**WHY DO YOU WANT TO SERVE ON THE SKILLSUSA MARYLAND BOARD OF DIRECTORS?** - I want to continue to serve on the Board of Directors for SkillsUSA Maryland to assist in planning events and promoting the organization. Holding a key leadership position in SkillsUSA proves my dedication to not only my students, but also those around the state. I am such an advocate of SkillsUSA because it enables students to practice and extend their technical skills and interpersonal abilities. Skills taught in class are transferrable to the real-world experience and no other organization does this better than SkillsUSA. Managing the SkillsUSA Championships and leadership opportunities for the students is challenging. The more resources committed to the success of SkillsUSA would improve upon the quality of instruction in occupational areas represented. Continuing as a member of the Maryland SkillsUSA Board of Directors would provide me the opportunity to build upon the foundation of successful communications, to all advisors, but particularly the new ones, earning trust and allowing our students to flourish in their field of study.

**DESCRIBE YOUR SKILLSUSA AND BACKGROUND EXPERIENCES** - I have been teaching Career and Technology Education (CTE) programs since 2006, beginning with Graphic Communications at the Dr. James A. Forrest Career and Technology Center in Leonardtown, Maryland. It is here I was introduced to SkillsUSA and became passionate about the organization and the opportunities it provides students beyond the classroom. I took that passion and created a new chapter in 2010, when I accepted a position at the Robert D. Stethem Educational Center in Pomfret, Maryland as the Interactive Media Production instructor. As a SkillsUSA advisor at the Calvert Career and Technology Academy, I have grown the membership by 26 percent. Also, by promoting the organization to other interactive media instructors throughout the state, four new chapters emerged in Maryland (DuVal High School, Severna Park High School, Oxon Hill High School, and Easton High School). As a current Board member, I have strengthened communications by updating Web-related documents and redesigning the Advisor Handbook with the new advisor in mind. I have attended SkillsUSA district, state and national conferences, mentoring students to earn state medals in:

1.Advertising Design

2.Broadcast News Production

3.Graphic Communications

4.Digital Cinema Production

5.Employment Application

6.Photography

7.Pin Design

8.Prepared Speech

9.T-Shirt Design.

My interactive media students have consistently placed top-ten in the state competitions. I have continued to volunteer time as a state contest judge or chair and look forward to coaching students to earn their statesman and advanced statesman leadership awards.

**WHAT WILL YOU BRING TO THE TABLE AS A BOARD MEMBER?** - I am committed to the success of SkillsUSA and improving communications throughout the state. With diverse experience in corporate marketing the NASDAQ stock market and FDIC, I am an asset to the Board of Directors. I am a super planner and am familiar with the Microsoft Office software applications necessary to manage the everyday communications and records management necessary. Those who know me can attest that I work well with others and am a true team player.

**WHAT ELSE WOULD YOU LIKE THE MEMBERSHIP TO KNOW THAT IS RELEVANT TO YOUR BOARD OF DRECTORS APPLICATION?** - I am reliable and loyal with a boundless level of energy. I bring enthusiasm, knowledge, and dedication to the Board of Directors for SkillsUSA Maryland.