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THE MID-YEAR UPDATE

BY PRESIDENT JOE VISCONTI



Greeting New York State FBLA! As we approach the new year, we are also entering our halfway mark to the FBLA membership year. This is bittersweet because I have loved serving all of you throughout this year, but it also means that we are coming closer to finishing things off in FBLA. I just wanted to remind everyone of all of the great accomplishments that we have completed, and announce some of our new initiatives!

To start off, I would like to thank all of our members for their constant engagement and involvement within NYS FBLA. So far, we have completed several milestones such as announcing the Program of Work, conducting Fall District Meetings, developing our State Councils, and even having our very first Networking Night! If it weren't for the constant member involvement than these great achievements would not have been possible, so, thank you!

In addition, there have been many

opportunities for all our members. First off, it is extremely important that members are making progress on the Program of Work. These challenges give our members the opportunity to explore new topics, and build upon their knowledge in regard to general topics, business education, and communication. With a deadline of February 15, 2023, these challenges tend to sneak up on members so make sure to be working on them consistently in order to receive recognition at our State Leadership Conference in April, Furthermore, I would also like to make note of the FBLA Honor Society application. This program is designed to recognize FBLA members who demonstrate stellar character, leadership, and service. It a true accomplishment to be inducted as a member, the application can be found on our website homepage @www.nysfbla.org and this is due on January 28, 2023.

As we are approaching our Spring District Meetings, and the State

Students from New York's Monroe Woodbury High School take on the National Fall Leadership Conference in Orlando, Florida. .

Leadership Conference preparing for competitive events is a must, so make sure that you are communicating with your advisor to prepare for the competitions you would like to participate in, and start practicing now! Without further ado I would also like to congratulate our State Council members for the 2022-2023 year!

As always if you have any questions, comments, or concerns please do not hesitate to contact me at president@nysfbla.org! I am looking forward to this year, and I am confident that with our members, State officers, and all who are involved in FBLA we will be able to have a successful and exciting rest of the year!

AN INTRODUCTION FOR NEW YORK STATE FBLA'S WEBSITE

BY EXECUTIVE VICE PRESIDENT VISAKHI MIRIYAPALLI

One of the great resources to familiarize yourself with all things NYS FBLA is our state website. Here, you'll get new information from your state officer team, receive links for upcoming events, and just stay up to date with everything occurring state wide!

Using it at first can be a little tricky since there are numerous links and places to look. But there is a place for everything and everything! You can use the tab bar above to differentiate the links from information to updates, resources to competitions, and more.

Located on the main page, there's always links for the most up and coming events and must-knows.
Currently, the FBLA Honor Society forms, the humanitarian award forms, state competition guidelines, and program of work links are there.



The New York State officers meet New Jersey Officers!

Two of the main tabs include About NYS FBLA and chapter resources. Here, you'll get information about FBLA itself, its missions and goals as well as updates from the FBLA Express, Adviser Recognition, and Businessperson of the Year. If you ever have question or concerns about what FBLA is about, this is the place to go!

Also located on the state website is the Program of Work, the 12 challenges created by your state officers. These POWs are separated by the four committees that created them: Membership Services Committee, Community Outreach and Engagement Committee, Career Development Committee, and the Executive Challenge Committee. This year, the deadline for all POWs is February 15th and you can submit them right on the \Re te!

Under state leadership and districts, you'll see that each state officer has their own page. These pages are updated monthly on the first of the month with personal messages from each of the officers. The mainline officers' pages are under the state officers and the SVPs' are under their respective districts. This is a great way to directly hear from your state officer team and get to know a little more about us. There's also a complete list of the Board of Trustees and the Advisory Board for your reference.

There's also useful information regarding NFLC, SLC, and NLC below conferences & competitions. You'll find links for each event with dates and locations as well as prior award lists.

One of the best - and maybe most unknown - resources is the Resource Bank! Here, there are several different things that can help both members and local officers. There are chapter



Elise Carpenter and Krisha Patel showing National Eastern Region Council pride.

meeting ideas, fundraising ideas, and parliamentary procedure materials, and more! Definitely take a look at this bank to see what could be of use to you and your chapter.

If you ever have any questions, always feel free to reach out to any of the state officers! If there's a question about NYS FBLA, we're all more than happy to help you all.

PREPARING FOR COMPETITIONS

BY SECRETARY HANNAH CLARK



Hello, New York State FBLA! We hope everyone is having a great year and had a lovely holiday break. With the New Year upon us, the State Officers have begun our planning for the yearly State Leadership Conference this April. The State Leadership Conference (SLC) is an amazing event in which NYS FBLA members attend and compete in business related competitions. This is also when Program of Work awards are dispersed and the 2023-2024 State Officers are elected. We highly encourage everyone to attend SLC, and sign up for a few competitions while you're at it! More information regarding SLC can be found on the NYS FBLA website: https://www.nysfbla.org/conferences/

https://www.nysfbla.org/conferences/slc/

While there are many different appeals to SLC, the business-related competitive events are found to be very rewarding. There are over 100 different competitions that you can sign up for, varying from tests, to presentations, to impromptu

speaking, and many more! This includes high school FBLA members, as well as middle level members.

