

JAN 2024

DISTRICT 12

Official Newsletter - Written by Jasmitha Keesara

Introduction

As we navigate through the winter months, let this newsletter be your guide to the exciting happenings within our FBLA chapter. From preparing for the State Leadership Conference to staying abreast of current business trends and contributing to meaningful charitable initiatives, there's a lot in store for our members. We hope you enjoy this edition of the FBLA newsletter and find valuable information to help keep you updated as an FBLA member.



Table of Contents

Introduction
PAGE 01

State Charity
PAGE 02

District 12 Sweatshirt
Reveal
PAGE 03

State Leadership
Conference: Preview and
Tips
PAGE 04

Competitive Event Prep
PAGE 05

Spring District Meeting
PAGE 06



Empowering Minds, Transforming Lives: Our State Charity Initiative - K9s for Warriors

Beyond the realm of business, our FBLA chapter takes pride in contributing to meaningful causes. This segment shed light on our state charity initiative – K9s for Warriors.

In the battle against the silent struggles faced by our military veterans, one organization stands out for its unwavering commitment and innovative approach. K9s For Warriors, recognized as the nation's largest provider of trained Service Dogs to military veterans, is leading the charge in addressing the complex issues of post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD), traumatic brain injury (TBI), and military sexual trauma (MST). Remarkably, K9s For Warriors serves as the official state charity of the Future Business Leaders of America (FBLA).

At the heart of K9s For Warriors' mission is the profound understanding that the healing journey extends beyond conventional therapies. The organization recognizes the unique challenges faced by veterans who have experienced the traumas of war, and it believes in the therapeutic power of the human-animal bond.

These highly trained Service Dogs are not just companions; they are lifelines for those struggling with the invisible wounds of war. The organization employs a comprehensive training program that goes beyond typical service dog training. The dogs undergo specialized training to assist veterans in managing the symptoms of PTSD, offering support in moments of anxiety or stress. K9s For Warriors' dedication is rooted in the alarming reality of veteran suicide rates. The organization understands that traditional treatments may not reach everyone, and that's where the four-legged companions come into play. By providing veterans with these incredible Service Dogs, K9s For Warriors aims to create a powerful support system, fostering healing and preventing the tragic loss of lives to suicide.

The impact of K9s For Warriors reaches far beyond the individual veteran. Families are also beneficiaries of this unique therapy, witnessing the positive transformation that occurs when a Service Dog becomes an integral part of their loved one's life. These dogs not only offer comfort and companionship but serve as a bridge to a more fulfilling and connected life for the entire household.

As the official state charity of FBLA, K9s For Warriors has garnered recognition and support from various chapters across the state. FBLA members actively participate in fundraising initiatives, spreading awareness, and contributing to the cause. The organization is a beacon of hope for veterans who may have lost faith in traditional treatments. By addressing the root causes of mental health challenges through the healing bond between humans and animals, K9s For Warriors, with FBLA's support, is paving the way for a new era in veteran support. In the face of adversity, K9s For Warriors, along with FBLA, stands strong, determined to make a lasting impact on the lives of our military heroes.



“Opportunities
don’t happen,
you create
them”

CHRIS GROSSER

WEHS - Sweatshirt Design Reveal

Excitement is building within our FBLA chapter as we prepare to unveil the all-new crewneck design! For the first time, these stylish and comfortable crewnecks will be available in a vibrant red color, adding a bold and dynamic flair to our FBLA wardrobe. The design reflects the spirit of innovation and collaboration that defines our chapter, making it a must-have for every member. Get ready to showcase your FBLA pride in this eye-catching red hue, and stay tuned for the big reveal of the latest addition to our FBLA apparel collection!





