CO ANNUAL REPORT

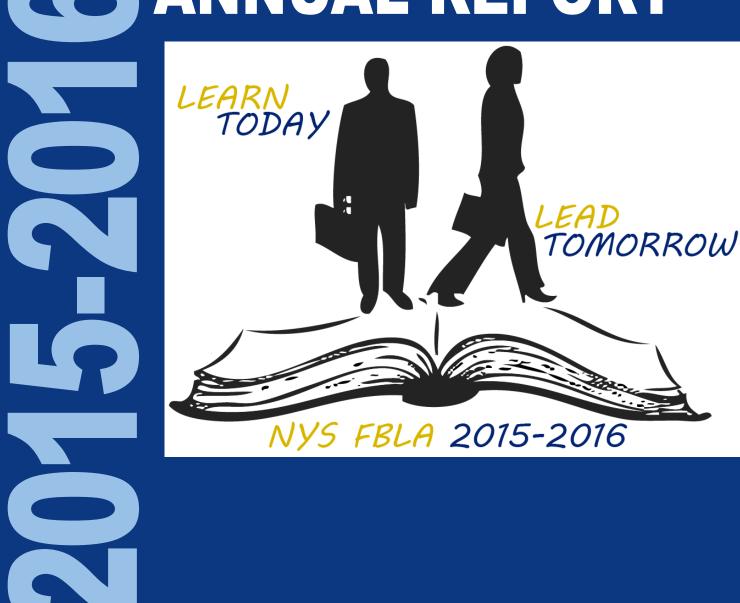


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LETTER TO LOCAL CHAPTERS

May 26, 2016

Dear New York State FBLA Members and Advisors

This past year has been filled with excitement, celebrations and new beginnings. As a state we raised the bar on the definition of success for our organization. The 2015-2016 State Officer Team would like to thank all of our members and advisors who helped make this year such a memorable one.

From chapters making the National FBLA Big Ten Membership List and raising funds to help our veterans, to members learning more about their leadership skills through the Business Achievement Awards and our State Program of Work, to those who helped promote FBLA by ringing the NASDAQ closing bell, NYS FBLA members have been Learning Today, so we can Lead Tomorrow.

In the early months of spring you demonstrated your skills and talents at district competitions. Hard work and dedication brought you to the 52nd Annual State Leadership Conference at the Rochester Riverside Convention Center where you competed against other members from throughout New York State. Filled with good times, networking, leadership opportunities, and friendly rivalry, our SLC was a tremendous success. Congratulations to all members who competed and to those advancing to the National Leadership Conference in Atlanta!

This year we have all dared to try or learn something new in an effort to challenge ourselves. I'd like to share one piece of advice from personal experience: when you are climbing the mountain of success, there will be times where it seems steep and almost impossible to climb any further; times where your vision seems unreachable, where it seems like there is no place to go. Do not let those setbacks stop you from reaching for the top, from being the person you were meant to be. It will be a tough climb, but when you finally reach the summit, you will be able to see further than you ever could from the ground. You will see your path to success and you will see . . . the other mountains yet to be climbed. Don't ever stop climbing.

It has been an honor serving the members and advisors of NYS FBLA.

Very respectfully

Daniel Willis

2015-2016 New York State FBLA President

Dan Colthi







NYS FBLA'S HISTORY

Future Business Leaders of America was founded in 1936 by Hamden L. Forkner of Columbia University. He envisioned FBLA providing a smooth transition from school to the business world. Today, this organization has grown to become the largest student business organization in the world with more than 250,000 members.

New York State became part of this truly remarkable organization in 1946 with the Dobbs Ferry High School charter. On April 15, 1964, New York State received the 35th State Association Charter from the National Association.

New York State FBLA was originally divided into thirteen districts with the district boundaries set up corresponding to the State Education Department Planning Regions. In 1981, District 1, Long Island, was divided into District 1N and 1S due to increasing population. In 2001, District 3, the lower Hudson Valley area, was divided into District 3N and 3S, bringing the total number of districts to fifteen.

In 1967, Mr. Hobart H. Conover, Chief of the Bureau of Business Education, became the first New York State FBLA Chairperson. Mr. Elton T. Murphy, Associate of the Bureau, was named the first New York State FBLA Advisor. On March 20, 1970, the University of the State of New York gave NYS FBLA an absolute charter. In 1966, on the campus of the State University of New York Cobleskill, New York State FBLA and PBL held the first joint state conference. One year later, FBLA conducted its own State Leadership Conference (SLC) in the Catskill Mountain Region. The SLC has been held in various locations throughout its 52 years. Currently, it is held at the Rochester Riverside Convention Center and Radisson Riverside Hotel.

Each year at the State Leadership Conference, a new State Officer Team is elected. The newly elected State Officers are required to attend a weeklong summer training, State Officer Training. The first State Officer Training was held in 1969 at Camp Oswegatchie in Corghan. Today, SOT is held at Christ the King Spiritual Life Center in Greenwich.

ORGANIZATIONAL CHART

STATE CHAIRPERSON

A member of the NYS
Education Department who
oversees the State Association
and serves as the State
Advisory Board Liaison

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

An elected body of local FBLA Advisors who represent each of the fifteen districts

STATE ADVISORY BOARD

Representatives from New York businesses and industry who serve as mentors and resources to local chapters, State Officers, and the entire State Association

PROFESSIONAL DIVISION

Businesspersons and community members working with NYS FBLA at all levels

LOCAL ADVISORS

Business educators who guide and advise student members of local chapters

STATE OFFICER ADVISOR

An appointed individual who directs and assists the State Officer Team with all of their activities

STATE OFFICERS

An elected body of student members who coordinate all State and District activities

LOCAL OFFICERS

Local student members whom are elected to coordinate activities on the local level.