There are many different ways to prepare for these events to improve your chances of placing higher, or better yet, winning! First off, reviewing the grading rubric and expectations for your event is crucial. For presentations this will help you understand formatting, content, and verbal speaking. Utilizing the FBLA-Topics PDF on the NYS FBLA Website will also provide expectations for certain competitive events: https://www.nysfbla.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/08/FBLA-Topics.pdf

To help you prepare for tests, it is suggested that you utilize the internet. By researching your competitive event, you will find plenty of information on websites and in articles. Additionally, Quizlet.com contains numerous study sets, a lot of which contain competitive event study guides and practice tests.

Monroe Woodbury students with honorary Monroe Woodbury student Ashley Carozza (3S SVP) at the National Officer Round Table.

Those who place well enough in their competitive events will be recognized during the SLC ceremony, and will have the option to compete at Nationals against FBLA members from all over the world who have also placed well in their events. Overall, competing in competitive events at SLC is very rewarding, and there are many ways to prepare for them so that you can improve your chances of placing higher.



FUNDRAISING

SUPPORTING THE NATURE CONSERVANCY THROUGH FUNDRAISING

BY DISTRICT 7 STATE VICE PRESIDENT NICOLE AUMELL

Fundraising is a crucial aspect of supporting this year's state charity, The Nature Conservancy. There are a wide variety of ways chapters can help raise money for this wonderful charity including virtual fundraisers, in-person events, and even through social media. GoFundMe, hosting virtual chapter nights in which members can donate to participate in a talent show, karaoke, and other fun activities are all great methods of fundraising virtually. Examples of in-person events could be bake sales, car washes, raffles, and coin challenges. Hosting any of these fundraising events as a chapter qualifies you to have completed a Program of Work challenge called "Earn for the Environment" and after completing a brief reflection along with the submission form, you can qualify to earn a special ribbon at SLC and if your chapter is among the top submissions, a recognition plaque. On the NYS FBLA Instagram page, you will find a direct donation link in the bio that all members can utilize and even create posts about encouraging members to be more involved in environmental issues in addition to spreading awareness of conservation efforts made by The Nature Conservancy. Helping fundraise has numerous benefits for the state charity and can assist in uniting your chapter and contribute to greater success within your district! I highly urge members to organize fundraising events and further support the state theme of getting "Back to Business"!

On the NYS FBLA Instagram page, you will find a direct donation link.

FUNDRAISING FOR THE STATE LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE

BY PARLIAMENTARIAN SOHUM AGGARWAL

Fundraising, the seeking of financial support for a charity, cause, or other enterprises, is necessary to ensure a successful year and future for any FBLA Chapter . Funds need to be gathered to complete weekly chapter activities, donate to a charity, attend conferences, and for much more. For a club to begin fundraising, they must first identify their goals to make sure that they raise enough funds to offset expenses throughout the year. The next step is to research fundraising opportunities and decide on a possible fundraiser. It is important to factor in preliminary expenses, feasibility, and profit margin. Current events and the time of year such as the holidays in December may also play a vital role in deciding on possible fundraisers. Examples include candy gram fundraisers within schools, bake sales at various sporting events,

and holding competition/event nights with entry fees. Virtual fundraisers are an excellent option to raise money as well. Several corporations and businesses offer an online catalog that is available solely for the use of fundraising. More information on this can be found by searching up the name of a potential business and fundraising. A potential downside to this type of fundraising is that many businesses may require a tax-exempt status that can be difficult to obtain, but that is not always the case. After deciding on which fundraiser to follow through with, it is suggested to propose the fundraiser to your chapter with Parliamentary Procedure. Past that, the steps differ as every fundraiser is unique in its own way. It may seem overwhelming and almost daunting at times, but it is incredibly important to follow through with it. To ameliorate this process, I suggest creating a fundraising committee. Creating a fundraising committee can help divide the work and recruit individuals that are passionate about contributing to fundraising. Remember that fundraising is not a tool limited to raising funds for your club. It can be used to raise money for charities and other organizations as the opportunities it may bring are endless. As the Spring District Meeting, State Leadership Conference, and the National Leadership Conference all grow closer, it is important to begin fundraising as soon as possible to cover travel expenses, room and board, as well as many other fees that may pop up. These conferences have a multitude of opportunities and are for sure a lot of fun, so make sure you get started as soon as possible. If you have any questions, don't be afraid to reach out to me at parliamentarian@nysfbla.org or anyone else part of the NYS FBLA's State Officer team.

DISTRICT REPORTS



The NYS officers at NFLC with National Eastern Region Vice President Krisha Patel.

DISTRICT 1S

MIKAYLA ZELDIN

Hello NYS FBLA,

Happy new year! I hope that all of you are considering the competitions for this years SDM to potentially participate at SLC. These competitions are so much fun and worth it if you place. I highly encourage you to sign up. As a reminder, just keep trying to complete those program of work challenges that's due in a month. Program of Work is a critical part of the organization. All of you should participate because you can receive ribbons at this years SLC. Keep up the good work!!!

