



JAGUAR NATION

MAY 2015 • VOLUME 4, No. 7

SOMERSET COUNTY VOCATIONAL & TECHNICAL HIGH SCHOOL

SCVTH SkillsUSA CHAPTER RECEIVES NATIONAL RECOGNITION

PRINCIPAL'S CORNER

Dear Jaguar Nation,

State SkillsUSA competitions are being held at our school on Saturday, May 2nd and are open to the public. Students have been working hard to prepare for their competitions in their individual fields of study. Please come out to support our students, and help me wish all competing the best of luck!

Thursday, April 23rd, our Pupil Services Department conducted special activities in conjunction with Bring Your Child to Work Day. The day was a big success. We look forward to hosting this event in the future.

School Spirit Alerts for May:

- SCVTHS is preparing for our 1st Proud to be an American Day on Thursday, May 21st. Under the direction of Social Studies instructor Ed Graf, our school community will unite together to honor and remember our country's service men & women. The day will feature activities designed to highlight our awareness of patriotism and capture the essence of Memorial Day.
- Jaguars are on the fields: baseball and softball season has opened with a strong start! For a list of games and activity schedules, please refer to our website's Calendar of Events page.

Sincerely,
Diane M. Ziegler



Out of nearly four thousand chapters, the Somerset County Vocational & Technical High School's SkillsUSA Chapter was selected as a national Model of Excellence recipient. SkillsUSA is a national organization, which not only prepares students for careers in trade, technical and skilled service occupations, but also holds yearly competitions showcasing students and their skills.

Gayle Silvey, Membership Development Liaison at SkillsUSA, spoke of SCVTHS and its achievement saying, "As a Model of Excellence (MOE) winner, your chapter is among an elite group of the top 24 SkillsUSA chapters nationally." As part of the honor, SCVTHS SkillsUSA members and advisors will take part in a series of events during the National Leadership and Skills Conference (NLSC) in Louisville, Kentucky on June 22-26. Additionally, the SCVTHS SkillsUSA Chapter will receive a \$2,000 grant from Lowe's, a SkillsUSA sponsor.

"These chapters define excellence, and their best practices will serve as models for other chapters to emulate in strengthening their local programs," said SkillsUSA's executive director, Tim Lawrence. "We commend these chapters' impressive accomplishments."

According to a SkillsUSA press release, "The awards are the pinnacle of the national organization's new Chapter Excellence Program (CEP), which honors chapter achievements relative to SkillsUSA's framework of developing personal, workplace and technical skills grounded in academics. The framework actualizes SkillsUSA's mission to empower its student members to become world-class workers, leaders and responsible American citizens. It also serves as the blueprint for career readiness, the ultimate goal for SkillsUSA students. By centering on industry



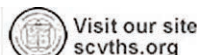
(Front, l-r): Past NJ SkillsUSA State Officer and Local Chapter President Apurva Swapnil, SCVTHS SkillsUSA Local Chapter Officer Yesha Parekh and NJ SkillsUSA State Treasurer Shawn Young. (Back): New Jersey State Director of SkillsUSA Peter Carey.

demands, the SkillsUSA framework builds a foundation for relevant learning and employability skill development."*

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SOMERSET COUNTY VOCATIONAL & TECHNICAL SCHOOLS
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A US News & World Report Top Ranked High School!



UPCOMING EVENTS

•SkillsUSA STATE COMPETITIONS
Saturday – May 2, 2015

•Proud To Be An American Day
Thursday – May 21, 2015 – 8:30am