LOCAL CHAPTER MEMBERS

The backbone of the State Association, students in grades 7-12 who conduct all FBLA activities

STATE OFFICERS

Executive Vice President

President Daniel Willis

Alanis Smith

State VP District 3S Sophia Danziger

State VP District 3N Chris Pereira State VP District 4
Jack Biddlecomb

State VP District 7 Elijah Sullivan

State VP District 12 Sarah Wie Secretary Aniruddha Nrusimha Treasurer Nichole Delaney

Reporter Zoie Lagoudis Historian Gillian Sweeney Parliamentarian Shubhangi Mehra



BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Board Chair District 10 Jennifer Judge

Vice Chair District 8 Ryan Alo Secretary District 7 Angela Demeree

Executive Secretary
District 3N
Anita Halstead

Executive Treasurer Membership Director Peter Tambroni State Officer Advisor
District 4
Tom Mueller

District 1S Sandra Braun District 3S Maria Siciliano District 11
Diane Masters

District 3N Mary Odell District 4
Frank Basile

District 12 Gloria LaSota

District 3N
Jackie Palkaunieks

District 7
Elizabeth Garofalo-McKenney

District 13 Donna Meyer

District 3S Charlene Nigro District 10 Lorraine Mazza District 13 Lisa Joles Perry

SIZE OF THE STATE CHAPTER

New York State is the largest state in the Mid-Atlantic region. It is the 27th largest state in the country, with a total of 54,475 square miles that include the Finger Lakes, Adirondack Mountains, and New York City. New York State is very diverse with busy urban centers, suburban communities, and rural agricultural areas. In 2014, the US Census calculated New York's population at 19.75 million; making it the fourth most populous state in the nation.

New York State has become a leader for various industries with fifty-two Fortune 500 companies headquartered within the state. Companies such as AOL-Time Warner, Citigroup, McGrawHill, Xerox, IBM, and Verizon represent New York State and its success. New York State is also home to hundreds of smaller businesses, farms, and tourist attractions. New York City serves as the state's economic anchor. A large amount of the state's revenue is generated from New York City, which houses Wall Street and the New York Stock Exchange.

This year NYS FBLA has 4,160 members in 129 chapters.





FBLA CHARITIES





2015-2016 National Charity: March of Dimes

Future Business Leaders of America-Phi Beta Lambda has been working with and fundraising for the March of Dimes for nearly 40 years, and has been consistently ranked as its top fundraising organization. During this time, FBLA has raised over \$15 million to assist in the research of the prevention of premature births. There are various ways FBLA members have become actively involved in promoting March of Dimes and the awareness of premature births. For instance, FBLA helps by hosting a Blue Jeans for Babies Dance at all National Conferences and the March for Babies Walk at the National Leadership Conference.



2015-2016 State Charity: Wounded Warrior Project

At State Officer Training, the State Officer Team voted the Wounded Warrior Project our official 2015-2016 State Charity. Wounded Warrior Project is a charity and veterans service organization that offers a variety of programs, services, and events for wounded veterans of the military actions following the events of September 11, 2001. Chapters and members had the opportunity to raise money for this and other veteran organizations this year. The community outreach committee recognized members who donated to this organization.

RECRUITMENT OF MEMBERS AND CHAPTERS

At the week-long State Officer Training each summer, the State Officer Team and the Board of Trustees work diligently to develop the Program of Work. Each officer participates on one of four committees to create common goals for the year. The Membership Services Committee focuses on recruiting new members in addition to connecting pre-existing members with the resources necessary to succeed in NYS FBLA, National FBLA, and after graduation.

Early Bird Membership

Along with National FBLA, NYS participates in Early Bird Membership. Chapters must register and pay the dues of at least five members by October 15. This allows state officers the opportunity to forecast which schools will have active chapters. Chapters who participate are recognized at the State Leadership Conference in April.

STATE OFFICER ASSISTANCE TO LOCAL CHAPTERS

State Officers are elected by the members of New York State to serve as a resource for the Program of Work and for the local chapter members across the state. In addition, a Parliamentarian was appointed based on the Parliamentary Procedure Exam and an interview with the selection committee.

Fall District Meetings

Each fall, the State Vice Presidents conduct Fall District Meetings for their respective districts. These meetings are planned, along with the Board of Trustee member(s) from that particular district, to provide members with a variety of workshops. Some examples include Parliamentary Procedure, the Program of Work, team-building activities, leadership skills, and FBLA 101. Many districts also welcome guest speakers, and trained professionals to run workshops. The State Officers communicate regularly to assist each other with arranging these meetings. Often state officers from one district will attend another's Fall District Meeting to assist and provide more variety to the meeting.

Presidents' Meeting

State Vice Presidents hold meetings with their local Chapter Presidents at the Fall District Meeting. These meetings provide an informal forum through which activities and ideas could be discussed. These discussions often include fundraising, community service, and membership recruitment. They are a great resource for the State Officer Team to receive feedback on projects and events at the district and state levels.

State Website

The New York State FBLA website, www.nysfbla.org, is maintained by Mrs. Jennifer Judge. It has proven to be a valuable asset to the State Chapter. With New York's commitment to minimize the use of paper and postage, all communications are posted on the NYS website. Each officer has their own page on the website so members can read updates by the officers. In addition, each State Officer and Board of Trustee member has a state e-mail address. This allows members and advisors to easily contact the state association.

PREPARATION OF STATE AND LOCAL OFFICERS FOR THEIR DUTIES

State Officer Training

In July, the State Officer Team attended the week-long State Officer Training at Christ the King Spiritual Life Retreat Center in Greenwich. During this eventful week, each of the officers learned the duties specific to their office. The officers attended informative workshops, presented by alumni and Board of Trustee members, including professional image, job interview skills, time management, effective leadership skills, and parliamentary procedure. Additionally officers had the opportunity to network with students and leaders from other CTSO educational organizations.

The first decisions of the Officer Team were to choose the state theme, charity, and goals. After much thoughtful debate, "Learn Today, Lead Tomorrow" was chosen to be the 2015-2016 State Theme. The officer team chose to adopt The Wounded Warrior Project as the 2015- 2016 State Charity. With the theme and charity chosen, the officers worked with their committees to develop the Program of Work.

State Officer Evaluations

Three times during the FBLA year, a committee of Board of Trustees members evaluated each State Officer. The State President evaluated each mainline officer monthly and the Executive Vice President evaluated each State Vice President monthly. These evaluations contained rubrics specific to each office and time of year.

Joint Meetings

At the end of State Officer Training, the State Officers and Board of Trustees met to finalize the state theme, charity, and Program of Work. They met again in January to finalize the State Leadership Conference, give-aways, and workshops. This meeting also gave the Officer Team an opportunity to reflect on their successes thus far and plan for the remaining year.

COOPERATION WITH BUSINESS, PROFESSIONALS & SERVICE GROUPS WITHIN THE COMMUNITY

One of the many goals of FBLA is to facilitate the transition between high school students with the business world. Members can gain skills, through FBLA involvement, which cannot be given to them in a text-book. These skills help FBLA members succeed in their future endeavors.

Advisory Board

The New York State Advisory Board is comprised of representatives from businesses throughout the state. They participate in activities that range from local chapter meetings to the State Leadership Conference. In addition, they support local chapters, serve as judges, contacts to businesses, and speakers.

