



CTSO ALASKA

Performance Based Assessment Conference

~ BPA ~ DECA ~ FCCLA ~ HOSA ~ SkillsUSA ~ EdRising ~ FFA ~

Black Spruce Design

September 2017

A New Year!

This summer has been a cooler one than we would have liked, but as I'm sure with many of you, I've been out and about and making the best of it. It is in that spirit that CTSO moves into the future with some changes on the horizon. First the known.

After many conversations and receiving answers to many questions, from many persons, a joint CTSO conference will occur this year although a bit smaller and with a different look and schedule. DECA will continue with their individual conference in Fairbanks as the three active chapters are from the Fairbanks-NorthStar area and this only makes sense for them from both a logistical and travel standpoint. In addition for a variety of reasons, SkillsUSA has decided that they will be having a separate conference too, with the date and location for lodging and meetings yet to be decided but with their contests continuing at KCC and UAA. BPA, EdRising, FCCLA and HOSA will be at the Hilton Anchorage once again with some minor changes to the schedule and events. Now the unknown.

Where does CTSO proceed after this school year? That is the question that is in the back of everyone's mind as we begin the planning for the conference for this year. With the continued decrease in funding from the state, the reality looks to be that this will be the last year of any type of joint conference for the foreseeable future. Each CTSO will most likely be moving towards a conference of their own.

This means big changes in how each group will operate, where and how each group moves forward with state officers, how and when and where to hold their competitive events, and what leadership activities to offer to their members.

Your State Advisors and I will be working hard with your State Officers to plan and execute a successful conference in the groupings mentioned above. At the same time we will all be carrying on a discussion about how to best move forward as this transition begins to

ensure the continued success of each CTSO and where I will fit in to this process during the third and final year of the grant to fulfill the various needs of both the State DEED and the individual CTSOs.

On September 29 and 30 the State Advisors and Officers and I will be meeting for our Fall Planning meeting and will choose our theme, logo and service project for the year, begin the search for our guest speakers, and develop our list of potential workshops. Our schedule will be full as in the past but I know that great work will begin and will continue as everyone looks forward to all that CTSO has to offer.

Please remember that any suggestions, questions, and concerns, can be sent to me or the State Advisors at any time throughout the year.

One last point of importance. For scheduling purposes of both contests and identifying judges, January 15 will be the registration deadline for BPA, EdRising, FCCLA and HOSA. Remember to plan accordingly and begin speaking with your local members soon about their possible competitive events.

Future Important Dates:

Scheduling our conference is always a challenge. We have to juggle spring breaks, sports, Easter, hotel venue availability, and National CTSO registration dates. We try our best but there will always be conflicts. As such, here are the tentative dates for the next two years:

Fall Planning - State Officers September 29 - 30
Winter Planning - State Officers January 19 - 20
2017-2018 State Conference Mar 22 - 24

for BPA, EdRising, FCCLA and HOSA
DECA State Conference Contact State Advisor
SkillsUSA State Conference Contact State Advisor

These dates may be adjusted and additional dates may be announced for special events.