

# the DECA Connection



A Product of Oregon DECA's State Officer Team

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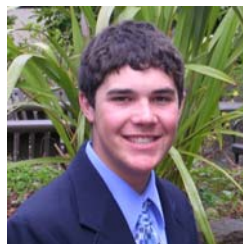
The state officer team at their August planning meeting.

## How to start your DECA year off right:

- Promote DECA in freshmen classes.
- Hold a back-to-school DECA BBQ before a football game.
- Have a DECA sponsored dance.
- Start planning your DECA week.

## Welcome Back

By Max Patterson, President



Welcome back to what I'm sure will be an amazing school year as well as DECA year! I hope you all had a wonderful summer filled with lots of excitement, adventure and fun. Now that the summer is over, it's time to get back into the swing of things not only within your school, but also within your DECA chapter.

The state officer team is striving for a large boost in membership and the way this boost in membership can be most easily attained is at the local level. Returning members (second, third and fourth year members) and chapter officers are the most vital part of recruiting new members. Returning members are an incredible resource. These members are already committed to the chapter and are typically ecstatic about DECA. Having members converse with non-members is a great way to spread

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## Oregon Leadership Institute

By Jessica Hogan, Secretary/Treasurer



This year your state officers are excited to announce that we have come together with the Oregon

FBLA state officers to provide both organizations with a combined fall leadership conference. This conference is known as the Oregon Leadership Institute (OLI). OLI will be held in Eugene at the Valley River Inn on November 2-3, 2008.

OLI will have many workshops for DECA students to choose from, which will be presented by your own state officers and TRI

Leadership Resources. There will also be an etiquette dinner, keynote speaker, chapter time and a combined DECA and FBLA dance. This whole conference will be a great opportunity to have fun, network, and learn lots of great leadership skills.

There will also be a friendly competition between DECA and FBLA, DECA will be raising money for our national charity, The Muscular Dystrophy Association (MDA) and FBLA for theirs, which is March of Dimes. The winning organization will get ice cream at the conclusion of the conference to celebrate so be sure to bring an

extra buck or two for MDA and ice cream.

This conference is available to potential members as well as veterans. Registration for the event is due by Wednesday, October 8 and will be \$50 for both advisors and students. It will be important to get your registration paperwork and hotel reservations made by the deadline. The hotel is \$89.00 per night plus tax.

Your state officers are excited for this event and hope to see you and your chapter there!

## Welcome Back (cont.)

spread the word. Some other cool ways to reach non-members within your school are listed below:

- **Back to School Socials** - Back to school DECA socials are a great way to get old and new members together. While these chapter functions may not draw a huge crowd of non-members, they will generate a buzz around school. Every student wants to be a part of an awesome DECA pizza party.
- **DECA Dress-up Days** - One day a week, have your chapter officer team and

supporting members dress up in professional clothes and maybe even DECA blazers. Be prepared to flaunt your DECA knowledge to interested non-members.

- **Offer Incentives** - Does your school have a student store? Student stores are a goldmine of ways to entice customers (non-members in particular) to join DECA. If a previous non-member joins, give them a coupon for a percentage off of food or merchandise at your student store.

These are two ways to generate buzz around your school and gain

more members for your DECA chapter. Oregon DECA is extremely excited for this upcoming year and we hope to be able to share the excitement with new members from across the state.

By utilizing these ways of recruiting new members, you can help this great organization grow, as well as help students attain new skills that can be used for a lifetime.

## 2008 Western Region Leadership Conference

By Jessica Hogan, Secretary/Treasurer



The 2008 Western Region Leadership Conference (WRLC) will be held on November 20-22 in Phoenix, Arizona.

If you have been to a WRLC, you know how exciting they are, and how much you will enjoy and learn from them. They are full of excitement, networking and learning. There will be keynote speakers, workshops done by professionals in the business community, tours, a Phoenix Suns

basketball game vs. our very own Portland Trailblazers, and many others activities for you and your chapter to attend.

Fall members it is a great time to spend time with your chapter, network and make new friends, while meeting other DECA members from all over the western region.

The WRLC registration site will be available online through [www.wrdeca.org](http://www.wrdeca.org). The deadline for registering is Friday, October 17. Oregon will be staying at the Hyatt Regency Phoenix and

registration is due Monday, September 1.

This is a wonderful opportunity and a great conference to attend. It is highly recommended as well as highly respected. We hope to see you there!