Professional Division

The business professionals and alumni who make up the Professional Division play an important role in the success of our local chapters and our State Association. Members of the Professional Division serve as judges, workshop presenters, guest speakers, and provide job-shadowing opportunities.

Community Service

One of the main goals of FBLA is to encourage involvement in community service. The Community Outreach and Engagement Committee sponsored competitions to recognize FBLA chapters active in their communities. While developing the Program of Work, the committee set a goal to raise \$5000 to benefit veterans. More importantly, another goal was to have members work together and collect 2000 hours of volunteer service as a state chapter.

PARTICIPATION IN PUBLIC RELATIONS ACTIVITIES AND NEWSPAPER PREPARATION

District Publications

A duty of the State Vice Presidents is to publish four district newsletters. These newsletters contain articles written by local FBLA members, the other State Officers, and Program of Work committees. They are used to inform members of district events, projects, and conferences.

The FBLA Express

The State Reporter publishes four issues of the New York State newsletter, *The FBLA Express*. These issues, posted to the state website, contain information on events at the local, district, state, and national levels as well as competitive event winners, committee updates, and articles written by State Officers.

DEVELOPMENT AND PROMOTION OF FBLA-PBL STATE PROJECTS

Each State Officer worked on one of four standing committees: Career Development, Community Engagement and Outreach, Membership Services, and Executive Challenge. The committees developed the goals and contests that were used to form the Program of Work. The winners are recognized at the State Leadership Conference in April. Throughout the year, the committee members communicate with the state membership and encourage all members to work toward attaining the goals.

Career Development Committee

The goals of this committee were as follows:

- To facilitate the transition from school to work through meaningful work-place experiences.
- To expose members to potential career paths through networking.
- To provide members with the resources to explore the opportunities offered by higher education.

To achieve these goals the committee implemented the College Knowledge, Work to Win, and Career Connections Challenge.

Community Engagement and Outreach Committee

The goals of this committee were as follows:

- Increase awareness and recognition of veterans in New York State local communities.
- Raise \$5,000 to benefit a veteran's organization
- Complete 2,000 hours of community service in New York State FBLA.

To achieve these goals the committee implemented the Project \$, Venerating Veterans, and Connecting with the Community Challenges.

Membership Services Committee

The goals of this committee were as follows:

- Increase statewide membership by 5%
- Utilize media to increase membership and inform members about FBLA
- Increase the number of local submissions to The FBLA EXPRESS

To achieve these goals the committee implemented the Early Bird, Recruitment, and Express Yourself Challenges.









Executive Committee Challenge

The goals of this committee were as follows:

- To encourage NYS FBLA members to take an active role in their own education.
- Challenge NYS FBLA members to engage in personal development through research and the application of business knowledge.

To achieve these goals the committee implemented the Personal Development and Education is Key programs.

SUPPORT OF FBLA-PBL NATIONAL PROJECTS

American Enterprise Day

Chapters across the state participated in various activities on American Enterprise Day, November 15. Some chapters invited local small business owners to speak to business classes on the advantages and disadvantages of entrepreneurship. Other chapters toured local businesses and interviewed business owners.

FBLA-PBL Week

The week of February 7-13 was FBLA-PBL Week. This week is designed to encourage non-members to join FBLA and show them what the organization is truly about. Chapters across the state celebrated by planning a week full of activities including community service events and recruitment drives.

Business Achievement Awards

The Business Achievement Awards (BAA) is a national program that recognizes members who excel in the three components listed on the FBLA crest: Service, Education, and Progress. Each activity in the program allows the participant to advance in these areas while focusing on a specific FBLA-PBL goal, NBEA Learning Standards, or Career Cluster. There are four levels of recognition in this program: Future, Business, Leader, and America. This year's NYS FBLA recipients are:

Future Level Recipients:

Morgan Awner, Williamsville East HS Nichole Barker, Lakeland HS Emily Barthelmes, H. Hudson HS Anthony Bellantoni, Lakeland HS Amanda Brown, Lakeland HS Michael Buchwald, Lakeland HS Kevin Cardenas, Lakeland HS Sherrie Chen, Williamsville East HS Steven Cumbal, Lakeland HS Thomas Cuomo, Lakeland HS Sarina Divan, Williamsville East HS

Naomie Esteves, Lakeland HS Lauren Gaynor, Lakeland HS Katelyn Gloade, Lakeland Hs Ali Grossman, Lakeland HS Christina Harris, Lakeland HS Ray Huang, Lakeland HS Ryan Huang, Mamaroneck HS Ashley Jimenez, Lakeland HS Chris Kenney, Lakeland HS Julia Kopec, Lakeland HS Katie Lopez, Lakeland HS Elaina Macinovich, Carmel HS Emily Marino, Lakeland HS Juliana Nacinovich F, Carmel HS Tara Naraghi, Lakeland HS Lauren Pogostin, Mamaroneck HS Kamryn Rattler, Clymer HS Carly Recoon, Williamsville East HS Alexis Reyes, Lakeland HS Nich Sanchez, Lakeland HS Josh Sandground, Lakeland HS Jenna Spillo, Lakeland HS Alexa Sustic, Lakeland HS Nicole Sweeney, Lakeland HS Jeiss Varghese, Lakeland HS Ann Wang, Williamsville East HS Chloe Weiser, Mamaroneck HS Phoebe Weiser, Mamaroneck HS Jake Zorabedian, Lakeland HS

Business Level Recipients:

Isabel Alvarado, Mamaroneck HS
Elaina Nacinovich, Carmel HS
Juliana Nacinovich F, Carmel HS
Emily Johnson, Falconer HS
Heba Ahmed, Lakeland HS
Jack Dondero, Lakeland HS
Naomi Esteves, Lakeland HS
Katelyn Gloade, Lakeland HS
Stephanie Hurwitz, Lakeland HS
Ashley Jimenez, Lakeland HS
Akshay Karve, Lakeland HS
Ophelia Mendoza, Lakeland HS

Tara Naraghi, Lakeland HS
Lauren Pogostin, Mamaroneck HS
Julianna Prato, Lakeland HS
Anthony Sabovic, Lakeland HS
Phoebe Weiser, Mamaroneck HS
Daniel Willis, Monroe- Woodbury HS

Leader Level Recipients:

Sophia Danziger, Mamaroneck HS Casey Grosso, Lakeland HS Zoie Lagoudis, Lakeland HS Julianna Prato, Lakeland HS Ariel Wall, Clymer HS Phoebe Weiser, Mamaroneck HS Rohit Mathew, Sewanhaka HS

America Level Recipients:

Rohit Mathew, Sewanhaka HS



IMPLEMENTATION OF STATE CONFERENCES

Fall District Meetings

During October, the State Vice Presidents held their Fall District Meetings. Keynote speakers are invited to kick off the opening session. Members then attend informative workshops that are presented by Professional Division members, State Officers,

state staff, and other local business leaders. All State Vice Presidents present the Program of Work during this meeting to ensure that chapters are aware of the goals for the year.

