsUSA club are also building backpacks. They're filling them with blankets and books for displaced kids who come in contact with law enforcement and others.

Crawford county undersheriff Steve Geier said they will use them. "We may be faced with arresting an

adult parent and we're left with the kids trying to make them understand why we have to do our job. If we can make it easier on them anyway we can, these backpacks will be very helpful in easing their pains." Undersheriff Geier will add them in the back of his truck where he already keeps stuffed animals for kids in need.

Geier added, "It's very helpful. We deal with a lot of young people. To be able to give them something to get them to open up, to communicate with us, build a trust with us, a rapport with us, brings out a lot of things that are happening. Cheers the kids up and um really makes our jobs easier."

The group has eight filled and is seeking donations to fill the other sixteen backpacks handmade by a school para-professional with children in mind.

Colleen Renn explained, "Just the thought of the children. It's fun fabric! You know, Mickey Mouse and everything that children like."

And Renn said she is willing to make more if incoming donations demand it. "It's not hard at all, doesn't take a lot of time at all, and I like to sew, so I did it."

For Trenton Hartman, the SkillsUSA club president and other members, it's community service.

CTE instructor Jim Rockers said, "I think it's good. It gives them a chance to have an outlet. A lot of kids want to do something to help and there aren't that many opportunities."

The B and B Backpack project is helping students connect and make a difference. Trenton said, "It will let them know someone is out there willing to help, not just sitting back and not helping."

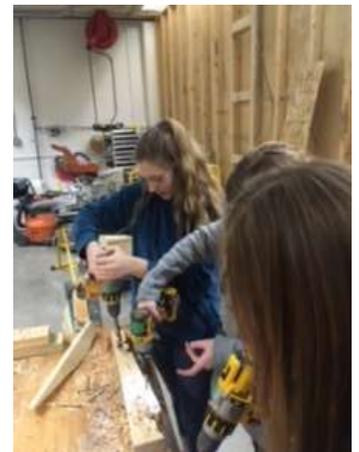
The backpacks will not only go to the sheriff's department, but also fire crews, homeless shelters and child welfare workers. You can donate books or blankets at Southeast high school.

KCKCC – Pioneer Center Elect new officers to kick off SkillsUSA Week.



After officers were elected at the KCKCC Pioneer Center, their focus immediately turned to SkillsUSA Week events.

KCKCC Pioneer Center hosted a SkillsUSA career awareness day with middle school students from Lansing Middle School. KCKCC Pioneer Center students shared their classrooms mentoring the students with hands-on projects pertaining to each of the college's technical programs.



Pictures by: Kelly Jenkins

WASHBURN INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY CELEBRATING SkillsUSA Week



Washburn Institute of Technology had an exciting week celebrating Skills week. Starting off on Monday with Appreciation Day, students showed their appreciation to instructors by emailing them thank you cards. Tuesday they had a party in their Conference Room with music



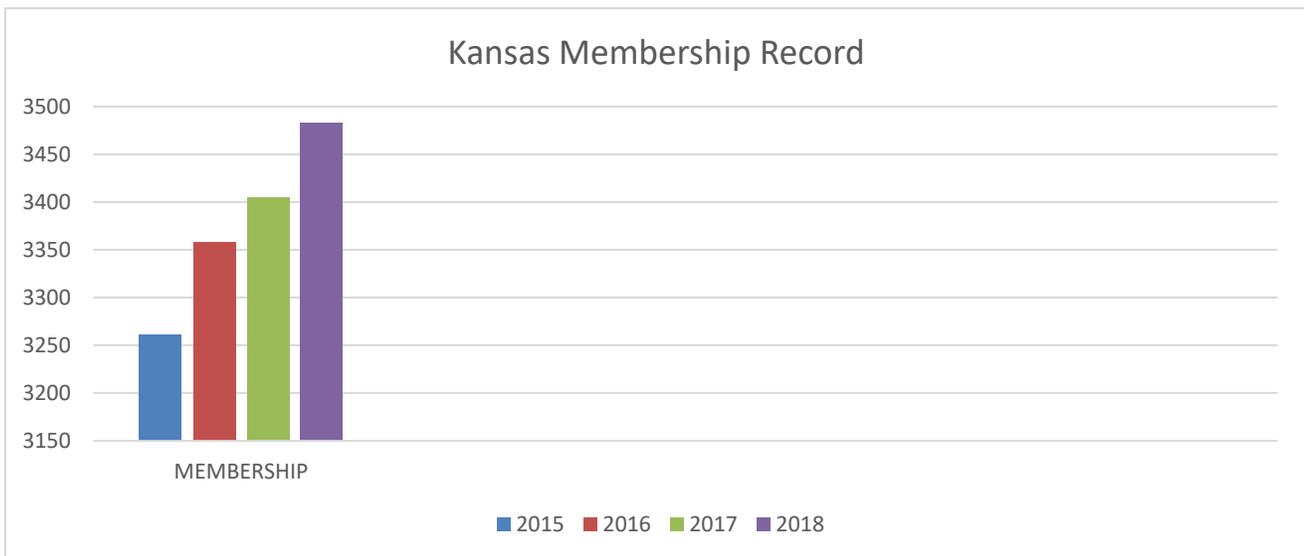
playing, prize drawings and they collected canned foods for the food drive. Wednesday was Recruitment Day where they had a total for the week of 15 students joining SkillsUSA. On Thursday they announced the Graphics Technology program as the winner of the pizza party for raising the most canned food items (28 cans). We also received canned food items from Building Technology which made the grand total of 34 cans of food raised. The canned food was delivered to the Topeka Rescue Mission. Thursday was our last day of Skills week because Friday is a professional development day.

