

**Technology Students Association**  
**State Conference Information**  
**Wednesday, April 15, 2015 – Saturday, April 18, 2015**

We want to get some State Conference information out to you so that you can discuss it with your parents and determine if you should attend the State Conference.

1. Anyone who participated at Regionals can attend – you do not have to place at the Regional conference to attend States. However, there may be competitions you cannot enter if you did not place at the Regional conference.
2. Please be advised – Academic/Behavior issues in school (such as failing grade in class/ISS or continuing inappropriate or disruptive behavior) could prohibit you from being able to attend the state conference.
3. You must choose a **minimum** of three competitions to compete in at the State Level. These competitions can be the same or different from the Regional conference.
4. You will not always be under adult supervision. You are in your hotel rooms on your own. The advisors do room checks and "tape" you in at night, but there is not an adult with you in your room.
5. Male students will be placed 4 people per room, which means you may have to share a bed. The female students will be placed 2 people per room (because we have just 2 girls).

**State Information:**

Date: April 15-18, 2015 (Wednesday – Saturday)

Location: Seven Springs Resort, Champion PA (<http://www.7springs.com/>)

Dress: Official TSA Attire for competition/meeting times (purchased by students). Link for TSA store: <http://www.costore.com/tsa/welcome.asp>. Casual attire for other times. See attached dress code information.

Cost: At this time it does not appear that the students will have to incur any of the room & board, bus, or registration fees (these are being paid by the school district at this point). If this changes I will let you know.

You should bring your own spending money. Also, TSA attire is required and will need to be purchased by you (see above under "Dress")

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## **2015 TSA State Conference Information**

- **Please note that there is little time between Regionals and States!!!**
- **A minimum of 3 competitions and a max of 6 are required at States.**
- **You need to be working on your events both in and out of school – I am available most days after school – check with me for specific dates**

### **Bus details:**

- We are traveling on a Coach Bus
- Please pack conservatively.
- Label all luggage and projects with your name and "DVHS TSA".

**TSA students** should bring all luggage and projects to room S3 before first period on Wednesday, April 15<sup>th</sup>.

**Departure:** Wednesday, April 15<sup>th</sup>, 2015 **tentative** times

- Pick up at DVHS – around 8:15 am
- Students will report to Mr. Curtis in S3 right after first period attendance.

\*\*\* Students are required to find out what work they will miss while away at States and complete the work, during the conference, for when they return. They may bring their work with them and use down time in their room to complete their homework. \*\*\*

**Return:** Saturday, April 18 at approximately 6:30 pm at DVHS (**tentative**).

**\*\*We will use cell phones to give exact times\*\*  
\*\*\*\*Parents please be prompt!!\*\*\*\***

**If you cannot go to the State Conference, you need to let me know as soon as possible! DO NOT TELL ME YOU ARE GOING AND THEN EITHER NOT SHOW UP FOR THE BUS OR TELL ME THE LAST MINUTE YOU CHANGED YOUR MIND – THIS COSTS TOO MUCH AND IS UNFAIR TO YOUR TEAMMATES AND SCHOOL!**

HOTEL Cancellation Policy

- 14 days prior to conference – no fee
- less than 14 days – 1/3 reservation fee charged

**Required Forms:**

- TSA Code of Behavior / Dress code Form, TSA Event Consent Form, TSA Personal Liability and Medical Release form (some of you have already submitted these – I will let you know if you need to still do these)
- DVHS Field Trip Permission Form

**Room Assignments:**

- Students will be staying in hotel rooms. Students will be in the hotel rooms by themselves, no chaperone will be staying with them.
- Students will be responsible to make sure they are where they need to be at the correct time, this includes morning breakfast, all meals, competitions, etc.
- Parents – please check your student's room assignment.