National Fall Leadership Conference

In November, New York State FBLA attended the Baltimore NFLC. The 134 members and 14 advisors attended workshops presented by Professional Division members, motivational speakers and other professionals. New York State also held a state meeting at NFLC where members were reminded about the Program of Work and State Leadership Conference.

Spring District Meetings

In February, each district conducted a Spring District Meeting. At these meetings, members competed in the first round of competitions. Basic Decision Making, Client Service, Future Business Leader, Impromptu Speaking, Job Interview, Parliamentary Procedure, Public Speaking I, and Public Speaking II winners advance to the State Leadership Conference. Members who plan to run for state office must take the State Officer Exam at this meeting. Several districts also offer written tests, similar to those offered at the SLC, to provide members with additional experience before they compete on the state level.

State Leadership Conference

A delegation of 660 members from across the state attended the 2016 State Leadership Conference (SLC) held in April at the Rochester Riverside Convention Center in Rochester. This conference marked the conclusion of a year of success and showcased the achievement of NYS FBLA. The SLC featured 68 competitive events. Additionally, workshops were presented by the State Officer Team. The general sessions were engaging and featured the campaign speeches, state officer farewells, slideshows, and awards. The winners are excited to have the opportunity to represent NYS FBLA at the National Leadership Conference in Atlanta, Georgia.







2016 STATE LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE WINNERS

	3D Animation		Business Calculations
1st	Mamaroneck HS - Sam Brause, Pablo Garza,	1st	Nicholas Zaromatidis, H. Frank Carey HS
	and Paul Pedrozo	2nd	Kathryn Zhao, Ward Meville HS
2nd	Williamsville East HS - Prithvi Prasanna,	3rd	Jonah Marsh, Mamaroneck HS
	Vincent Orlowski, and Seth Blum	4th	Zoe Black, Webster Thomas HS
		5th	Josh Marvald, Brighton HS
1 o+	Accounting 1		Business Communications
1st 2nd	Carly Rankin, Lakeland HS	1st	Angela Li, Williamsville East HS
3rd	Casey Grosso, Lakeland HS Joshua Kayn, Penn Yan HS	2nd	Dalton Chu, Minisink Valley HS
4th	Joseph D'Annibale, John Jay Sr. HS	3rd	Sachin Patraik, Ward Melville HS
5th	Paige Everman, Dansville HS	4th	Sarah Wie, Williamsville East HS
Jui	raige Everman, Dansville 113	5th	Joseph Rabasco, John Jay Sr. HS
	Accounting II	Otti	Joseph Rabasso, John Jay Gr. 118
1st	Josh Foote, Shenendehowa HS		Business Ethics
2nd	Ethan Haas, Jericho HS	1st	Jericho HS - Samantha Lustberg, Jack Miller,
3rd	Kaitlyn Hedges, William Floyd HS		and Victoria Peykar
4th	Allison Cross, Sharon Springs HS	2nd	Peru HS - Ella Messner, Allie Beattie, and
5th	Robert Siegelbaum, Jericho HS		Emily Rock
		3rd	Elmont Memorial HS - Christian Pierre-Louis,
	Agribusiness		Briana London, and Jeremie Candio
1st	Jessica Meng, Williamsville East HS	4th	Commack HS - Alexis Davita Shvili, and
2nd	Jayden Bang, Williamsville East HS		Abinaya Anand
3rd	Eileen Norris, Brighton HS	5th	Mt. Vernon HS - Ashlene Charles, and
4th	Ryan Kliegerman, Mamaroneck HS		Jahari White
5th	Amy Uthup, Commack HS		Business Law
	Banking & Financial Systems	1st	Sarina Divan, Williamsville East HS
1st	Jericho HS - Scott Horowitz and MattHerzog	2nd	Cafui Awasu, Tri-Valley HS
2nd	Commack HS - Mailysa Wood,	3rd	Kaleigh Doherty, Monroe-Woodbury HS
2110	Lauren DePietri, and Michelle Wolk	4th	Justin Tucker, Jericho HS
3rd	Ward Melville HS - Joshua Farahzad, and	5th	Cole Garrow, Peru Secondary HS
	Emily Wicks		
4th	Williamsville East HS - Ben Zhao,		Business Plan
	Justin O'Neil, and Cameron Smith	1st	Jericho HS - Michael Gold, and Brett Ritter
		2nd	Tri-Valley HS - Cafui Awasu
	Basic Decision Making	3rd	Mamaroneck - Chloe Weiser,
1st	Chinonyelum Okoli, Valley Stream H S		and Phoebe Weiser
2nd	Olufisayo Atanda Ogunleye, Sewanhaka HS	4th	H. Frank Carey HS - Daniel Huckemeyer,
3rd	Michael Lu, Ward Melville HS		Shaina Zafar, and Nicholas Zaromatidis
4th	Abinaya Anand, Commack HS	5th	Lake George HS - Jessica Huber, and
5th	James Matthews, Peru Secondary HS		Annie Williams

