



Be a Role Model

Article by McKenzie Baeker, Vice President

When I was in elementary school, I always looked up to the high school students and I knew I wanted to be just like them. Throughout my 6th grade year, my classmates and I were paired up with a high school FBLA member that we called our "Big Brother" or "Big Sister." We would do different activities throughout the school year and have one on one time with our big brother or sister.

The Big Brothers Big Sisters program has been an ongoing tradition at our school. We pair each interested high school FBLA member with a 4th grade student at the beginning of the year that they will stay with throughout the course of the year. Each month, we do different activities with them such as pumpkin carving, making Christmas gifts, an Easter egg hunt and making career posters. We have found this program to be very successful and it is a great way for the younger students to interact with the older students. It also gives our chapter the opportunity to do service projects throughout our school to make an impact.

This is just one of many service projects you can do within your local chapter. If you have any ideas that you would like to share, please feel free to contact the State Officer Team. We would love to hear them!

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President's Note



Article by Larissa Speerstra, President

Hello Wisconsin FBLA! Can you believe that the first month of school is already over with? (I can!) With so many fun and exciting things going on in FBLA, the rest of the year is going to fly by! This month, Wisconsin FBLA is hosting two Fall Leadership Labs. One will be held on October 13 at the Plaza Hotel & Suites in Eau Claire. The other will take place in Madison on October 22 at the Radisson Hotel. Space at the Fall Leadership Labs is limited and registration closes on October 6, so hurry up and take advantage of this great opportunity!

November is an exciting month too, and I'm not just referring to the fun and rewarding opportunities available for you at the Wisconsin Fall Leadership Conference! November 15 is the deadline for membership dues. (State dues are \$5.00 and National dues are \$6.00). If you haven't paid dues by then you won't be able to compete this year. I know it's only October, but it's never too early to start preparing for competition. If you haven't decided on an event, a new event, Computer Game & Simulation Programming, has been added to the already long list of competitive event options. Take a look at the updated Competitive Events Guidelines for complete descriptions on all of the events. Also take a look at the Changes in 2009-2010 Events. This document has updates on chaperone policies, dress code, and other important items that you may need to know this year.

If you have any questions, or need help finding information to get started, feel free to email me at wifblapresident@gmail.com.



Membership

Article by Jennifer O'Rourke, Secretary

Membership is a huge part of FBLA. Recruiting members is extremely important for the success of a chapter and can be a lot of hard work. The rewards however are very good for the chapter.



A chapter must have members registered (and paid) by October 15 with the National Office so that chapter can be eligible to become a Gold Seal chapter.

FBLA members can also get recognized for their accomplishments of recruiting members. One way is the Membership Madness award. By recruiting five new members, filling out a simple form, and submitting it to the National Office by April 1, the FBLA member will receive a Membership Madness certificate. There's also the Membership Mania award. The only difference between Mania and Madness is that to achieve Mania status a member needs to recruit ten new members.

A chapter can receive the Membership Achievement Award. For this award, a chapter who has more registered members than the year before will receive recognition from the National Office. If there is a business class that has every person in FBLA, the 100% Class Participation Award can be achieved.

All of these awards can be accomplished by filling out a form and submitting it to National Office by April 1.

See how easy it is to get recognized for something that your chapter already does!



Outstanding Chapter Award

Article by Shannon Heller, Region IV Vice President



What is it?

The Outstanding Chapter Award is an honor extended to chapters for completing 15 activities focusing on community and school service, education, and progress. Any chapter can

participate!

The Purpose

This award is a great way to increase membership and participation at the local level. It establishes a purpose for local chapters, and it drives members to work together to achieve a common goal.

How to Receive Recognition

To receive recognition, one must fill out The Outstanding Chapter Form (which can be found at <http://www.fbla-pbl.org/data/files/fbla-pbl/outstandingchapteraward.pdf>). Applicants must submit information in bound portfolio format and have it postmarked no later than April 1.

What kind of Recognition does my Chapter Receive?

