



Monthly Newsletter

October 2019

coloradotsa.org

Meetings are at the core of every chapter's activities, so it is vital that your meetings are successful if you are to make a successful chapter. The main message of this month's newsletter will be meetings. Here are some general tips to have a successful one:

- Make a PowerPoint/Google Slides presentation in advance!
- Having a plan is crucial to your success
- Let a different officer run a different part of the meeting
 - This will allow each officer to get crucial leadership experience
- Have set times to end certain parts of the meeting
 - If one part of the meeting is taking a super long time to get through, then it may not be the best use of your time

Looking back

CTSO Kickoff was a success! Hopefully each chapter officer in attendance learned something useful and had a great takeaway from it!

TSAxHOSA's Fall Leadership Conference was a success as well! It was great to teach everyone about leadership and how to be a great leader.

Moving forward

The state rules and regulations will be out on October 18th! It's time to start preparing for districts and then state.

State Committees will be starting up soon. In these committees, students will be able to help plan TSA events such as the State Conference! Go to coloradotsa.org for more information.

The Authors



The COTSA State Reporter, Jaeden Toy, is a current junior at STEM School Highlands Ranch! He has been participating in the Technology Student Association since 8th grade. His favorite event is Essays On Technology. Outside of TSA and other clubs, you are likely to catch him watching his favorite TV series, reading a good book, or playing some sort of video game. He is the youngest of three brothers, and owns two cats.

The COTSA State President, Sophia Watts, is a current junior at STEM School Highlands Ranch. She has been participating in TSA since 6th grade. Her favorite event is Dragster Design. Outside of TSA, you are likely to find Sophia running, bike racing, or sewing.





Featured Middle School Chapter: STEM School Highlands Ranch

Our featured middle school for this newsletter is STEM School Highlands Ranch's middle school chapter! They are based out of STEM School HR's main campus at 8773 South Ridgeline Boulevard. They are a veteran chapter, led by their advisor Les Stern, who has earned the Advisor of the Year Award.

With the school year starting off well, they are holding regular chapter meetings once a week, every Tuesday from 3:00 - 5:00 PM after school, with early morning times set for the chapter officer meetings. For the first few meetings, they have been doing fun activities with new members, such as technology-related telephone and pictionary as well as Elvis Evolution. According to Kyler, one of the chapter officers, having fun activities at meetings towards the beginning of the year is very important to their chapter.

Furthermore, alongside these activities, their officer team has set up "interest sessions" for their newer members to learn about the events that they care about. The combination of these interest sessions and fun activities increases membership, which they feel is a key tip in creating a successful chapter.

In addition, they have a few tips that they'd like to share with new chapters as well as general tips about state and national conferences. For new chapters, they would like to say that increasing membership as much as possible is very important, as a large membership has an exponential effect on itself, compounding to obtain even more members! Although it may sound obvious, another tip that they have is not procrastinating on state and national conferences. If there is time to make needed changes to your events, do it!

That's all about STEM School Highlands Ranch's middle school chapter! If you'd like to get in contact with any of the officer team, their emails are down below.

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Featured High School Chapter: Legend High School



Our featured high school for this month is Legend High School! They are located in Parker, Colorado. We interviewed an officer from their team, Cassie Sams, to learn more about what makes Legend High School such a great chapter.

Responses were lightly edited for clarity and grammar.

Question: How do you start the year off for TSA?

"We start by trying to spread the word through social media, posters, and announcements to let new and returning members know when we are starting and more of what we do in TSA."

Q: How often do you have chapter meetings? Chapter officer meetings?

"We have officer meetings every other Tuesday before school, and we have about 10 chapter meetings that are mandatory. Every Wednesday the lab is open to get help and work on projects. We also have specific days where officers from certain events will be there to help people with their projects."

Q: How do you run each of these meetings?

"We create a slideshow to present with all of the necessary information and then walk around to answer questions and help out however we can."

Q: Do you have any tips for new TSA chapters?

"I think the best tip would probably be to try to have deadlines and check in with people to make sure they are getting their stuff done so people don't have to do their entire projects a week before competitions, and have plenty of time to revise and work on making their projects better."

Q: Do you have any tips about preparing for TSA State/National Conference?

"A checklist to help people remember stuff"

Q: Do you have any fun events for your chapter meetings or otherwise?

"We are still planning what we are going to do this year but we are thinking about having a Nerf war where everyone gets to shoot each other, and maybe doing a dance at the Wish Week assembly (Wish Week is a fundraiser Legend High School does every year to support the Wish Week kids and support inclusiveness in the school). Last year we hosted a movie night to raise money for our chapter and this year we might do it again and are also looking into things like football games and other events that we can help out at and maybe raise money to help lower the costs of Nationals."

If you would like to contact Legend High School's TSA chapter, their Twitter is @Legend_TSA and their Instagram is @legend_tsa.

