

## MEMORANDUM

**FROM:** Mike Sitter, Athletic Director  
**TO:** District 301 Board of Education  
**DATE:** March 24, 2026  
**RE:** SkillsUSA Overnight State Competition, 4/23/26-4/26/26

---

SkillsUSA Sponsors, Matt Bilen and Elizabeth Covington, are requesting to take select students to the SkillsUSA State Competition held in Peoria IL. Students will be traveling via CHS Activity Buses.

Illinois' elite career competitions, The Championships, are the pinnacle events of SkillsUSA student members. Each year Illinois' best career and technical education students head to Peoria, IL to showcase their ability to enter the workforce. More than 5,000 individuals — including students, teachers, and business partners — are expected to participate in the multi-day event.

The Championships begins on Friday with students competing across 100+ career competitions designed to test their skills. Each competition is designed and run by representatives of respective industries, allowing students to gain a high degree of experience and insight. Afterwards, students are treated to a special social event for their hard work.

The involvement of industry in the SkillsUSA Illinois Championships program is essential. Leadership, health, trade, industrial and technical experts donate their time to serve as contest judges and as technical committee members. They assume responsibility for selecting the skills to be judged, determining the format of the contests and establishing the standards by which the contestants will be judged.

### **TENTATIVE ITINERARY**

#### **DAY ONE - THURSDAY, APRIL 23**

- Depart CHS, 11am
- 2p.m. – 6:30 p.m. Skills Fest and Conference Registration
- 4 p.m. Hotel Check-in Begins
- 7 p.m. Opening Session (Doors open at 6:30 p.m.)
- Career Competition Orientations

#### **DAY TWO - FRIDAY, APRIL 24**

- 5:30 a.m. – 8 a.m. Breakfast (Hot “Grab and Go” at Conference Hotels)
- 6 a.m. Career Competitions Begin (varies, check app)
- 8 a.m. – 5 p.m. Test Center (last check-in at 4 p.m.)

- 8:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. The Championships: Open To the Public
- 11 a.m. – 1 p.m. Lunch (provided, 30 minutes for each competitor).
- 3:30 p.m. Joint (HS/CPS) Delegate Session
- 7:05 p.m. Champions Night: Celebration Event

**DAY THREE - SATURDAY, APRIL 25**

- 6:30 a.m. – 8 a.m. Breakfast (Hot “Grab and Go”)
- 8:30 a.m. Awards Sessions (Doors open at 8am)

**Conference Information**

April 23-25, 2026

Peoria Civic Center

201 SW Jefferson Ave, Peoria, IL 61602

**Hotel Information**

Courtyard Peoria Downtown

533 Main Street

Peoria, IL 61602

**Students Attending**

Venkata	Anantha
Olivia	Botruff
Mark	Cabaluna
Matt	Carlson
Tulguldur	Davaajav
Samvir	Devineni
Elinor	Eickmeyer
Aidan	England
Maddy	Foloso
Ujwal	Gurugubelli
Alana	Hemphill
Evan	Kosobudzki
Chaitanya	Kulkarni
Ruans	Parikh
Kairo	Pye -Meyer
Kory	Yildirim