Article & Pictures by: Derek Blanchard

2018 MEMBERSHIP DEADLINE IS APPROACHING

Kansas Membership Deadline, February 15, 2018, is upon us. If you need assistance with the process, email or call Kelli Byrne kbyrne@ksde.org or 785-296-3784

2018 KANSAS MEMBERSHIP GOAL: 3,500 members



As of February 8, 2018, membership tallied at:

2886 submitted membership

597 un-submitted membership

3483 members so far.

Our Goal for 2018 is 3,500 members. *We need another 17 members to meet our goal!!!!* We are so close! Keep up the excellent recruitment work! Remember, if you haven't submitted (JOIN) your membership in the CMSystem, you need to do that before February 15, 2018.

The Best Way to Build a Successful SkillsUSA Chapter



SkillsUSA's Chapter Excellence Program (CEP) recognizes your achievement in integrating the SkillsUSA Framework in chapter activities related to the program of work. As a chapter's yearly action plan, the SkillsUSA program of

work is at the heart of student learning and employability development. By using our framework as a guide, chapters have a blueprint for creating relevant activities that encourage participation and help students understand what they're learning.

The SkillsUSA Framework's focus on intentional learning turns the program of work into more than just a planning tool. Using the framework, the program of work becomes the vital conduit that links students to the application of *personal*, *workplace* and *technical skills* demanded by industry — the SkillsUSA trifecta for student success.

Within the personal, workplace and technical skills areas, there are specific Essential Elements tied to each. The Essential Elements are high-demand employability skills as defined by industry, and the benchmark for measuring student success during an activity. For example, if students learn the Essential Element of responsibility during a personal skills activity, the SkillsUSA Framework requires that a chapter be specific regarding the "how" and "why" students learned responsibility. This conscientious approach gives added meaning to the valuable experience students gain in while planning, organizing and implementing activities. Most importantly, this approach actualizes SkillsUSA's mission to "empower members to become world-class workers, leaders and responsible American citizens" on the chapter level.

Every chapter is encouraged to participate in CEP, and there are three award levels to recognize program involvement. The first two levels are acknowledged by a chapter's state SkillsUSA association, and the third level is recognized nationally through Models of Excellence. Each level is designed to give chapters a benchmark for success and future improvement, leading to stronger chapters and better prepared students. The more a chapter applies the SkillsUSA Framework, the greater the chance for CEP honors.

Start Your CEP Application Today

Start your Chapter Excellence Program application today and begin recognition for your chapter! The online application is on the main the membership registration site once you have logged into your account (www.skillsusa-register.org/Login.aspx). Questions? Use resources below to introduce students to CEP:

- Get your students ready to succeed with CEP by using these quick and fun lesson plans: <https://www.skillsusa.org/wp-content/uploads/2015/02/CEP-Mini-Lessons-2015.pdf>



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- Everything you need to know about implementing the CEP can be found here: <http://www.skillsusa.org/wp-content/uploads/2015/02/CEP-Teachers-Guide.pdf>

Additional help is only a phone call or email away: 844-875-4557 or operators@skillsusa.org



Do You Want Your Students To Grow In Their Professionalism, Communication And Leadership Skills?

Consider budgeting for you and your student leaders to attend the Washington Leadership Training Institute (WLTi) held in the nation's capital Sept. 22-26. This conference offers advanced training for students and advisors that focuses on professionalism, communication and leadership. During the conference, participants will demonstrate the use of these key essential elements while advocating for SkillsUSA and career and technical education. Additionally, participants will have the opportunity to tour Washington, visit the SkillsUSA National Leadership Center and watch the changing of the guards along with a wreath ceremony at the Tomb of the Unknowns.