2016 STATE LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE WINNERS

1st 2nd 3rd	Chapter Business Display Clymer HS Carmel HS Mamaroneck HS	4th 5th	Andrew Fang, Jericho HS Nicolas Andersen, Batavia Info. Tech. Academy
4th	Williamsville East HS		Cyber Security
5th	Mt. Sinai HS	1st	Edward Shen, Williamsville East HS
		2nd	Rick Bruckner, Commack HS
	Client Service	3rd	Andrew Fang, Jericho HS
1st	Kaitlyn Milinic, Sewanhaka HS	4th	Aditya Tangirala, Brighton HS
2nd	Anya Cruz, Minisink Valley HS	5th	Jonathan Vorgas, Queens Vocational HS
3rd	Elizabeth Vinton, Brighton HS		
4th	Briana London, Elmont Memorial HS		Digital Video Production
5th	Stephanie Hurwitz, Lakeland HS	1st	Valley Stream HS - Ryan Andres and Carly St. Angelo
	Community Service Project	2nd	Monroe-Woodbury HS - Alyanna Felix and
1st	Clymer HS		Nicolena Vega
2nd	Mamaroneck HS	3rd	Williamsville East HS - Jordan Richheimer,
3rd	Little Falls HS		Carly Shifflet and Lexi Skibitsky
4th	Williamsville East HS	4th	Lakeland HS - Jack Dondero, Casey Grosso
5th	Lake George HS		and Zoie Lagoudis
		5th	Falconer HS - Emily Johnson and Sydney
	Computer Applications		Kresconko
1st	Jason Fancher, Batavia Career & Tech, and		
	Daniel Meloon, Batavia Info. Tech. Academy		E-Business
2nd	Kaitlyn Hedges, William Floyd HS	1st	Williamsville East HS - Divija Kambala,
3rd	Ian Rohac, Sharon Springs HS		Ann Wang, and Sherrie Wang
4th	Chloe Fletcher, Cobleskill-Richmondville HS	2nd	Jericho HS - Jiya Singh, and
5th	Rebecca Heslink, Clymer HS		Samantha Lustberg
		3rd	Mamaroneck HS – Angie Kim, Gloria Urrotia
	Computer Game & Simulation		and Victoria Mondejur
1 -+	Programming Mt. Marria May Contain Matthews Brandons		Economico
1st	Mt. Morris May Center - Matthew Brundage,	1 o+	Economics Depart Viv. Word Mobille LIC
and	Zachary Spencer, and Paul Torrey Tri-Valley - Timothy Glinski	1st 2nd	Donna Yu, Ward Melville HS Paul Rummel, Cobleskill-Richmondville HS
2nd 3rd	Mamaroneck HS - Ed McGaley, Matt Gropper,	3rd	Ryan Gao, Brighton HS
Siu	and Alex Rothman	4th	Yi Zhao, Mamaroneck HS
4th	Williamsville East HS - Daniel Mariathasan,	5th	Alex Cubillo, Mt. Sinai HS
701	Nikhil Gupta, and Prithvi Prasanna	Jui	Alex Gabillo, Ivit. Gillal 110
	Computer Problem Solving		
1st	Andrew Katz, Mamaroneck HS		
2nd	Orko Jinha, Williamsville East HS		
3rd	Matthew Hall, Wayne Central HS		

2016 STATE LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE WINNERS

	Electronic Career Portfolio		Global Business
1st	Augusta Uwanamzu-Nna, Elmont Mem. HS	1st	Cobleskill-Richmondville HS - Justin Davis,
2nd	Sarina Divan, Williamsville East HS		Daniel Beevers, and Paul Rummel
3rd	Shaina Zafar, H. Frank Carey HS	2nd	Williamsville East HS - Sharon Luo,
4th	Amy Breslin, Pioneer HS		Ruby Zhang, and Samanvitha Kaashyap
5th	Matt Herzog, Jericho HS	3rd	Jericho HS - Ann Paulose, and Sean Yoo
		4th	Floral Park Memorial HS - Michael Piccardi,
	Emerging Business Issues		and Brennan Bosque
1st	Valley Stream HS - Collin Jones,	5th	Mamaroneck HS - Matthew Tucciarione, and
	and Justin Mirville		Rena Miller
2nd	Williamsville East HS - Stephanie Terhaar,		
	Angela Chen, and Torrie Ulrich		Graphic Design
3rd	Jericho HS - Tyler Trichon, and Jessica Brown	1st	Hendrick Hudson HS - Emily Barthelmes, and
4th	Elmont Memorial HS - Alanis Smith, and		Maggie Bernstein
	Chinyere Nwaogbe	2nd	Monroe-Woodbury HS - Tim Mulvihill
5th	Hendrick Hudson HS - Maggie Bernstein,	3rd	Jericho HS - Jessica Busam, and TylerTrichon
	Buu-Hac Nguyen, and Nina Tagliabue	4th	Mamaroneck HS - Nikita Gavara, and
	_ ,		Erin Meador
4 .	Entrepreneurship	5th	Williamsville East HS - Anthony Anzalone,
1st	Ward Melville HS - Donna Yu, Alex Young, and		Avaneesh Thoudoju, and
01	Mary Kate Whelan		Francesco Annunziata
2nd	Mt. Sinai HS - Sam Ritte, and Alex Cubillo		Haaldh Oana Administration
3rd	H. Frank Carey HS - Andres Perdios, and	1 -+	Health Care Administration
441-	Anthony Giacalasinghne	1st	Scott Glanzel, Wayne HS
4th	Lakeland HS - Casey Gross, and	2nd	Ananya Nrusimha, Williamsville East HS
E+b	Stephanie Hurwitz	3rd	Morgan Awner, Williamsville East HS
5th	Hendrick Hudson HS - Emily Barthelmes, and	4th	Ishir Seth, Brighton HS
	Deepa Mistry	5th	Katie Wang, Ward Melville HS
	FBLA Principles & Procedures		Help Desk
1st	Ella Messner, Peru Secondary HS	1st	Morgan Awner, Williamsville East HS
2nd	Ruby Zhang, Williamsville East HS	2nd	Laura DiPietri, Commack HS
3rd	Isabel Alvarado, Mamaroneck HS	3rd	Jack Dondero, Lakeland HS
4th	Chloe Weiser, Mamaroneck HS	4th	Ruby Miller, John Jay Sr. HS
5th			

