



## CLARK COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT NEWS RELEASE

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***For Immediate Release***

**Contact Lindsey Fullerton, (702) 799-5304**

### **Foothill High School students win gold medal at SkillsUSA National Leadership and Skills Conference**

*Students secure bid to Sao Paulo, Brazil for WorldSkills International Conference*

**LAS VEGAS** – Foothill High School's SkillsUSA chapter recently took home the gold at the SkillsUSA National Leadership Conference, which took place in Kansas City, Mo. from June 23 to 28. Foothill High School's incoming seniors Blake Wilson and Dustin Griffie beat out national competitors in the Web Design category, securing a bid for the duo to attend the WorldSkills International Conference in Sao Paulo, Brazil in 2015.

SkillsUSA is a partnership of students, teachers and industries working together to ensure America has a skilled workforce. SkillsUSA's mission is to empower its members to become world-class workers, leaders and responsible American citizens by preparing students for careers in trade, technical and skilled service occupations. As a national nonprofit organization, SkillsUSA helps each student excel by encouraging development of skills in more than 100 fields such as robotics, emergency medicine and crime scene investigation.

"SkillsUSA is a very beneficial organization for students to join," said Matt Mayhood, Foothill High School SkillsUSA lead advisor and Clark County School District (CCSD) Career and Technical Education Department chair. "It's our responsibility as educators to have students embrace their technical skills and talents as well as teach them how to be effective leaders in life."

Foothill High School joined students from around the country to compete in events ranging from Web design and computer maintenance technology to broadcast news production and culinary arts. There are currently 26 SkillsUSA members in the school's chapter. Wilson and Griffie, first-year SkillsUSA members, were hand-picked by former Foothill High School chapter president Brytnae Avery for their leadership qualities and technical skills to represent Foothill High School in the Web Design Competition at the state level.

The students' exceptional use of graphics, advanced HTML programming skills and poise during client interviews and meetings helped earn them the top prize.

Upon entering their final year of high school, gold medalists Wilson and Griffie each received a \$10,000 scholarship from The Art Institute and intend to use that money to continue their education in Web design and computer sciences after they graduate in June of 2015.

CCSD students interested in joining SkillsUSA can go to [NVSKILLSUSA.org](http://NVSKILLSUSA.org) to find out if their

school has a chapter. If a student's school does not have a SkillsUSA chapter, he or she can contact their school administrators and the Nevada Association of SkillsUSA to take steps toward starting a new one.



Foothill High School students Dustin Griffie (center) and Blake Wilson (right) celebrate their gold medal win at SkillsUSA National Leadership and Skills Conference.

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*Office of the Superintendent - Communications Office - 5100 West Sahara Avenue, Las Vegas, NV 89146*



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