Think Big Thursday | School Board Presentation

Sample Talking Points for a Local School Board Presentation

Use these talking points to build a brief presentation about SkillsUSA and your local chapter. There is a PowerPoint template on the SkillsUSA Website (www.skillsusa.org) Resources page, along with a SkillsUSA Fact Sheet. Allow several students to speak, if possible, and personalize your remarks and data to your school, chapter and community. Be sure to adhere to the school board's time limit for your group. Remember the school board wants to understand the impact of the SkillsUSA program on current students and graduates of the school. They will be interested in specific skills gained and want to hear about activities, honors and individual student growth.

What is SkillsUSA?

- SkillsUSA is a partnership of students, teachers and industry working together to ensure America has a skilled workforce. We help each student excel.
- A nonprofit national education association founded in 1965, SkillsUSA serves middle-school, high-school and college/postsecondary students preparing for careers who are enrolled in trade, technical and skilled service (including health) occupations training programs.
- Nationally, there are over 444,000 members. Locally, our SkillsUSA chapter at [SCHOOL NAME] has [XXX] members studying in [XX] occupational programs such as cosmetology, drafting, automotive technology, welding, several medical fields, pre-engineering, and manufacturing.
- SkillsUSA is the #1 workforce development organization for students. We empower students to become skilled professionals, career-ready leaders and responsible community members. From our mission to our reach, from our brand to our history, learn who we are, what we do and why we do it.

How Does SkillsUSA Help Students?

- SkillsUSA helps students develop SkillsUSA Framework skills that include personal, workplace and technical skills grounded in academics. Our vision is to produce the most highly skilled workforce in the world, providing every member the opportunity for career success.
- Students lead SkillsUSA. They plan an annual program of work that includes workplace experiences, financial management, community engagement and advocacy including meetings.

Highlights of Your SkillsUSA Year

- Share highlights of your SkillsUSA year including fall leadership conferences, fundraising, community service, other presentations or future plans including local, state and national competitions and conferences.
- Have one or two students tell a SkillsUSA Framework story of an Essential Element they have developed through their SkillsUSA & CTE experience.

Wrap Up and Thank You

- Wrap up by thanking school board members for their work and support of public education and present a small handmade or SkillsUSA logo item to each school board member (if allowed; ask in advance). These should be practical and small items like a pen, pencil holder, business card holder or a key chain.
- Take photos with school board members, shaking hands or making your presentation. Share these photos and a story with the local media if they did not attend the school board meeting.