2016 STATE LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE WINNERS

4 - 1	Hospitality Management		Introduction to
1st	Webster Schroeder HS - Leah Xiao, and Daniel Ye	1st	Business Presentation
2nd	Commack HS - Tara McCaffrey, Olivia Dubi,	ISt	Lake George HS - Mattie Williams, and Cole Varney
2110	and Giovanna Calden	2nd	Tri-Valley HS - Anne Hendrickson, and
3rd	Williamsville East HS - Ananya Nrusimha,	2110	Morgan McHugh
	Caroline Wang and, Claire Kim	3rd	Cobleskill-Richmondville HS - Tessa Nichols,
4th	Brighton HS - Sagi Ravid, and Tal Zahavi		Sophia Lucear, and Chloe Fletcher
5th	Lakeland HS - Julianna Prato and,	4th	Williamsville East HS - Reilly Voye,
	Carly Rankin		Tessa Bianchi, and Lauren Clark
		5th	Sewanhaka HS - Singh Hare, Kaitlyn Milinic,
	Impromptu Speaking		and Salaar Khan
1st	Zurez Memon, Shenendehowa HS		
2nd	Jack Penharlow, St. Francis HS		Introduction to
3rd	Nicholas Zaromatidis, H. Frank Carey HS	_	Business Procedures
4th	Scott Horowitz, Jericho HS	1st	Alisha Kocher, Jericho HS
5th	Erros Quinones, Jamestown HS	2nd	Julia Hu, Ward Melville HS
	Lucius C Dial Management	3rd	Sharon Luo, Williamsville East HS
4 - +	Insurance & Risk Management	4th	Harrison Weiss, Cobleskill-Richmondville HS
1st 2nd	Scott Glanzel, Wayne Central HS	5th	Lauren Granowski, Monroe-Woodbury HS
3rd	Paul Rummel, Cobleskill-Richmondville HS Brian Piccola, Commack HS		Introduction to
4th	Justin Tucker, Jericho HS		Financial Math
5th	Vidyha Jeyadev, Brighton HS	1st	Sharan Prasad, Williamsville East HS
Otti	Viagna Joyadov, Brighton No	2nd	Daniel Ye, Webster Schroeder HS
	Introduction to Business	3rd	Willie Quinn, Mamaroneck HS
1st	Isaac Kisten, Mt. Sinai HS	4th	Christopher Perdios, H. Frank Carey HS
2nd	Christopher Perdios, H. Frank Carey HS	5th	Kathryn Zhao, Ward Melville HS
3rd	Aiden Strain, Shenendehowa HS		•
4th	Jay Chen, Jericho HS		Introduction to
5th	Suraj Singh, Ward Melville HS		Information Technology
		1st	Pablo Garza, Mamaroneck HS
	Introduction to	2nd	Aditya Nair, Williamsville East HS
	Business Communication	3rd	Andrew Fang, Jericho HS
1st	Lisa Yang, Brighton HS	4th	Aiden Strain, Shenendehowa HS
2nd	Michael Lu, Ward Melville HS	5th	Garrett Speller, Williamsville East HS
3rd	Lauran Granowski, Monroe-Woodbury HS		
4th	Emma Morlang, Cobleskill-Richmondville HS		
5th	Molly Schwartz, Jericho HS		

2016 STATE LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE WINNERS

	Introduction to		Marketing
	Parliamentary Procedure	1st	Brighton HS - Sarita Benesch, Eileen Norris,
1st	Donnie An, Williamsville East HS		and Ishir Seth
2nd	Sherrie Wang, Williamsville East HS	2nd	Shenendehowa HS - Sydney Werner, and
3rd	Julie Stowell, Mamaroneck HS		Sydney Robinson
4th	Ryan Huang, Mamaroneck HS	3rd	John Jay Sr. HS - Shakim Williams,
5th	Marigrace Gerhardt, Cobleskill-		Jeenvenjot Bhinder, and Charles Gray
	Richmondville HS	4th	Commack HS - Greg Patrizio, Brian Piccola, and Jessica Hastings
	Introduction to		
	Word Processing	I	Mobile Application Development
1st	Aleena Thomas, Sewanhaka HS	1st	Mamaroneck HS - Andrew Katz, Jack Phillips,
2nd	Julie Hu, Ward Melville HS		and Yi Zhao
3rd	Emily Brentley, Falconer HS	2nd	Williamsville East HS - Nikhil Gupta,
4th	Suzanne Paulose, Jericho HS		Evan Ogra, and Aniruddha Nrusimha
5th	Nikita Gavara, Mamaroneck HS		Notwork Decien
	Job Interview	1st	Network Design Mt. Morris Career & Technical Ctr
1st	Daniel Willis, Monroe-Woodbury HS	130	Paul Torrey, Zachary Spencer, and
2nd	Taylor Crisci, Hendrick Hudson HS		Matthew Brundage
3rd	Bethany Edwards, Wayne Central HS	2nd	Mamaroneck HS - Sam Brause, Andrew Katz
4th	Gabriella Reyes, Valley Stream HS	2	and Jack Phillips
5th	Jude Armstrong, Lake George HS	3rd	Batavia Info. Tech. Academy - Daniel Meloon
			and Nick Anderson
	Local Chapter	4th	Williamsville East HS - Connie An, Nidhish
	Annual Business Report		Gokhale and Morris Lee
1st	Canastota HS		
2nd	Clymer HS		Networking Concepts
3rd	Falconer HS	1st	Evan Ogra, Williamsville East HS
4th	Monroe-Woodbury HS	2nd	Jonathan Vargas, Queens Vocational HS
5th	Mamaroneck HS	3rd	Sina Soltanieh, Williamsville East HS
	Management Decision Making	4th 5th	Matt Hall, Wayne Central HS Rick Bruckner, Commack HS
1st	Brighton HS - Nidhi Dontula, Raaga Kannan,	Jui	Nick Bruckfiel, Collillack 113
130	and Elizabeth Vinton		Outstanding New Members
2nd	New Hyde Park Memorial HS - Kishan Patel,		Grade 7,8,9
	Arjay Benjamin, and Michael Chan	1st	Daisy Ferguson, Clymer HS
3rd	Shenendehowa HS - Josh Foote, Michael Coy,	2nd	Buu-Hac Nguyen, Hendrick Hudson HS
	and Zurez Memon	3rd	Logan Read, Lakeland HS
4th	St. Francis HS - Josh Thompson, and	4th	Cedric Bone, Williamsville East HS
	Mattheww Kosakowski	5th	Erin Meador, Mamaroneck HS
5th	Wheatland-Chili HS - Thomas Snyder, and		
	Michael Worth		

