



Officer/Position

Report for the Month of: August 2026



Paige Roberts
President
Advisor:
Mrs. Essig

The past month since I last saw my teammates, has been spent diligently crafting my lesson plans, a supply list, and reviewing opening and closing ceremonies. Not only am I setting myself up for success by accomplishing these tasks but I am also setting up my teammates up for success as well by keeping things moving and doing my part. Creating lesson plans has to be one of the hardest things I've done. Coming up with an engaging activity that serves purpose and is educational yet fun is certainly an experience. But not one that I cannot accomplish. I've learned a lot about myself and about how I comprehend certain things but also recognizing that not everyone's brain works the way mine does. So incorporating that into making sure my lesson plans are easily understandable has helped me demonstrate an aspect of leadership to ensure everyone is included. Reviewing opening and closing ceremonies is important to me so I can feel confident in what I'm saying, and to memorize the parts I need to memorize to ensure that I am able to recite the things needed when not looking at the paper. Not only does this do a service to myself but it also acts as a service to helping my teammates so they can rely on me to know what to say and when to say it. This creates a level of trust and relaxation amongst each other in hopes that everyone does their part in knowing what they need to say. I'm excited to see what challenges WLTi pre-work brings for me and I am more than ready to start. I am also over the moon to be able to say that I am prepared for Fall Leadership and prepared to serve the students, my teammates, and myself because of everything I have accomplished over the past month.



Isabella Burton
Secretary
Advisor:
Mrs. Fisher

August has been a very busy and productive month as a SkillsUSA New York State Officer. This month, I have continued to grow as a leader while working on projects that will benefit both my home chapter and SkillsUSA members across New York State. One of the projects I have been working on is planning a fundraiser with my advisor, Mrs. Fischer, for our home chapter. We have been working together to come up with ideas, organize the details, and create a fundraiser that will help support our chapter and its activities. This experience has helped me strengthen my teamwork, communication, and organizational skills. I have also been working on advocacy and preparing to meet with members of Congress during WLTi. I have been contacting congressmen and their offices to arrange meetings and opportunities to speak with them. This has given me a better understanding of how important it is for SkillsUSA students and officers to advocate for career and technical education and make sure our voices are heard. Another important experience this month was meeting with Mr. Mahar to learn more about Perkins funding. During this meeting, I learned more about what Perkins funding is, how it supports Career and Technical Education programs, and why this funding is important to students and schools. This was a great opportunity to expand my knowledge and better understand the importance of advocacy for CTE. I have also been spending a lot of time planning and organizing activities for Fall Leadership. Working with the officer team to develop activities has allowed me to use my creativity while making sure our activities connect back to the SkillsUSA Framework and provide meaningful experiences for members. Overall, August has given me many opportunities to grow as a leader. From fundraising with my home chapter, beginning to advocate for CTE, learning about Perkins funding, and preparing activities for Fall Leadership, I have been able to put the SkillsUSA Framework into action while continuing to develop my leadership skills.



Grace Deal
Parliamentarian
Advisor:
Mr. Petronella

This August, much of what I have done for SkillsUSA involves planning out the year with my fellow chapter officers, so this year can be as productive as possible. This included planning when our chapter meetings were, when we can include activities for Chapter of Excellence, and activities and charities we can work with during the school that can help grow our chapter. Furthermore, I have been getting ready for WLTI and Fall Leadership through the prework, and am excited to go to Washington, D.C. in the future! As of now, I am focusing on the prework for everything and am excited to be working with my fellow State Officers in the future!



Kaleb Baldwin
Treasurer
Advisor:
Mr. Zwart

For me school is around the corner and with that comes more in school fundraisers and donations, like the cookie donation my culinary class partakes in. As a program we make a surplus of cookies and donate them to the Glen, which supports the elderly. I also want to spread awareness of SkillsUSA by just talking about it, my school knows nothing about it. Also, WLTI is around the corner and we've had to message someone from Congress to try to have a meeting with them. Region one is also around the corner which will help with developing more leadership skills. Fall leadership will follow Region 1 and me and the other state officers will be continuing to practice the opening and closing ceremony so we are fully prepared for it .



Brooke Dunkelberger
Reporter
Advisor:
Mr. Rozowski

This past month of August has given me time to reflect and prepare as a NYS SkillsUSA Officer. With attending Summer Leadership a few weeks ago, I have reflected and taken so much away from that experience. I now feel better prepared to teach, lead, and serve as your NYS SkillsUSA Reporter. With senior year approaching, SkillsUSA is now in full gear. In September we will be traveling to Washington D.C. to attend WLTi. I am beyond thrilled to have this opportunity. Not only do I get to reconnect with my fellow officers, but meet new officers from all over the United States! In the meantime, I have been preparing for our Fall Leadership Conference this October. As officers, we were assigned to make four activity plans and connect them to the SkillsUSA Framework. That has kept me busy! But it only excites me more to meet everyone at Fall Leadership! I am so excited to enter senior year and build my skills all throughout the year.