Conference registration opens Aug. 1 and is \$450 per participant. Visit the following website for additional information: <https://www.skillsusa.org/events-training/washington-leadership-training-institute/>

Alumni Association Announces Awards Availability

The SkillsUSA Alumni and Friends Association will once again be presenting two awards at the National Leadership and Skills Competition in Louisville, Ky.:

- The **Pioneer of Excellence Award** recognizes Alumni and Friends members and/or business and industry partners who have been a "Pioneer of Excellence" for *over five years* for the alumni association
- The **Outstanding Alumni and Friends Achievement Award** is for Alumni and Friends members and/or business and industry partners who have demonstrated a "Commitment for Excellence" for *up to five years* for the alumni association

To apply, please find the applications here: <https://www.skillsusa.org/alumni-pioneer-excellence-award-outstanding-alumni-friends-achievement-award/>

Applications must be received, not postmarked, to the SkillsUSA National Leadership Center by **April 16**. Please mail to: SkillsUSA Alumni Executive Board, c/oTaryn Zeigler, 14001 SkillsUSA Way, Leesburg, VA 20176.

SkillsUSA Championships Clothing and Tools App Updated

SkillsUSA has updated the “SkillsUSA: Clothing and Tools” app for 2018. For each contest, the app includes an overview, eligibility and clothing requirements, and safety guidelines. It also lists the tools, equipment or materials that contestants must provide. The app is free for students, instructors and SkillsUSA business partners and is available in both the Apple Store: <http://apple.co/2dt1b8d> and the Google Play Store: <http://bit.ly/2e5fRec>. The app was created and sponsored by Pearson (www.pearsoned.com).

Note: This is a great starter resource that *does not replace* the *SkillsUSA Championships Technical Standards*. The app connects users to SkillsUSA’s membership site, where [educators must join as professional members to receive the full book at no charge](#).

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:

- Marsha Daves Memorial Scholarship: www.skillsusa.org/membership-resources/scholarships-financial-aid/the-marsha-daves-memorial-scholarship/. This year’s applicants must be from Region 1. Deadline for applications is **May 1**.
- Sharon Melton Myers Memorial Scholarship: <https://skillsusa.wufoo.com/forms/sharon-melton-myers-memorial-scholarship/>. Deadline is **April 15**.
- SkillsUSA STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics) Scholarship: www.skillsusa.org/membership-resources/scholarships-financial-aid/skillsusa-stem-science-technology-engineering-mathematics-scholarship/. Deadline is **March 15**.

For additional scholarship information, continually check the website at:

www.skillsusa.org/membership-resources/scholarships-financial-aid/.

Or contact Susanne Kahler, 703-737-0616 or skahler@skillsusa.org

Upcoming **SPRING SEMESTER DEADLINES & DATES:**

February 15	Spring Membership Deadline
February 19	Kansas State Championships Registration Opens
March 1	CareerSafe Video Contest DUE
March 2	Kansas State Chamionships Early-bird Registration DEADLINE
March 8-10	State Officer Meeting, Hutchinson, KS
March 9	Board of Directors Meeting, Hutchinson, KS
March 9	Contest Chair Luncheon, Hutchinson, KS
March 9	Kansas State Championships Registration DEADLINE
March 15	STEM Scholarship Application DUE
April 15	Sharon Melton Myers Memorial Scholarship Application DUE
April 21	SkillsUSA Early Contest – WATC, Wichita, KS
April 23 – 27	State Officers report for KSC assignments, Hutchinson, KS
April 24	Courtesy Corps report for KSC assignments, Hutchinson, KS
April 25-27	SkillsUSA Kansas Championships, Hutchinson, KS
May 1	Marsha Davis Memorial Scholarship Application DUE
May 4	NLSC Registration DEADLINE
June 23-25	NLSC Pre-Conference, Louisville, KY
June 25-29	NLSC Conference, Louisville, KY

LINKS TO OPPORTUNITIES:

CareerSafe Video Contest (\$2500): <https://www.skillsusa.org/competitions/careersafe-video-contest/>
March 1, 2018 Deadline

Photo Contest (\$150): <https://www.skillsusa.org/competitions/image-contest/>

Scholarships and Financial Aid: <https://www.skillsusa.org/membership-resources/scholarships-financial-aid/>

SkillsUSA STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics) Scholarship:
www.skillsusa.org/membership-resources/scholarships-financial-aid/skillsusa-stem-science-technology-engineering-mathematics-scholarship/. Deadline is **March 15**.

ASSIGNMENT FOR SKILLSUSA KANSAS CHAPTERS:

- Please send pictures and a small paragraph from your SkillsUSA Week activities to bwarren@ksde.org
- Do one more round of recruitment before the February 15 membership deadline

Becky Warren, SkillsUSA Kansas State Director

Phone: 620-820-9367

Email: bwarren@ksde.org

Kelli Byrne, SkillsUSA Kansas Assistant

Phone: 785-296-3784

Email: kbyrne@ksde.org

SkillsUSA Kansas Website: www.SkillsUSAKansas.org