2016 STATE LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE WINNERS

	Parliamentary Procedure		Public Service Announcement
1	Individual	1st	Mamaroneck HS - Hannah Siegel, and
1st 2nd	Brian Suk, Williamsville East HS Sarah Stec, Carmel HS	2nd	Phoebe Weiser Carmel HS - Sarah Stec, and
3rd	Isabel Alvarado, Mamaroneck HS	ZIIU	Meredith Jennings
4th	Aniruddha Nrusimha, Williamsville East	3rd	John Jay Sr. HS - Madisen Sturm-Orlando,
5th	Carly Rankin, Lakeland HS	Ora	and Jack Bott
		4th	Hendrick Hudson HS - Taylor Crisci
	Parliamentary Procedure Team	5th	Schoharie HS - McKenzie Phelan, and
1st	Williamsville East HS - Angela Chen,		Desiree Palmatier
	Davija Kambala, Madeleine MacLean,		
	Brian Suk, and Aniruddha Nrusimha		Public Speaking I
2nd	Mamaroneck HS - Isabel Alvarado,	1st	Amy Zhou, John Jay Sr. HS
	Ryan Huang, Amanda Lai, Julie Stowell, and	2nd	William Jin, Ward Melville HS
Oud	Gillian Sweeney	3rd	Bryce Sgarlata, Oneida HS
3rd	Tri-Valley HS - Autumn Bender,	4th	Lynnay Dreuss, Lake George HS
	Gillian Mathews, Jaclyn Musa, Julia Leland, and Kayla Butler	5th	Julius Colon, Tri-Valley HS
4th	Sewanhaka HS - Suchvinder Singh-Hare,		Public Speaking II
	Grace Triquet, Salaar Khan,	1st	Jason Paz, Valley Stream HS
	Geraldine D'Orio, and Kaitlyn Milinic	2nd	Shadae Leslie, Mt. Vernon HS
5th	Carmel HS - Sarah Stec, Elaina Nacinovich,	3rd	Tanya Gupta, Ward Melville HS
	Meredith Jennings, Liam Cassidy,	4th	Leah Xiao, Webster Schroeder HS
	and Edward Stanley	5th	Madison LaFond, Lake George HS
	Partnership with Business		Publication Design
1st	Canastota HS	1st	Valley Stream HS - Sophia Grunin
2nd	Williamsville East HS	2nd	Commack HS - Brandon Axelrod, and
	Danas al Finance	01	Jeremy Vlacancich
1 o+	Personal Finance	3rd	Hendrick Hudson - Catherine Barra
1st 2nd	Zurez Memon, Shenendehowa HS	4th	Williamsville East HS - Becca Jordan,
3rd	Matthew Herzog, Jericho HS Michael Chan, New Hyde Park Mem. HS	5th	Jocelynn Lojacono, and Alexis Millace Monroe-Woodbury HS - Anjani Maher,
4th	Sara Szczypien, Peru Secondary HS	501	Prachi Shah, and Eileen Wang
5th	Patrick Maloney, William Floyd HS		Traditi dilati, and Elicen Wang
• • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • •	radion maioney, rimani rieja rie		Sales Presentation
		1st	Leah Xiao, Webster Schroeder HS
		2nd	Yazmi Miah, Floral Park Memorial HS
		3rd	John Kraus, Williamsville East HS
		4th	Hunter Sartwell, Peru Secondary HS
		5th	Aiden Mentnech, Tri-Valley HS

2016 STATE LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE WINNERS

	Securities & Investments		Website Design
1st	Shubhanghi Mehra, Williamsville East HS 4th	1st	Valley Stream HS - Stephanie Burchell, and
2nd	Jay Chen, Jericho HS	01	Tyrese Haspil
3rd	Ishir Seth, Brighton HS	2nd	Mt. Sinai HS - Su Yang
4th	Joshua Farahzad, Ward Melville HS	3rd	Williamsville East HS - Sina Soltanieh,
5th	Scott Horowitz, Jericho HS	/1+b	Jordan Richheimer, and Edward Shen
	Social Modio Compoign	4th 5th	Brighton HS - Eileen Norris
1st	Social Media Campaign Lakeland HS - Zoie Lagoudis, and	Stil	Jericho HS - Christopher Lee, and Kunal Galani
ISt	Naomi Esteves		Runai Galani
2nd	Mamaroneck HS - Hannah Siegel and		Word Processing
2110	Annie Whittemore	1st	Lauren Pogostin, Mamaroneck HS
3rd	Sharon Springs HS - Allison Cross, Ian Rohac,	2nd	Gabriela Vasilakas, H. Frank Carey HS
0.4	and Cianna Keller	3rd	Spencer Spitz, Mt. Sinai HS
4th	Jericho HS - Dan Rosenthal and Ann Paulose	4th	Desiree Palmatier, Schoharie HS
5th	John Jay Sr. HS - Jack Bott, and	5th	Jessica Murphy, Williamsville East HS
	Madisen Sturm-Orlando		, ,
		,	Who's Who In FBLA Recognition
Spo	orts & Entertainment Management		Daniel Willis, Monroe-Woodbury HS
1st	Jericho HS - Max Chodes, Ross Platz, and		
	Hunter Principe		Future Business Leader
2nd	Hendrick Hudson HS - Derek Gonda, and	1st	Christopher Pereira, CarmelHS
	Omar Saleh	2nd	Shubhanghi Mehra, Williamsville East HS
3rd	Ward Melville HS - Tyler Flynn, and	3rd	Emily Barthelmes, Hendrick Hudson HS
4.1	Austin Day	4th	Rohit Mathews, Sewanhaka HS
4th	Brighton HS - Felipe Hanuch, Matthew Mayer,	5th	Gerald Hamilton, Carmel HS
E+b	and Ji Min Son		
5th	John F. Kennedy HS - Brian Zharov, and Jordan Sternbach		
	Jordan Sternbach		
	Spreadsheet Applications		
1st	Colton Merriam, Schoharie HS		
2nd	Maria Martinez, Queens Vocational HS		
3rd	Ishaan Gupta, Williamsville East HS		
4th	Cole Garrow, Peru Secondary HS		
5th	Brett Ritter, Jericho HS		

2016 STATE LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE WINNERS

Chapter of the Year

1st Carmel HS 2nd Tri-Valley HS

3rd Williamsville East HS

4th Canastota HS 5th Lakeland HS

6th Monroe-Woodbury HS

7th Clymer HS

8th Mamaroneck HS9th Falcolner HS10th Lake George HS



2016-2017 State Officer Team

President Sophia Danziger

Mamaroneck HS

EVP Julie Nwaogbe

Elmont Memorial HS

Secretary Gillian Mathews

Tri-Valley HS

Treasurer Christopher Pereira

Carmel HS

Historian Julianna Prato

Lakeland HS

Parliamentarian Carly Rankin

Lakeland HS

SVP 3N Rahul Atluri

Carmel HS

SVP 3S Casey Grosso

Lakeland HS

SVP 4 Cianna Keller

Sharon Springs HS

SVP 5 Arek Gordon

Greenwich HS

SVP 11 Bianca Summerville

Elmira HS

SVP 12 Alanna Kramer

Williamsville East HS

SVP 13 Emily Johnson

Falconer HS





ATTENDANCE & PARTICIPATION AT CONFERENCES SPONSORED BY THE ASSOCIATION

Institute for Leaders

At the end of June 2015, several members of NYS FBLA arrived in Chicago, Illinois to participate in the 2015 Institute for Leaders. Members were able to choose a track, allowing them to focus on their specific interests. Additionally members were granted the time to network with others throughout the country. This proved to be a valuable experience for all who attended, and prepared members for the year ahead.