Madelyn Danaher
Historian
Advisor:
Mrs. O'Brien

This month, as a NYS Officer for SkillsUSA, I have continued preparing for our Fall Leadership Conference by working closely with representatives from our selected organization and meeting with their directors to discuss and work out the details of our community service plan. I have enjoyed being able to contribute to the planning process and am excited to see our plans come together as we get closer to the conference. I also continue to look forward to attending our WLTi Conference and all of the opportunities that come along with it. In preparation, I have reached out to my local representatives in Congress to organize a potential meeting during the conference. I am very much looking forward to the opportunity to continue building my network, advocating for the importance of CTE programs, and overall just gaining a better understanding of how I can use my position as a SkillsUSA state officer to try to make a positive impact. I am also excited to participate in the leadership training at WLTi and learn new skills that I can bring back to my chapter and apply throughout the rest of my term as State Officer.



Alana Frank
Area I VP
Advisor:
Mrs. Probst

I am really excited for the upcoming school year and everything that comes with being your Area 1 Vice President. After everything we learned from attending the Summer Leadership Conference, I'm excited to see what this upcoming school year will bring. I'm especially looking forward to being back with the other state officers and getting started with everything we have planned. One of the things I'm most excited about is working with my school to help bring in more SkillsUSA members and teach them what SkillsUSA is all about. I want to help get more students involved and show them how much SkillsUSA can help them grow as leaders and in their future careers. I'm excited to plan ways to promote SkillsUSA at WEMOCO and make sure new members feel welcomed and included right away. We have already started practicing our Fall Leadership Conference activities and presentations, and I'm excited to continue preparing for the conference. During the Summer Leadership Conference, we learned so much about leadership, teamwork, and how to work together as a state officer team. I'm looking forward to taking everything we learned from Summer Leadership and putting it into our Fall Leadership activities and presentations. It will be really exciting to see how much we have grown and how we can use what we learned to make the Fall Leadership Conference even better. I also can't wait to spend more time with the other state officers and continue building our relationships as a team. In September, our state officer team will also be attending WLTi, where we will have the opportunity to learn even more about leadership, and how we can use it in more ways and develop stronger skills. I'm excited to learn new things, challenge myself, and bring what we learn at WLTi back to our chapters and events. I think these experiences will help us become a stronger and more confident team. Overall, I'm really looking forward to this school year and all the opportunities that come with it. I know there will be a lot of hard work, but I also know there will be so many fun moments and memories along the way. I'm grateful for the opportunity to be the Area 1 Vice President for New York state, and I can't wait to get started and make this SkillsUSA year the best one yet!



Rhianna DeVoe
Area II VP
Advisor:
Mrs. Lewis

August has been an exciting month as we continue preparing for another great year with SkillsUSA! My fellow officers and I have been getting ready for our upcoming trip to Washington, D.C. for WLTi. I am really looking forward to this opportunity to learn, grow as a leader, and represent New York SkillsUSA alongside my fellow officers. We are also beginning to prepare for the Fall Leadership Conference. There is a lot to look forward to, and many new exciting things and I am very excited to see everyone again and welcome another year of SkillsUSA memories, teamwork, and leadership! I cannot wait to see everyone and get this year started. I am looking forward to making this year one of our best yet and continuing to grow SkillsUSA together!



Skye Hodgson
Area III VP
 Advisor:
 Mrs. Citro

Since my last report, I have been in contact with my officer team preparing and communicating about upcoming events such as the Region 1 Conference, WLTl, and of course Fall Leadership! As of my chapter, we have been in the process of coming up with ideas to expand our SkillsUSA participation and career readiness for this upcoming school year. We have also been trying to find ways to promote Career and Technical Education and SkillsUSA our home schools, in hopes to inspire our younger students and teach them about the opportunities that are out there. One thing I have learned during this past month is that time management and communication is key. I am so excited to start off this new school year and get to turn my ideas into action!



Cameren Thibault-Edmonds
Area IV VP
 Advisor:
 Ms. Dickerson

In August I took advantage of the opportunity to email congressional representatives from Area IV in New York about setting up a meeting during WLTl. This meeting is about the importance of Career and Technical Education, and the continued funding and support of such from the federal government – specifically federal Perkins funding and support for CTSOs. (Career and Technical Student Organizations, like SkillsUSA!). This experience helped me grow my strengths in the essential elements of Communication, and Planning, Organization, and Management.



