



CTSO ALASKA

Performance Based Assessment Conference

BUILDING SUCCESS TOGETHER

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

Black Spruce Design

March 2016

Hello Local Advisors!

Here we are, only 30 days away from conference! Time goes so fast and seems to be only faster the closer we get to a specific date when there is so much to do.

Today the State Advisors and Officers and I held the last phone conference call before conference begins. The next time we'll be together we'll be putting your conference bags together, creating thank you bags for our workshop presenters and finalizing many details to make things run as smoothly as possible.

We're also looking at record attendance this year. We currently have 650 to 675 registered to attend! That is 40 or more than last year. We anticipate that the number will be even higher next year when DECA is able to participate with us again. Growing pains are good and bad. Our strength and importance are shown by a greater interest and attendance, and our space and time limits are continuing to be squeezed. Anticipate a few changes as we move forward towards next year.

It does help that payment for conference is made before arrival if possible, and very much so upon arrival when you pick up your registration items. We have bills to pay and report deadlines to meet. Please pay early if possible. Remember there are two things about registration payment to remember:

- 1) Payment needs to be made to Steven Cook or Black Spruce Design, NOT your local chapter or district, and
- 2) I am not set-up to accept credit cards.

Hotel reservations should be well underway and can be started through the CTSO website and must be completed by March 15. After that date rooms will be released and the conference rate of \$99 cannot be guaranteed. Be sure to use the code CTSO16 to get this room rate.

Remember to start saving your coins. The Money War proceeds this year will go to Covenant House along with our Service Project theme of Building up our Homes. Some youth do not have a home, for a variety of reasons, and basic supplies are always in short supply for homeless and transitioning youth. Let's try to break the \$400 level this year in our Money War contribution.

Our workshop line-up this year has a little bit of old and a little bit of new. Here is a listing of titles to entice your attendees:

- WWAMI
- Be an Instructional Designer
- UAA - Business Logistics
- ANAC Nursing
- Alaska Business Week
- Building Future Friendships
- Fluid Power
- Parli Pro Procedures
- Mistakes Leaves Clues
- Create My Game Plan
- Hilton Tour
- Mat-Su College
- Finances for Students (College Financing)
- Teens and Money
- Drive Away Happy-So you want a car.

There are always questions as we near conference so don't hesitate to email or call if needed. It's easier to find the answer first, rather than correct an issue later.

Until then, enjoy your spring break and see you at conference.

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:

State Conference March 31-April 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.