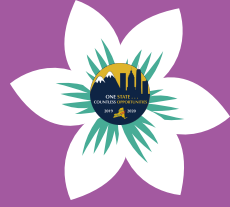


NEW YORK STATE FBLA EXPRESS



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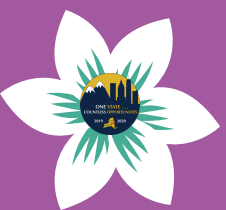


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Letter from Your President

Andrew Danziger

Greetings New York State FBLA members and advisors,

I hope you all have been engaged, motivated, and are getting excited for our State Leadership Conference. All the hard work that you put in this year will pay off when our state delegation gathers in Rochester, New York. Whether you put numerous hours into the Business Achievement Awards, Community Service Awards, our own Program of Work, or have been preparing for your competitive event, you have the opportunity to be recognized up on stage. Similarly, to those who are running for State Office, I wish you all the best of luck and know you all will do a great job of leading our state to new heights next year.

With this being my last year in FBLA, I'd like to take a brief moment to reflect on some of the high points of my time in this organization and leave you all with some advice from my experience.

To start, I must say that it is crucial to take advantage of any opportunities that come your way in order to get the most out of FBLA. These opportunities will range from attending state and national conferences, signing up to do another competitive event, participating in a workshop, and even running for a local, state, or national position. Despite the outcome, I always like to say that the journey is the reward. If it weren't for FBLA, I wouldn't have had the chance to travel to five different states, meet thousands of brilliant and motivated people, stand on stage delivering a speech in front of hundreds, or displaying my hard work on a new business I created to judges. It doesn't matter if you place in a competition or win an election, the grit and determination you put into all the work FBLA offers are worth more than a ribbon or a trophy.

Letter from Your President

Andrew Danziger

Secondly, I must say that you should never stop asking questions. No matter how minuscule you may think your question is, ask it! As humans, we only grow by asking questions and learning. In meetings and workshops, ask about things you don't know or things that may further the group discussion. When speaking with candidates for office, ask about their FBLA background, why they are passionate about this organization, and how they plan to make it even better. The more you ask, the more opportunities will be thrown your way.

Finally, I encourage all of you to step outside of your comfort zone to meet new people in this organization and be friendly to everyone. No matter what FBLA function I was at, I attended with a smile on my face and a desire to meet as many people as I could. Moreover, the select people I have had the chance to work with on officer teams on the local, district, and state levels, as well as various councils on the state and national level have become more like family than friends. When you branch your network to talk to and work with people you may never have otherwise met before, you can end up with lifelong friends. That really is the beauty of this organization. It is more than just a business club. The members and advisors in it are a family, one that I have been honored to be a part of for the last four years.

So New York State FBLA, I hope you take these brief words of wisdom and consider them throughout the rest of your FBLA careers. Whether that maybe a few more months, or a few more years, take advantage of it all.

Regards,
Andrew Danziger



How to Prepare for SLC

Andrew Fox

Hello New York State FBLA!

As the State Leadership Conference is rapidly approaching us in just a few short weeks I would like to give all of you tips to prepare for this once in a lifetime experience.

Do not forget to pack business attire for the conference. You will need business clothes for all of the events throughout the conference. For the student activities after the general sessions, make sure to pack appropriate casual clothing for the Talent Show and Roaring 20s dance. If you are taking written events do not forget to bring your number two pencils. Math involved competitions also allow you to bring a four-function calculator to do work on. Lastly, if your chapter would like to donate a theme basket for the basket raffle, do not forget to put one together from the theme list on the state website.

I hope you all are excited for this year's State Leadership Conference. I am confident that each of you will have an outstanding time in Rochester, New York! I cannot wait to see each and every one of you there this April!

