



# CTSO ALASKA

## Performance Based Assessment Conference

### NAVIGATING YOUR FUTURE

~ BPA ~ DECA ~ FCCLA ~ HOSA ~ SkillsUSA ~ FEA

Black Spruce Design

April 2015

#### *Another one bites the dust . . . in a good way*

Here it is Sunday and the dust is still settling after another successful CTSO PBAC conference, and the recovery of sorts continues before the next school week begins. And before the work begins on next year's conference.

Bumps occurred along the way Thursday and Friday and a few minor ones on Saturday morning, but overall the conference was a success as we adapted along the way, especially for our students as they competed and succeeded. As advisors our lists of notes grew longer of things to do and not do next year, and in spite of being a couch-potato most of Sunday, I just couldn't stay away from some after-conference analysis and planning.

Here are some take-aways from this year:

- We had 590 registrants!
- The hotel staff commented on how well-behaved our students were.
- Several of our students, on their own volition, wrote and left notes of thanks for the Hilton staff.
- Several hotel guests commented on how professional our students looked and behaved.

I'll be paying the bills and preparing the reports to the state over the next several weeks. The new grant proposal will be out and will need to be written. But the most important task, in my mind, is compiling the surveys from Advisors and Students alike to get a sense of your impression of this year's conference. There will be the raw data and the graphs of your selections, but I'll also spend the time to compile all of your written comments. This is where I get a true sense of our conference and what did and did not go well. Comments run from good to not-so-good, but honestly I can say I read them all. By the May newsletter I hope to have all your comments compiled and be able to respond to your concerns and suggestions.

The next State Officer tele-conference will be a continued debriefing as we move forward in our planning and list of improvements for next year.

Thanks again for all your support and comments.

#### *This is why . . .*

For the first time ever, Alaska entered a team in a nationwide Virtual Business competition sponsored through BPA Nationals. The team consisted of three members from Mat-Su Career and Technical High School's chapter of Business Professionals of America (BPA) located in Wasilla, AK. The business team members, Kharissa Chasse, Mikayla Provo, and Sierra Woddall ran a virtual computer repair shop during a virtual repeatable three month on-line timeframe.

March 3rd to 20th was the actual time spent in competition with other BPA students from around the nation. The



goal was to make more money than the other 40 competing teams to win the prize of \$1,000. "Although neck and neck throughout the whole competition," said Mrs. Riddle, "in fact even up to the last ten minutes, the Alaska team placed **FIRST** in this national competition." Way to go Team Alaska!

#### ***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 three years:

- 2015-2016 Conference . . . . . Mar 31 - Apr 2
- 2016-2017 Conference . . . . . Mar 23 - 25
- 2017-2018 Conference . . . . . Mar 22 - 24

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