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*A note from PA-TSA BOD president.*

*First of all, a BIG congratulations to all the students throughout the state who have qualified for the state conference in April at Seven Springs. This is the second step on the path to the national conference. I hope everyone realizes the work that needs to be done to compete at this next level.*

*Make sure you take the time to review your event criteria and judging sheet. Secondly, go over your event if it is a static event to make sure it is ready for a higher level of competition.*

*If you will be participating in the many number of onsite events, whether they are individual or team make sure you prepare. Many little things seem to happen at the conference. For instance, you look in your supplies and realize that you left something very important at your school. A suggestion would be to make a checklist to ensure this does not happen.*

*Thanks and good luck to everyone who will attend the conference this year.*

*Bud Gotwald ~ PA-TSA BOD president.*

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**Extra Money**

- **Wednesday and Saturday meals;** we stop at a rest stop on the PA Turnpike.
- Spending money at the shops, for souvenirs, etc.
- **Students must pay their own telephone bill (\$).**
- Activity money – arcade, bowling \$7, Mini Golf \$6, Pool...
- There are a number of shops available: pizza, café, snacks, bakery, camera shop, souvenirs and clothing (\$).
- **It is customary to tip the bus driver each way and to leave a gratuity in the room for the housekeeping staff. Our suggestion is for each student to give us 10 \$1 bills prior to the trip in an envelope with their name on it and we will take care of tipping the appropriate people.**

**Hotel facility**

- The resort is in a secluded area of Southwestern Pennsylvania. TSA occupies the entire complex during States.
- The students do not leave the buildings.
- The hotel and TSA supply security staff 24 hours a day. Medical staff is also provided.
- There is an 11PM curfew when all students must be in their room area. Group meetings are held at this time. After the meeting, Advisors "tape" the students into their rooms. The tape is checked in the early morning.
- There is almost always a parent, advisor or hotel staff personnel in the hallway in the room area.
- Rooms are on one end of the complex, dining rooms and shops toward the center and competition rooms at the other end. Students are to travel in pairs or with a parent or advisor.
- Parents, there will be times when students are not under direct supervision of Delaware Valley School District chaperones (examples: while in hotel rooms, event competition, pool, etc.)

**TV has local cable and cannot** be used to connect Student DVD players, Video games, Etc. – Do NOT bring them.

**Food**

- **All meals are included in the cost except Wednesday's dinner and Saturday's lunch. The bus will stop at a fast food complex for those meals. Please send money (\$) for these meals.**
- In the hotel all meals are buffets and the food choices are student oriented.
- Snacks can be brought along for the bus ride and to have in the room.
- Dietary restrictions or needs should be kept in mind if bringing snacks and for meals.
- **DO NOT BRING ANY ENERGY DRINKS** e.g. 5-hour, Monster, Red Bull, etc.

**Activities**

- Seven Springs is a winter ski resort. However, no TSA students are allowed on the ski slopes. No skiing, snowboarding, sledding, body-boarding, etc. This is not debatable.
- There is a large indoor swimming pool; bring a swimming suit. Towels are provided. Students must inform advisor or another chaperone if they intend to go to the swimming pool. No individual may go to the pool alone.
- **Other activities available are a bowling alley (\$8.25), indoor miniature golf (\$6), game rooms (\$), and racquetball.**

**Items to Bring**

- **Competition Item**
- Toiletries (think about what you use in the morning and evening and pack those items)
- Comfort Item
- Official TSA dress for competition time
- Comfortable clothes (nice jeans, khaki's, etc.)
- Travel Clothes
- Sweatshirt (it's cold in the eating area)
- Appropriate shoes
- Swim Suit
- Snacks
- Cell Phone and Charger
- School work
- Downtime items (book to read, crosswords, Ipod, etc)
- Umbrella, shampoo & conditioner (in case we are in the villas – we will know this ahead of time.)

Uniform wise: TSA Blue button down Or white dress shirt Tie Black shoes (comfortable) 2 gray pants Polo Can buy t-shirts and sweatshirts there
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**Behavior**

**A TSA Conference is an extension of school, so all school rules and policies are in effect and violators will be dealt with according to these rules.**

**Failure to comply with these rules may result in the student or chapter being sent home at the parent's expense. Further dealings with the advisor, principal or Pennsylvania TSA Board of Directors may be necessary.**

**Dress Codes will be enforced.**

Thank you for all of your help in this time sensitive matter.

Mr. Curtis