National Leadership Conference

New York State FBLA was well-represented at the 2015 National Leadership Conference in Chicago, Illinois with 260 people attending and 189 competitors. Members attended workshops, competed in events, participated in the March of Dimes mini-walk, elected the 2015-2016 National Officer Team, and networked with their peers from all over the country. New York also said goodbye to their very own National Officer, Sabrena Sabet, who had been serving as the 2014-2015 Eastern Region Vice President. New York State advisors and chaperones served as event administrators, event assistants, and social event chaperones. During free time, members went sightseeing to attractions such as the Navy Pier, Willis Tower, and the tree-lined shores of Lake Michigan. Additionally NYS FBLA members came together to go on an architectural river cruise, followed by dinner.



2015 NATIONAL LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE AWARDS

1st Place – Digital Video Production Isabel Arias and Alyanna Felix Monroe-Woodbury HS

1st Place – Sales Presentation Isaac Cruz Valley Stream HS

1st Place – Securities & Investments
Matt Herzog
Jericho HS

2nd Place – Mobile Application Development
Andrew Katz
Mamaroneck HS

2nd Place – Public Service Announcement Claude Parola and Paola Parola Valley Stream HS

SPONSO SPONSO

3rd Place – Future Business Leader Vamshi Adimulam Monroe-Woodbury HS

3rd Place – Network Design Dennis Bleir and Kyle Carretto Batavia Information Tech. Ctr. 4th Place – Public Speaking II Akshani Patel Monroe-Woodbury HS

5th Place – Digital Design & Promotion Madeline Grunin and Sophia Grunin Valley Stream HS

> 5th Place – Public Speaking 1 Elise Yamen Tri-Valley HS

6th Place – Website Design Madison LaFond, Jessica Quay, and Harriet Thomas Lake George HS

7th Place – Parliamentary Procedure Team Robin Marshall, Shubhangi Mehra, Kellan Sinha, and Brian Suk Williamsville East HS

8th Place – Banking & Financial Systems – Willy Arnold,
Joe Austin and Nathan Markwood
Lake George HS

8th Place – Website Design Ronald Pritipaul Valley Stream HS

9th Place – Business Procedures
Dalton Chu
Minisink Valley HS

9th Place – Local Chapter Annual Business Report Clymer HS

> 9th Place – Spreadsheet Applications Mohit Singh Ward Melville HS

2015 NATIONAL LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE AWARDS

10th Place – Public Speaking 1 Stephanie Burchell Valley Stream HS

10th Place – E-Business Ramya Gopalakrishnan and Monik Walters Valley Stream HS

10th Place – Social Media Campaign Anjani Maher and Eileen Wang Monroe-Woodbury HS

Hospitality Management Ishir Seth, Sarita Benesch, and Eileen Norris Brighton HS

Hospitality Management
Michelle Dao and Caroline Wang
Williamsville East HS

Management Decision Making Matthew Colosi and Dayne Feehan Windsor HS



Who's Who in FBLA
Vamshi Adimulam - Monroe-Woodbury HS
Sabrena Sabet - Lakeland HS

Business Achievement Award - America Level Vamshi Adimulam - Monroe-Woodbury HS Isabelle Arias - Monroe-Woodbury HS Nancy Champagne - Lakeland HS

Community Service Award – Leadership Level Vamshi Adimulam - Monroe-Woodbury HS Isabelle Arias - Monroe-Woodbury HS

> Outstanding Chapter Monroe-Woodbury HS

Hollis & Kitty Guy
Gold Seal Chapter Award of Merit
Canastota HS
Carmel HS
Clymer HS
Falconer HS
Lake George HS
Lakeland HS
Mamaroneck HS
Monroe-Woodbury HS
Tri-Valley HS
Williamsville East HS



BUSINESS-LIKE PROCEDURES

Chapter Management and Organization

Goals and Committees

Each year, it is the responsibility of the State Officer Team to develop the goals that will guide the basic structure of the NYS FBLA year. To accomplish these goals, the State Officers work on one of the four established committees: Executive, Community Engagement and Outreach, Membership Services, and Career Development. Throughout the year, these committees planned events, published articles, and posted updates to the state website and social media accounts.

Minutes

It was the duty of the State Secretary, Aniruddha Nrusimha, to keep complete and accurate minutes of the business that took place during the monthly teleconferences and at each Joint Meeting of the State Officer team and the Board of Trustees.

Monthly Activity Reports

The State Officers were required to submit Monthly Activity Reports (MAR) to the evaluation committee at the end of each month. The MAR is an essay-type report that describes, in detail, the progress made within the month. This report also gave the officers an opportunity to communicate the personal issues that are happening in their lives, such as SATs and college applications. These also prove extremely helpful to the Board of Trustees so that they knew what each officer was accomplishing.

Parliamentary Procedure

The State Parliamentarian, Shubhangi Mehra, was responsible for seeing that all meetings of the NYS FBLA Association ran in accordance with Parliamentary Procedure as stated in <u>Robert's Rules of Order</u>, <u>Newly Revised Edition</u>. The Parliamentarian also encouraged all members to learn and use parliamentary procedure at their local meetings by writing articles for *The FBLA Express* and website.







BUSINESS-LIKE PROCEDURES

Financial Development

Dues

The primary funding of New York State FBLA activities comes in the form of membership dues. The state dues for 2015-2016 were \$6 per member. Dues were utilized by the State Association to pay for necessities such as management of the State Leadership Conference, supplies, and travel expenses.

Saving Money

This year NYS FBLA continued to save money by utilizing the state website. Correspondence was posted to the website rather than being mailed. These documents included the Program of Work, *The FBLA Express*, directories, and conference registration packets. State officers submitted all of their monthly correspondences electronically to their evaluators. Additionally, there was an expansion to the number of SLC competitive events materials that were sent electronically.

New York State Foundation

The New York State Foundation is a trust fund set up specifically to defray National Leadership Conference costs for New York State FBLA competitive event winners. One of the Foundation's much anticipated fundraisers included the sale of theme baskets donated by local chapters, and generous individuals at the SLC. The Foundation has an annual board meeting at the SLC and maintains accounts separate from the State Association.

Interest in State Checking Account

All money received by the New York State Association during the FBLA fiscal year is deposited into an interest-bearing checking account. Money can be withdrawn only through checks written by the State Executive Treasurer, Peter Tambroni.

Conference Registration Fees

At each state conference and district meeting, a registration fee is built into the total cost of the conference for each member. The money collected from these fees is used to help defray conference expenses. Many businesses and individuals sponsor competitive event winners at the State Leadership Conference in April. Local businesses also make generous donations to support the endeavors of many local chapters statewide.