Sincerely,
Andrew Fox
2019-2020 Executive Vice President



Competing Smart at SLC

Jillian Bent

It's crazy to look at how fast the past few months have flown by. If you're attending the NYS FBLA State Leadership Conference in Rochester, NY, you have less than a month to put your best foot forward in your respective test or performance events. This time prior to the conference is when studying, practicing, performing and memorizing is crucial. During SLC there will be several events you won't want to miss. Instead of last-minute cramming an hour before your event in your hotel room - work hard now and your efforts will pay off! Some tips I have learned when studying for a competitive event is putting anything you want to memorize on notecards. When practicing your performance, work to memorize one notecard at a time until you can completely perform without it. If you are doing an event where you answer questions, you could write a list of potential questions you might be asked and when you wake up in the morning, have free time during the day, or are about to go to bed at night- you can answer a question. Lastly, for tests, you can find past tests on the NYS FBLA website under the Resource Bank. If you place in the top four, you will have the opportunity to compete at the National Leadership Conference in Salt Lake City, Utah. FBLA is meant to help members grow and improve, so whether you win or lose- as long as you learn from the experience the opportunity to compete has served its purpose.



Tips for SLC Tests

Katelynn Mangual

As the State Leadership Conference is fast approaching on April 1st to the 3rd, here are some test-taking strategies and effective studying methods to help you prepare for FBLA written tests. I encourage all of you to utilize these tips when preparing for your FBLA exams. Avoid trying to study all of the material the night before. Take practice tests to familiarize yourself with formats and language.

When test day rolls around make sure to arrive at your testing location early so you can relax before your exam, make sure you pack and bring all the supplies you may need for your exam. When you begin your exam make sure to thoroughly read all of the test questions and directions, plan your time accordingly and make sure you complete all sections of your exam. Make sure to answer all the questions on your exam even if you are unsure of the answer. Lastly, if you are indecisive on an answer for a question usually go with your first choice or what your gut is telling you to pick. Make sure once you have completed your exam to review it and make sure it is complete.

Exams can be very nerve-wracking, so after your test do something to destress yourself. Do something fun and relaxing, such as reading a book, painting or going out to eat ice cream. I hope all of these tips are useful to everyone and everyone does well on their tests!



Time Management

Aisha Bhakta

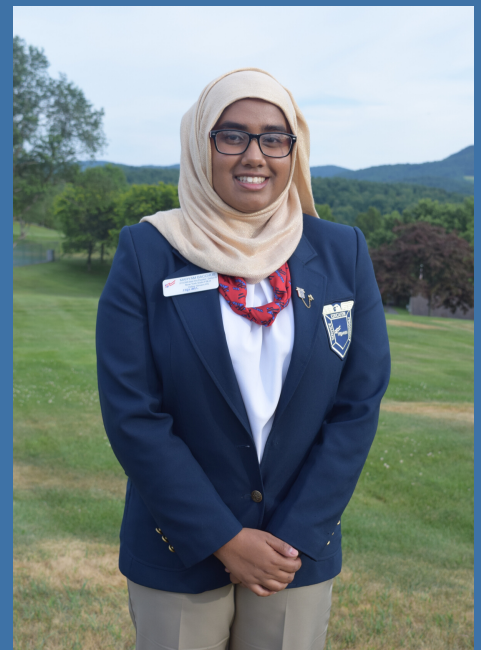
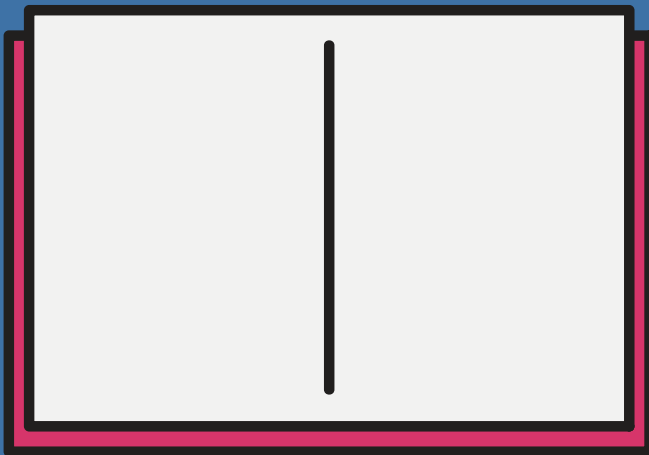
In order to be successful in life, one must adopt good habits that they utilize in their daily lives. One of the most important habits is good time management. Managing and utilizing your time wisely is imperative to achieving success in life and in being efficient and smart with your work. So what is time management? Time management is the ability to plan and control how one spends their time to effectively accomplish their goals. The first step to managing your time is managing yourself. Learn to find where you are wasting time and cut down on those activities. Also figure out what your priorities are and what matters to you so that you can ensure you are spending time doing meaningful things. An easy way to manage your time is to make a time management plan. The plan involves three components: setting a goal, establishing what you want to complete, and recording and accomplishing. First, set a concrete goal of what you want to accomplish. It can be long term or short term, just as long as it clearly outlines what you want to do. This leads into the next step, where you must establish every step you have to take to accomplish your goal. You can add more steps along the way, but be sure to have at least the basic steps written down! Lastly, record your progress as you go along and you will soon be achieving success! Use these steps as a guideline for managing time in your life and you will be able to accomplish your goals and spend your time wisely!



