



For immediate release  
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Leesburg, Va., Aug. 31, 2006—As teachers across the nation begin a new school year, a new study finds that career and technical education instructors not only expect a lot from their students, but they are witnessing the positive results of doing so.

Ninety-six percent of teachers polled at the SkillsUSA National Leadership and Skills Conference in June 2006 agreed that if teachers have high expectations, students will rise to meet them, and 98 percent of those same teachers indicated that their students value learning and education. In addition, 98 percent of the career and technical education instructors surveyed said they feel successful at their jobs.

“What this survey tells us is that from a teacher’s perspective, seeing the positive results of expecting students to rise to a challenge and witnessing the fact that career and technical education students value what they are being taught can be very rewarding,” said Tim Lawrence, executive director of SkillsUSA. “Career and technical education instructors are doing a great job of preparing tomorrow’s skilled workforce.”

The annual SkillsUSA National Leadership and Skills Conference is the largest and most diverse showcase of skill training in the nation. More than 4,800 students from the 50 states, Puerto Rico, Guam and the Virgin Islands competed this year in hands-on skills and leadership events for which their teachers prepared them.

SkillsUSA is partnership of students, teachers and industry working together to ensure America has a skilled workforce. The national organization serves more than 284,000 high school and college students and professional members enrolled in training programs in technical, skilled, and service occupations. Membership in SkillsUSA offers leadership, citizenship and character development programs and activities to complement skill training. SkillsUSA has one-quarter million members annually in 13,000 chapters in 53 state and territorial associations.

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