Ekam Dhillon
Area V VP
Advisor:
Ms. Mleczowski

It has been an incredible honor to serve as your Area 5 Vice President for another month. I've continued to learn, grow, and work with my fellow officers and advisors in preparation for important upcoming SkillsUSA events. Last month, I talked about attending Summer Leadership with my fellow officers. Here, we laid the plan for what each of us was responsible for in the vital months leading up to the Washington Leadership Conference in September and the Fall Leadership Conference in November. I followed through with this planning by reaching out to congressmen representing my area for WLTI, requesting a meeting time and date to discuss CTE funding. Additionally, I worked on creating and reviewing activity plans for our top-secret Fall Leadership, which I am very excited for. Just a couple of days ago, the team once again met as a unit via Google Meet. It was efficient and great to meet once again as a collective and ensure we were all on the same pace and track to achieve our goals for NYS SkillsUSA and approach our rapidly nearing conferences. I have also kept in touch with my advisors both at my school and my room advisors to further schedule and discuss our planning process for events such as Fall Leadership and goals for my own home school. As the school year is nearly approaching, I am ecstatic and determined to bring back what I have learned as a State Officer back to my chapter. The various framework activities, whether they teach what the framework is as a whole or work the students through a situation where they can see the relevance of a specific essential element, will be key to teaching more students the vital role and impact SkillsUSA has. I plan to incorporate these activities at my chapter's monthly general meetings. In addition, at both NLSC and Summer Leadership training, we discussed community service activities for the state as a whole and successfully decided on one. I would love to bring this back to my chapter nearing the time of Fall Leadership, but also plan on hosting more service events, some based on the wonderful ideas our state officer team came up with. For example, we had thought of doing a card drive, which can easily be a short opening event at one of our general meetings and get donated to about 100 people in need if each person were to make one. I am also greatly excited to continue service events from previous years, such as Haunted Hallways, where we decorate and open up our school to elementary students to trick-or-treat safely, as well as expanding this drive for other holidays with a potential Christmas event and an Easter event.



Halina Contrearras
Area VI
Advisor:
Mrs. Bua

During the month of August, I have been reflecting on my summer leadership experiences and what the 2026–2027 school year will hold. This summer has taught me new ways to include people from different backgrounds and make everyone feel welcomed and valued. I have learned that being a strong leader means listening to others, working as a team, and making sure everyone has a voice. My advisor, Mrs. Geri Bua, and I have been working together to plan fundraisers for the upcoming school year and revise our chapter's Fall Leadership activities. We want to create new and exciting opportunities for our members to get involved and feel connected to SkillsUSA. I have also been preparing for my upcoming meeting with Senator Gillibrand's office during WLTI. I look forward to discussing the importance of funding SkillsUSA and CTE programs, especially programs that prepare students for high-demand careers. I hope to use my voice as a student leader to advocate for the resources and opportunities that CTE students need to succeed.

Overall, August has been a month of learning, preparing, and growing as a leader. I am excited to take everything I have learned this summer and use it to make a positive impact during the 2026–2027 school year.



Jude Cabrera
Officer At Large
 Advisor:
 Mr. Miller

Hello New York SkillsUSA!

So far this month, I have been working on all my pre-work for the school year. I have been looking into how I can fundraise for my local chapter's school year to help future students join SkillsUSA. I have been working on scheduling meetings with New York State Representatives and Senators to advocate for Perkins Funding to help our CTE Schools and SkillsUSA directly.

I am so excited to go to the Washington Leadership Training Institute in September and meet the other State Officers and meet with the new National Officers as well.

Besides WLTi, the other New York State Officers and I have been working together to make Fall Leadership as engaging and educational as possible to help support our chapter officers as they grow throughout their tenure in their chapters.

Bailey, Maddie, and I have all been working closely together before FLC to make our community service project come to life and to support New York State and the surrounding communities up in Albany.

I am very excited to meet with members of SkillsUSA at Fall Leadership, and I'm so excited to help our Officers make a difference in their Chapters and their Communities. I hope everyone will love our Conference as much as I have loved preparing for our Fall Leadership Conference.



Bailey Douglas
Officer At Large
 Advisor:
 Ms. Wyatt

During the month of August, I have been preparing for the upcoming Fall Leadership conference and making sure I have all of my activities and responsibilities organized. I have been working on getting everything together so that I can start the year prepared, confident, and ready to represent my organization to the best of my ability.

I have also been working closely with my community service team to plan and prepare for upcoming service activities. Working together has helped us communicate, share ideas, and make sure that we are prepared to make a positive impact in our community.

Another important part of this month has been getting ready for WLTi. I have been preparing for the experience and making sure I am ready to learn, grow as a leader, and represent my organization. I am looking forward to gaining new skills and bringing what I learn back to my chapter and fellow members.

Throughout August, I have also participated in Google Meets with my fellow state officers. These meetings have allowed us to communicate, work together, discuss upcoming events, and stay organized as a team. Even though we may not always be meeting in person, these meetings have helped us stay connected and work toward our goals together.

Overall, August has been a month of preparation, teamwork, and leadership development. I am excited for the fall and look forward to continuing to work with my fellow state officers, my community service team, and the members I represent.