District 1N Update

Maryam Bacchus

Hello all! The FBLA competition season is officially underway. For District 1N, the official start was the Spring District Meeting, and we will be continuing with the upcoming State Leadership Conference in Rochester in April. The Spring District Meeting was held on January 17, 2020 at Hofstra University. I am beyond happy with our turnout, and extremely proud of our hardworking members, many of whom went home with awards! Long Island FBLA also began the FlexBLA social media challenge; you can find more details on Instagram @flexbla2020! Reminders for the coming weeks include paying your national dues by the extended deadline: April 1, 2020. Additionally, please see the latest edition of our District Newsletter for more helpful information about SLC! It has been an honor to serve as your State Vice President this year. I have truly enjoyed meeting many members, and I hope to see all of you soon in Rochester.



District 1S Update

Madison Crilley

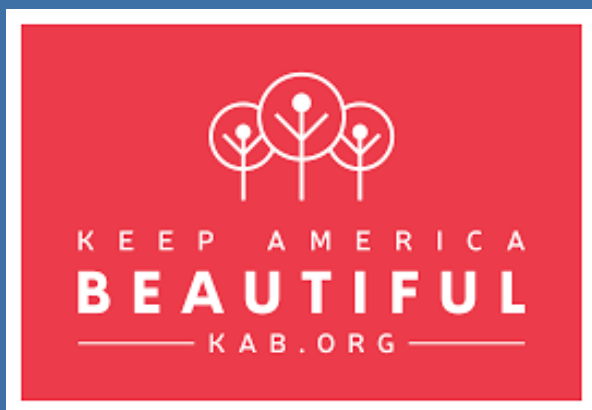
Hello District 1S! I would like to start off by thanking all of the chapters who participated in the Program of Work. The State Officer Team has truly enjoyed viewing all of your submissions. Your creativity and dedication to FBLA is truly outstanding. As we draw closer to the State Leadership Conference, I would like to remind you of an amazing study resource. The New York FBLA Resource Bank is full of practice tests, example resumes, cover letters, and more! As you may know, Quizlet is an amazing website for study materials, but did you know that it has a large amount of FBLA study sets? You also have the option to create your own study guide for whichever competition you are participating in. I would also like to encourage you to participate in the FlexBLA social media challenge. It's not too late to get involved! This challenge is a great way to get your chapter excited for SLC. Visit @flexbla2020 on Instagram for more information and updates. I look forward to seeing you at the State Leadership Conference, and I wish you luck as you prepare for your events. Since this is the last edition of the Express for the 2019-2020 year, I would like to thank you for giving me the opportunity to be your State Vice President. This has been an incredible experience, and I will cherish the memories that I have made forever.



District 3N Update

Spencer Dicembrino

On February 13 from 3-8pm, District 3N had its Spring District Meeting at Carmel High School. We welcomed 147 members, advisors and guests to this excellent event. We had one other state officer join us: Riva Shukla our State Reporter. We also had four NYS FBLA board of trustees who were Ms. Halstead, Ms. Palkaunieks, Mr. Conway, and Mrs. Odell. Along with this, Carmel Central School District's Board of Trustees as well as Carmel High School's Principal and Vice Principal were in attendance. For the competitions, we had at least two judges and one timekeeper for the performance events, and a proctor for all the written events. It was nice to see that all the events were filled to the maximum number of competitors because that makes winning an event a much greater feeling. It also ensured that everyone was as competitive as possible, meaning that all the winners truly deserve to compete in the SLC. After the competitions, we ate dinner which was provided by Bucci Brothers of Mahopac. After dinner, Ms. Halstead called the finalists and winners for the competitions while Riva and I handed out the awards. It was also nice to see that the winner of our coin challenge for Keep America Beautiful donated \$85 by themselves. Everyone was respectful, competitive, and partook in networking, which topped off this SDM as very successful.



