



# DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Monthly Newsletter for the Roughrider Area Career and Tech Center

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## RACTC Students Attend State Leadership Conference

The state SkillsUSA Leadership Conference was held in Wahpeton from April 19 through April 21, 2015. The leadership conference was held on the North Dakota State School of Science with approximately 600 students and advisors in attendance.

On the morning of April 19th Seven students from the Roughrider Area Career and Tech Center loaded the bus along with Dickinson High School students at 5:00 a.m. Upon arriving in Wahpeton schools checked in at their motel rooms and rushed off to NDSCS in preparation for the afternoon activities and competitive events.



Competitors for the Roughrider included: Taycee Butts—Job Interview and First Aid-CPR; Natalie Davila-Franco-Job Skill Demonstration and Medical Terminology; Abbi Jonio— Medical Terminology; Michelle Schuh-First Aid; and Kyle Wegner— Medical Math.

For two years straight Kyle has placed first in the Medical Math competition. Last year Kyle was unable to attend the national competition due to Governor's School which was in conflict with the national conference. This year Kyle will be attending the national convention in Louisville, Kentucky from

attending the national convention in Louisville, Kentucky from

June 22 through June 26. Kyle will represent the Roughrider Area Career and Tech Center, Dickinson High School and North Dakota as he competes nationally.

## CTSO's Develop a Well Rounded Student

This past spring I have had the opportunity to attend the state Future Business Leaders of America held in Fargo from March 29th to April 31 and the SkillsUSA Leadership conferences held in Wahpeton from April 19th to April 21. This week FFA is holding it's State Convention in Fargo.

Career and Technical Students Organizations (CTSO's) are a big part of Career and Technical Education. Students have the opportunity to utilize their knowledge and skills through competitions in preparation for the workforce. Students also are presented with opportunities to improve, grow, and also learn.

There is a tremendous amount of work that is put forth by the students, parents and advisor. Southwestern North Dakota has been represented very well with students being elected to state offices, students successfully competing in individual and team events. The success of students cannot happen without the support of parents, enthusiasm of advisors, and corporate sponsorship. To sum it all up it is a great experience to see these young people participate and show their leadership skills.



Classroom picture of Hettinger students enrolled in Mrs. Steeke's ag class.

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## RACTC Calendar

June 1—5 FFA State Convention (Fargo)  
June 3 RACTC Monthly Board Meeting (DSU SU Rm 112)  
June 21—26 National SkillsUSA Conference (Louisville, KY)  
June 23—Moodle and Tegrity Training 9:00-12N MT  
July 1, 2015 RACTC Monthly Board Meeting (DSU SU Rm 112)

*Activities will be added as they become available.*

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## A Closing Note from the Director by Larry Sebastian

I want to say thank you to everyone that has helped me over the past three years as Director of the Roughrider Area Career and Technical Center. Mr. Kevin Nelson and Dr. Marcus Lewton were people who gave me direction in learning my position as director. Both of them were very helpful over the past three years, and I thank them for their time and expertise.

I have enjoyed my time working with the RACTC Board of Directors. These board members have taken the time and have traveled the extra mile to ensure the support and success of the RACTC virtual center. Each school district is responsible to have one local board member represent their school district on the Roughrider board. Many of these individual board members have worked together for nearly seven years. Next year will be the first year when all originating board members will not be on the board, and a new group of board members will set the direction of the RACTC.

The Roughrider has had a solid group of teachers over the past seven years. Each teacher has brought their own personality and talents to the Center. The virtual center has given them the flexibility on how courses are delivered in the consortium and throughout North Dakota. Moodle and Tegrity has been a vital part in their teaching. Thank you to Mrs. Christensen, Mrs. Gullickson, Mr. Zielke, Mrs. Steeke, Mrs. Lengowski, Mrs. Dschaak, Mrs. Johnson, and Mrs. O'Donnell for your years of hard work.

I have enjoyed my time traveling and visiting each school district over the past three years. I have enjoyed working with the local administration, business managers, secretaries, facilitators, technology coordinators, and students. That does entail a lot of people, but most importantly I have enjoyed working with all of them.



We do live in an age of curriculum change and teacher shortages. The RACTC has been a partner in providing CTE courses that would not have been or may not have been offered at the local level. Health Careers courses have always been the driving force within the RACTC. Ag. Education has seen growth as school districts are having difficulty filling those positions. Continuing to work together will provide those opportunities to students in southwest North Dakota. It is vital that school districts continue to work together to provide those opportunities to

students. The framework for this to happen is in place whether student enrollments decline or increase and teacher shortages become more prevalent.