The recognition of this award includes the local chapter name on the national website,

a certificate mailed to the local chapter, and participants at the National Leadership Conference receive an Outstanding Chapter Ribbon.

Need More Info?

If you have any questions, feel free to contact a state officer. Contact information can be found at: <http://dpi.wi.gov/fbla/contacts.html>.

A copy of the official Outstanding Chapter Award Form can be found at: <http://www.fbla-pbl.org/data/files/fbla-pbl/outstandingchapteraward.pdf>.



Community Focus



Article by Jennifer O'Rourke, Secretary

On the FBLA crest, there are three main focus points: Progress, Education, and Service. I'd like to talk with you about the service aspect of FBLA.

Service involves doing something for others. Service can mean serving the community, a business, or an individual through volunteer work. This year, Wisconsin FBLA's focus is on serving the economically challenged. The State Officer Team is challenging each chapter to get involved in helping the economically challenged of your community.

Some examples of how your chapter might get involved include: volunteering at homeless shelters, soup kitchens, and food pantries; donating clothing articles; shoveling snow for the elderly; and many more ideas.

This year, when planning community service events for your chapter, accept the challenge that your state officers give you and make your focus to help the economically challenged!



Celebrate Your Economy



Article by Johanna Smith, Region I Vice President

On August 8, 1980, Jimmy Carter declared a day of observance for the National American Free Enterprise System. Free enterprise represents businesses which are not restricted or regulated by government. Supply and demand dictate the success or failure of these businesses. National American Enterprise Day celebrates economic versatility and product competition. Future Business Leaders of America became involved in American Enterprise Day to expose young entrepreneurs to capitalism.

National American Enterprise Day is observed and celebrated November 15 every year. Local FBLA chapters can celebrate this freedom in many ways throughout their community. Local chapters should endeavor to educate people about the free enterprise system through various activities. At the elementary school level, activities should be geared toward informing young students about capitalism. Activities could include songs, skits, or creating activity booklets to illustrate the ideals of American Enterprise Day. Middle and high school students should have a more advanced learning experience. Organize a Monopoly tournament with customized free enterprise rules, or create a workbook with information about job applications and resume building.

To reach a more advanced group of students at the university level, chapters could assemble a panel of business professionals to discuss the changing economy and its effect on business practices. Minorities and women and their work experiences is

another possible area of focus. FBLA chapters should be involved in their community and incorporate local businesses. To reach out and include community members, local businesses could advertise American Enterprise Day on marquees, or distribute literature about the free enterprise system. Local chapters could buy advertising space in a local newspaper to inform the community about American Enterprise Day.

American Enterprise Day is an excellent opportunity to inform students and community about the rights we enjoy daily. Local chapters should not miss this opportunity to become involved and showcase the ideals of Future Business Leaders of America.



WFLC



Article by Lindsay Pappenfus, Treasurer

FBLA is "Simply the Best," and with that we must shine through in the 2009 WFLC, otherwise known as the Wisconsin Fall Leadership Conference. This year's WFLC will be hosted at the Chula Vista Hotel & Resort in Wisconsin Dells on November 2-3.

These two days will be full of team building, amazing workshops, and of course bonding in the water park. Most importantly, these two days will leave you feeling like a stronger, more confident business person. The famous, Eddie Slowikowski will be attending this conference, and will not only be sharing some of his amazing life stories, but also will be speaking to the members about how to communicate better, and how to be more effective business leaders.

Remember, there is a new clarification among the rules that we must stress to ensure no one gets disqualified while attending the conferences or from any competitive events. The clarification for the 2009-2010 year is to make sure you are completely dry from any water park experience before entering the business portion of the WFLC and any other conference. We hope to see you all there and don't forget to always try and be SIMPLY THE BEST!

Quick Links...

- [State Leadership Team](#)
- [North Central FBLA Website](#)
- [Wisconsin FBLA Website](#)
- [Previous eBulletin Issues](#)
- [Wisconsin PBL Website](#)
- [DPI Nondiscrimination Clause](#)

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