District 3S Update

Zoe Hanfmann

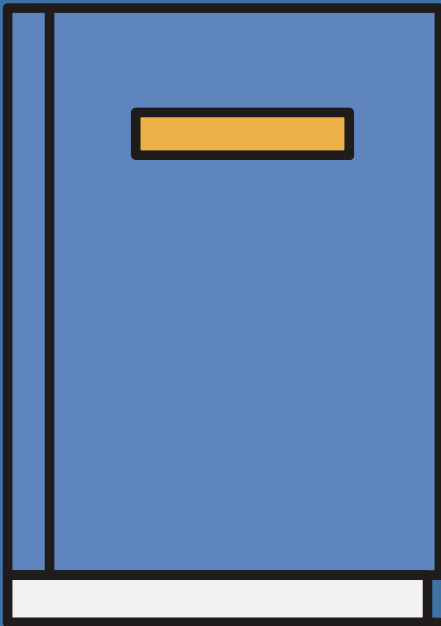
District 3S held their Spring District Meeting on Thursday, February 6, 2020. Our conference was held between the times of 3 p.m. and 8 p.m. We had a total of 54 members, as well as 6 advisors present. During our meeting, we had three thirty-minute workshop sessions. We had a variety of workshops such as Mindfulness, Parliamentary Procedure, PBL, How to Score Points in The Express: Spring Edition, and a workshop held by our district secretary, Daniel Saleem. As for our keynote speaker, a fellow Lakeland high school faculty member, Lakeland education union leader and chair of the better together caucus, Mr. Michael Lillis presented a well thought out speech on the importance of leadership. After dinner, we displayed our slideshow, presented by our district historian, Katarina Reichert. After, we announced the winner of our annual Coin Challenge! Mamaroneck High School raised the most funds for our state charity. Finally, it was time for the awards ceremony! The following state officers, Andrew Danziger, Aisha Bhakta, Dante Howard, Katelynn Mangual, and Riva Shukla all helped to hand out the awards. Our conference was a success and I'm very proud of the outcome. Many individuals, including myself, put countless hours of work in to making sure the conference was one to remember! Members received a chance to network and compete as they prepared for our State Leadership Conference in April!



District 5 Update

Madeleine Biles

Hello NYS FBLA! I hope you are all excited for SLC and enjoyed your SDMs! In this month's update I would like to take the opportunity to encourage you all to attend the State Leadership Conference this upcoming April as well as recap the District 5 SDM! SDM was a huge success and I would like to thank everyone who attended! We had a record-breaking number of members in attendance which was amazing! I hope everyone had fun networking and winning awards and are excited for next year! The NYS FBLA State Leadership Conference will be held in Rochester, NY on April 1st- 3rd. This event promises to be both fun and rewarding, as you will have the opportunity to compete with members from across the state, attend workshops, and vote for your next State Officers. If you place top 4 in any of your events, you will have the chance to move on to the next round of competitions in Salt Lake City, Utah! I hope you are all busy preparing for your competitions and are as excited about these events as I am! As always, feel free to contact me at svp5@nysfbla.org with any questions!



District 7 Update

Emily Case

Hello from District 7! I am very pleased to announce that the District 7 Spring District Meeting was a huge success! However, now that the Spring District Meeting is over, our attention is directed to the State Leadership Conference, which will take place on April 1-3 in Rochester. At the moment, the district has been studying for an array of different events. After the Spring District Meeting, we are looking forward to showing off our skills at the state level. As we all know, the competition gets a bit harder at the state conference. To reach this goal, we are in the process of planning a district social before this event so that we can all see each other and practice our most imperative events. Those participating in the same event can help each other out and practice, and even give a few pointers. Also during the social, we plan on studying for speaking competitions as well as improving skills in speaking competitions, such as Impromptu Speaking and Job Interview with local business professionals. I plan to have the local members work with our FBLA members so that they can ask any questions that they may have regarding their competition performance. So far, I have a list of people who would be willing to help our members improve their skills. I'm looking forward to planning this event even further. I am trying to work with all of the schools in District 7 so that this event can be as collaborative as possible. I can't wait to see everyone at the State Leadership Conference!



