

CTSO's participate in 2009 Student Organization Leadership Day

Approximately 1,000 students and advisors from across the commonwealth attended Student Organization Leadership Day (SOLD) activities at the Frankfort High School gym on Tuesday, February 10, 2009. Coordinated by the Kentucky Association for Career and Technical Education (KACTE), the event was held in honor of National Career and Technical Education Month.

According to KACTE's website, "*The goal of Student Organization Leadership Day is to raise visibility and demonstrate excellence of Career and Technical Education programs by providing officers of Career and Technical Education Student Organizations a leadership activity that addresses Kentucky's Learning Goals and Academic Expectations.*"



SkillsUSA Kentucky state officers meet KACTE president-elect Dale Winkler, KACTE executive director Mike Stone, Career and Technical Student Organization (CTSO) State Advisor Chair Reeca Carver and KACTE president Dr. Ahmed Sabie. Steve Phillippi serves as SkillsUSA state director and Ruth Gray serves as SkillsUSA state officer advisor.

For more information, visit:
<http://www.kacteonline.org/>



The 2009 national theme is Career and Technical Education: Building Blocks for a Successful Career.

Part of the SOLD agenda included a presentation entitled, “The Role of Citizens in the Legislative Process,” given by The Honorable Vernie McGaha, Kentucky State Senate, 15th District.



Photo, back row (l to r): Mike Stone, Thomas Thorne, FBLA Region 1 president; and Dr. Ahmed Sabie. Front row (l to r): Heather Helton, FCCLA vice president of Parliamentary Law; Mary Hollamon, FCCLA state president; and Senator McGaha.

“The Wrong Way and the Right Way – How to Meet a Legislator; Practicing Your Visit”



CTSO state officers practice their role-play exercise prior to the official performance.

Photo (l to r): Thomas Thorne, Jason Ballman, SkillsUSA Kentucky State parliamentarian; and Kristi Reeves, SkillsUSA State post secondary president.

On February 9, another building block activity took place. The annual CTSO State Officers Legislative Leadership Training session was held at the Holiday Inn Express.



Above: Kentucky HOSA State Advisor Elizabeth Bullock and HOSA State Officer Advisor Bridget Shartzter go over training exercises offered during the training session.

From left front around to right front: Andrea Lewis, SkillsUSA state officer and HOSA officers Celeste Brown, secretary; De Ann Wright, treasurer; Bullock, Schartzter, Cindy Phillips, Franklin Simpson HS HOSA advisor (far right); Donna Wolf, Union Co. HS HOSA advisor; Kelsy Adams, historian; and Matt Beard, vice president.

State officers representing DECA (an Association of Marketing Students), FBLA (Future Business Leaders of America), FCCLA (Family, Career and Community Leaders of America), FFA (an organization of agricultural education), HOSA (Health Occupations Students of America), SkillsUSA (trade, technical and skilled service occupations, including health occupations.), and TSA (Technology Student Association) attended the session to learn about the legislative process.



Photo (l to r): FBLA participants - Valerie Hobbs, state president; Steve Small, FBLA state advisor; Ashlee Florer, Region 5 president; Andrew Jones, state reporter; and Thomas Thorne, Region 1 president.

Mr. John Marks, executive director of the Office for Career and Technical Education was guest speaker during the evening training session. The following is an excerpt of his message to the students:

“We have the leadership of this state and the country right here in this room because you represent the future.

“Your student organization helped lay the foundation for teaching you the right way to deal with each other and to understand the function of government.

“In your leadership role, you have undergone training, formulated ideas and hopefully learned to base political opinions on facts. This training session is being conducted to help you with legislative debate, consideration of issues regarding a current bill before the general assembly, and role playing. We appreciate the efforts of KACTE executive director Mike Stone in making this possible.”



Office of Career and Technical Education executive director John Marks and Adam F. Knecht, National TSA vice president.

Mike Stone:

"Participation in SOLD lets career and technical education students learn about and see first hand Kentucky's legislative process.

"Too often students do not get the opportunity to experience how the legislative process really affects them and how they can have a real impact on legislation. Someday these students will be school board members, city council representatives, mayors, state legislators and other elected officials. We hope some of these students will be motivated to be leaders, and more importantly, that all will understand and participate in the governmental process."



KACTE executive director Mike Stone welcomes participants and provides an overview of the Legislative Leadership Training program.

Students had an opportunity to tour the State Capitol and meet with their legislators. Resolutions were read in both the House of Representatives and in the Senate in commemoration of February as 2009 Career and Technical Education Month.



(Above): Senator Vernie McGaha recognized Mary Hollamon, FCCLA state president from Crittenden Co. High School. At right, Representative Derrick Graham, 57th District, recognized Righter Dundon, SkillsUSA state president from Franklin County Career and Technical Center.



***Good News Flash #268 – February 13, 2009
Office of Career and Technical Education
Education and Workforce Development Cabinet***