



SkillsUSA Massachusetts Holiday Party December 13, 2008

The 2008 SkillsUSA MA Holiday Party for the children of the **Boys & Girls Club of Greater Plymouth** was a tremendous success thanks to the efforts of the **Plymouth South High School SkillsUSA Chapter**, the **SkillsUSA Massachusetts Alumni Association** and the **State Executive Council**.



- The *Plymouth South High School Chapter Officers and Advisors* provided pizza and drinks (*and great holiday spirit*) for the event. The PSHS officers and their friends helped to set up tables for crafts, organize gifts and greet the children as they arrived. PSHS Culinary Arts also baked and served the pizza.
- The *Alumni Association* came to the event with holiday crafts projects for the children to make. Each project was individually wrapped with a sample of a completed project for each table. The children were excited to get involved in making craft projects! Several Alumni brought toys to add to those provided by the State Executive Council. The very authentic Santa and Mrs. Clause were arranged for by the Alumni Association (*Kristen Ellis' grandparents*) and Santa and Mrs. Clause were much enjoyed by the children! The Alumni Association even provided for a sound system and DJ (*Chris Slavinkas*)! Photos were taken of each child with Santa as well as group shots and candid photos courtesy of *HoYin Au*, SkillsUSA MA Leadership Team member.
- The *State Executive Council* raised money to provide the gifts for the children and SkillsUSA MA Chapters that participated in the Fall State Leadership Conference donated the books and hat/mitten sets. The State Executive Council also provided the funds to purchase ice cream and toppings for the ice cream sundae bar.



All of the volunteers worked with the children to make crafts, open gifts and keep all of their items together and most importantly have fun. The kids were great; excited and thoroughly enjoying themselves and their gifts. Many of the children arrived not wearing a hat or gloves in spite of the bitter cold weather, but most wore the hat/mitten set that Santa gave them out the door as they departed, some even wore hats/mittens during the party!



Note: Some of the children were unable to attend the party and items that were purchased for them as well as all extra hat/mittens sets and books were donated to the Community Christmas, which serves families in need on the South Shore of Massachusetts.