District 12 Update

Chai Ratnakaram

Hello again to FBLA Express, members and advisors! The District 12 Spring District Meeting (SDM) was a big success this past month and I'd like to share some updates regarding District 12! All of our District 12 competitors qualified to move onto the State level for competitions in their respective events. Congratulations to all of these hardworking and talented competitors. You should be proud of yourselves and begin working on your preparation for the next level! Thank you to all of those who submitted your Program of Work materials on time and completed. It was amazing to see all of the work put in by chapters across New York State. The winners of these will be announced and honored at the State Leadership Conference.

Good luck! Additionally, if you have any questions regarding district business, you may contact any of the following district officers: Kevin Wang, Dan Purizhansky, and Ryan Chou. I cannot wait to see our members at the NYS SLC this year, and I look forward to the competitive events as well! If you have any questions, concerns, or ideas, feel free to contact me at svp12@nysfbla.org. I can't wait to see everyone in a few weeks! Good luck with your events!



John Jay FBLA Winter Carnival

Jeffery Shah

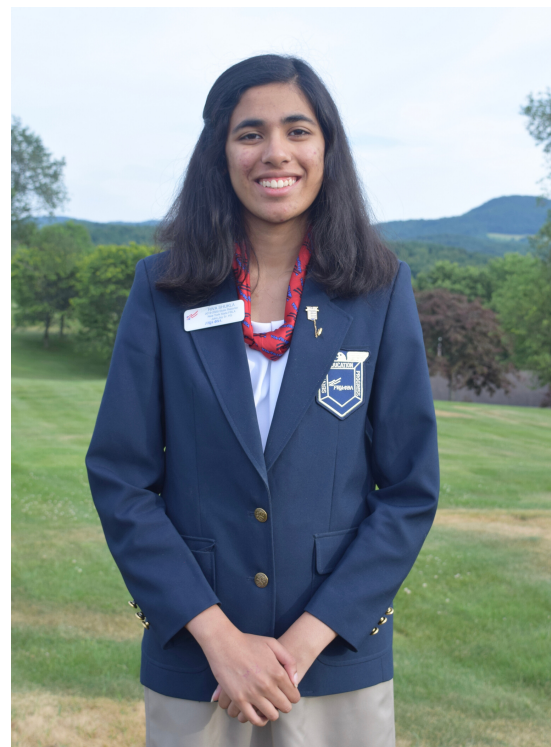
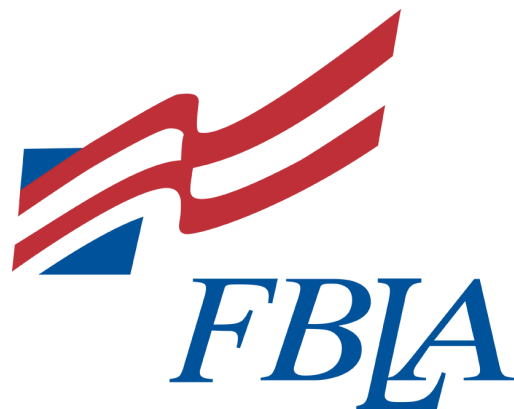
The beginning of 2020 marked some major events for the John Jay Future Business Leaders of America. On February 13th, John Jay competed against several other schools in Carmel High School in a regional competition, where hard work and dedication earned John Jay several first place awards and several members qualified for the States competition which is taking place from March 31st to April 3rd. In addition to participating in Regionals, John Jay FBLA participated in the annual Winter Carnival fundraiser at John Jay high school on February 29th. At Winter Carnival, FBLA hosted various booths, including cotton candy, a bouncy house, Duck Pond, Mini Golf, Whack-a-Mole, and Nerf Wars. After running the booths for just a few hours, FBLA managed to collect over 2000 tickets, and hundreds of people across the community participated in the fundraiser. John Jay FBLA cannot wait to compete in the State competition, and FBLA is eager to see what is to come in the spring season.





A MESSAGE FROM YOUR STATE REPORTER

Thank you for submitting excellent articles for the 2019-2020 Express. Serving as your State Reporter has been a remarkable experience. I wish you all the best of luck in the future!



RIVA SHUKLA