DISTRICT 3S

ASHLEY CAROZZA

Happy New Year New York FBLA! I'm very excited to jump back into things and speaking of, our quickly approaching Spring District Meeting (SDM) is coming up on February 9. 2023 at Lakeland High School with a snow date of February 10, 2023. Just a reminder that dues must have been already paid in order for you to attend In addition, District 2 may be joining District 3S for our SDM, which provides all of us with great opportunities to meet and compete with members from a wide range of schools. After having our district meetings virtual for a couple of years, it feels great to be back in person and to see all of your smiling faces!.

After an amazing Fall District Meeting (FDM) earlier in October, I am determined to make this SDM yet another success. Since our SDM is held

in person, it will have competitions, tests, dinner, an award ceremony, and much more. There are several tests, dinner, an award ceremony, and much more. There are several competitions offered at our SDM. These competitions include Client Services, Job Interview, Impromptu Speaking, Introduction to Decision Making, Introduction to Public Speaking, and Public Speaking as well as Parli Pro Team and Individual and Future Business Leader. The State Officer exam as well as Parliamentary Procedure exam will also be offered during this meeting for all eligible candidates, so make sure to study hard! I'm looking forward to seeing all of you again soon!

Later this month, District 3S will be sending off five State Officers to Rochester for the January Joint Meeting (JJM) from the 20th to the 22nd. There, we will be working hard alongside the Board of Trustees to report on the first part of the year while also planning for the next half. We will also be working hard to plan for the State Leadership Conference in April from the 19th to the 21st. Your District 3S State Officers will be sure to report back any important state information for you to share with your chapter, so make sure to stay tuned! A lot of our updates can be found on our social media pages, especially our Instagram, so if you're not already, make sure to follow @newyorkfbla.

During these next couple months there are several deadlines to watch out for, especially for the NYS FBLA Honor Society applications, Program of Work submissions, and dues for membership and eligibility to compete at the SLC. It can definitely get overwhelming at times to keep track of everything, so if you ever have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact me via email at svp3s@nysfbla.org.

DISTRICT 3N

DIYA MANGATT

District 3N has been extremely successful in the 2022-2023 school year! Thank you to all of those that contribute to the success of our district as a whole. To begin, we had a

DISTRICT REPORTS

successful Fall District Meeting in October. There were many in attendance during these meeting and educational workshops were provided. It was so nice for everyone to get to know each other. During this event, the District Secretary, Historian, and Reporter were elected. They have been working hard this year to put together the newsletters. With articles and pictures from different chapters, it is a great way to stay updated.

During this event, the District Secretary, Historian, and Reporter were elected. They have been working hard there has been great progress this year within District 3N. We hope to keep up the good work and have strong representation at the State Leadership Conference in April of this year!

DISTRICT 7

NICOLE AUMELL

Thus far, District 7 has had an eventful year full of progress and improvement. At the start of the school year, a few DM and a large number of members chapters who dismantled during the pandemic rejoined this year to boost

a great improvement from last year! Members were educated about our State Charity, The Nature Conservancy and were provided with various suggestions of how to promote awareness for environmental issues and fundraising methods to help benefit this charity. Following FDM, two district officers were elected, Mya Melvin being the Social Media Manager, and Trinity Isom being the Project Manager. An official Instagram page for District 7 was launched under the username district7_nysfbla in which members can find information regarding upcoming events, updates from the state level, reminders, along



Members participate in an informative workshop at NFLC.

this year to put together the newsletters. With articles and pictures from different chapters, it is a great way to stay updated.

Some members of District 3N attended the National Fall Leadership Conference in Orlando, Florida. Along with members of District 3S, NYS FBLA was represented strongly! The District 3N schools have been working on the Program of Work Challenges that are due in February. There are also many competing in the Spring District Meeting in February of 2023.

membership numbers and several included the new implementation of a Middle Level. District 7 and 8's joint FDM had great attendance and engaged members in learning the plentiful opportunities they have within NYS FBLA. Leadership positions were explained within one workshop, and another included a presentation from a business professional, and the third an introduction to parliamentary procedure, as well as a public speaking lesson. Additionally, the Program of Work was presented to members at are participating in challenges which is

with staying up to date with happenings within the district. As anticipation for our SDM arises, so does excitement for SLC and this year and a surplus of members are actively working to earn a spot into state level competitions which is another advancement for District 7! Members have been invited to a plethora of district events in order to increase communication, participation, and success. Overall, at the mid-year benchmark, District 7 is in great shape and on the path to achieving all the goals set out for this year!

Editor's Note

T

hank you to everyone who made this edition of the express possible. From those contributing articles, to editing expertise, to photos, this edition was a joy to assemble. The pictures featured in this edition were taken during New York FBLA's expedition to the National Fall Leadership Conference in Orlando. We got to meet people from all different states, attend workshops and day-long tracks, and even go to Disney World (see below)!

We still have one last edition of the Express before the State Leadership Conference, and it's going to be a grand one. Schools chapters are welcome to contribute. The deadline for submissions is February 28.

Elise Carpenter - State Reporter