## DECA Week

By Anne Marie Sketch, Publicity Director



Not only is it time to kick off your school year, but it's a great time to kick off your DECA year also.

This year, DECA Week will be held October 12-18. This is the perfect time to recruit new members, bond with your chapter, and start working towards your DECA goals. Some great ways to get students interested in DECA are to hold a dance after school or after a football game, have a pizza party in the marketing room, or have booths where

students could play games and win prizes.

Along with all of the fun stuff you can do with your chapter, don't forget about DECA Serve Day. This is a day reserved for a community service project. You can do things such as clean up your school, raise money for a local charity, or hold a canned food drive.

Also, if you meet certain requirements for the National Membership Campaign, you can earn rewards. For more information, please visit

<http://www.deca.org/membership/campaign.html>, or talk to a state officer.

The options for activities for DECA Week are endless. So dream big Oregon DECA and have fun! We wish you the best of luck.



*Lebanon DECA's booth during last year's DECA week.*

## District I Skills Conference

By David Hong, District I Vice President



As this year begins with a bang, so will the District I Skills Conference. The conference will be held on

October 10, 2008 at Rex Putnam High School. All schools in District I have been invited. This is a great time for members to sharpen up their DECA skills and have the opportunity to win medals, as well as gain experience.

There will be four competitive events offered, including: Apparel and Accessories, Retail Marketing,

Business Service Management, and Food Service Management. There will be two divisions offered, a novice level for first-timers and an open for the more experienced members.

Along with gaining experience and knowledge, this is a great time to network and have some fun.

The competition will begin at 9:00 a.m. at Rex Putnam High School, located at 4950 SE Roethe Rd, Milwaukie. Due to construction, parking space is limited.

For more information, please contact David Hong at [dIvp@oregondeca.org](mailto:dIvp@oregondeca.org)



## District II Skills Conference

By Anne Marie Sketch, Publicity Director



The District II Skills Conference will be held at Taft High School in Lincoln City on January 10,

2009. All chapters in District II are invited and if your chapter is outside of district II but would like to attend, please contact Anne Marie Sketch.

This will be a great time to get some extra practice for state and to network with other members and advisors.

This year, we will be offering the following competitive events: Apparel and Accessories, Business

Service Management, Retail Marketing and Food Service Management. The events will include a 50 question multiple choice test and two role-plays. There will also be awards handed out to the top three in each category: test, role-play and overall.

Along with the competition, there will be a beach party afterwards full of fun, food, and networking. This is a great time to relax and enjoy the beach, weather permitting, of course.

Taft High School is located at 3780 Spyglass Ridge Dr, Lincoln City. If you need directions, feel free to ask.

More information about the conference will follow shortly. You can also contact Anne Marie Sketch at [publicity@oregondeca.org](mailto:publicity@oregondeca.org), for more information.

Hope to see you there!

### Competitive Event Changes

- New Chapter Team Event: Financial Literacy Promotion Project, like the Entrepreneurship Promotion Project.
- Title Change: The former Internet Marketing Business Plan will now be known as the Internet Marketing Plan.



## Contact Information

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## District III Skills Competition

By Amanda McLean, District III Vice President



To kick off this new DECA year, I am excited to announce the District III Skills

Conference. The competition will once again be held at the Oregon Institute of Technology campus in the Student Union building. The date is October 22, 2008. We will be contacting you soon about registration.

The competitive events for this conference will consist of: Apparel and Accessories, Retail Marketing, Food Marketing,

Business Service Management, and possibly a lunch time round of DECA Quiz Bowl.



Not only will this be a great opportunity for more competition practice it will also be an awesome time to work on your networking skills.

Don't miss your opportunity to be a part of this great competition!



*Klamath Union at the District III competition last year.*

## Important Fall Dates

### September

- 2 Stock Market Game begins
- 17 Board of Advisors' Meeting, Salem

### October

- 12-18 DECA Week
- 12-18 DECA Serve Day (can be held any day during DECA Week)
- 10 District I Skills Conference, Rex-Putnam High School, Milwaukie
- 17 Final registration for Western Region Leadership Conference
- 17 Final registration and payment due for New York Experience Conference
- 22 District III Skills Conference, Oregon Institute of Technology, Klamath Falls

**We want to hear from you!**

Send your stories for inclusion in the DECA Connection to [publicity@oregondeca.org](mailto:publicity@oregondeca.org)