State Leadership Conference: Preview and Tips

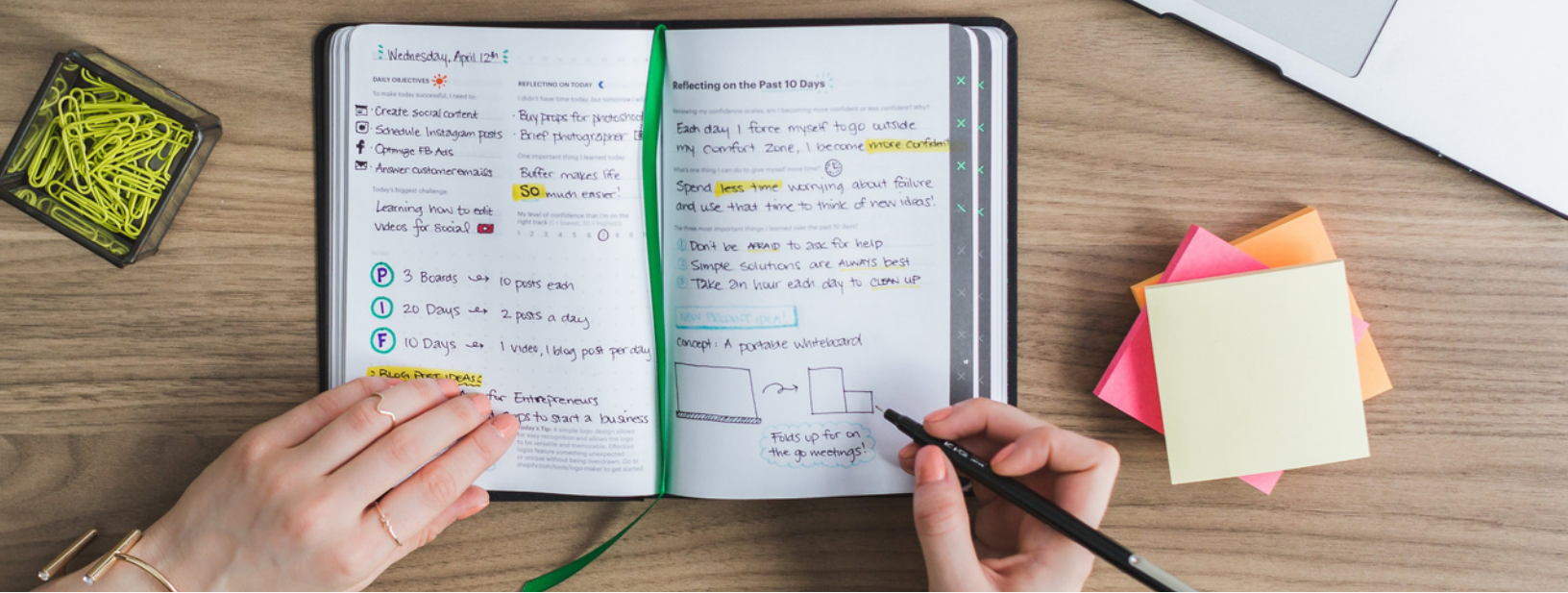
FBLA members from various corners of New York have dedicated their entire year to meticulous preparations for the upcoming State Leadership Conference (SLC). The anticipation has been building, with active participation in a program of work initiatives and rigorous practice for competitive events. Now, as the conference looms on the horizon and is set to unfold in the lively city of Rochester, NY, from April 10-12, it's high time to shift our focus to the practical aspects of the event – starting with what to pack.

For the three-day, two-night duration of the State Leadership Conference, business attire is a must. Plan to bring at least two dress shirts, a jacket, dress pants, and, for some, a business dress or pencil skirt as alternatives. Business shoes are an additional essential. However, given that not every moment will require formal wear, ensure you also pack comfortable clothes for downtime and a themed outfit for the state dance party.

Rochester's climate calls for preparation against the cold, even though most activities will be indoors. FBLA members have found it beneficial to include a coat and warm layers in their luggage, despite the budding spring weather in their respective regions of New York. Alongside your main luggage, don't forget a day bag for the conference. With long days spent in the conference center, having a bag becomes essential for carrying materials from various booths, possibly even campaign materials from aspiring officers.

When it comes to competitions, remember to pack a laptop or portable device, as New York FBLA objective tests are administered through personal devices. Additionally, load up on school supplies for the conference. Although the State Leadership Conference lasts only three days, a true Future Business Leader stays proactive. Before heading to the conference, communicate with your teachers about your impending absence, and make arrangements to collect any assignments you might miss. While SLC may be a bustling affair, there is enough flexibility in scheduling to effectively keep up with your academic responsibilities. With strategic preparation and thoughtful packing, you'll not only navigate the conference seamlessly but also stay on top of your academic commitments.





Competitive Event Prep

Exploring the Rich Resources of the FBLA Website

The FBLA website is a treasure trove of invaluable resources for aspiring Future Business Leaders. As we gear up for competitions, the website becomes an indispensable tool in our preparation journey. One notable feature that aids our study efforts is the accessibility to a wealth of information on each competitive event.

The FBLA website provides in-depth event descriptions, guidelines, and resources for all the competitive events that our members participate in. These materials offer insights into the structure of each event, evaluation criteria, and tips for success. Whether you are a first-time participant or a seasoned FBLA veteran, the event resources on the website serve as a vital roadmap to guide your preparation.

The Dropbox for past tests is another invaluable resource available on the FBLA website. This repository of past exams serves as a goldmine for anyone looking to gauge the format, difficulty level, and content of the tests for various events. Access to past tests through the FBLA Dropbox is a powerful tool for honing our skills and building confidence as we approach competition day.

The FBLA website is not just a static platform but also a dynamic hub where you can stay updated on the latest announcements, news, and important dates related to FBLA events. From information about conferences and leadership opportunities to details about upcoming competitions and deadlines, the website keeps us in the loop, ensuring that we are well-prepared and informed throughout the FBLA journey.

In addition to event-specific details and past tests, the FBLA website is also a reservoir of broader educational resources. Members can explore articles, case studies, and industry insights that align with the FBLA mission of promoting leadership, career development, and academic excellence. The website serves as a virtual mentor, guiding us not only in competition preparation but also in our overall professional and leadership development.

In conclusion, the FBLA website offers a plethora of resources to aid in the preparation of FBLA events. The website not only provides event-specific details, resources, and past tests but also serves as a virtual mentor that guides members in their overall professional and leadership development. Therefore, let's make the most of these resources as we prepare to excel in the upcoming FBLA events.

Spring District Meeting Guide

As the FBLA calendar progresses, one of the most anticipated events is the State District Meeting (SDM). It's not just a gathering; it's an opportunity for members to showcase their skills, engage in leadership development, and foster a sense of camaraderie. In this comprehensive guide, we'll explore all the essential information you need to know about the FBLA State District Meeting.

The Spring District Meeting is scheduled for February 3, 2024, at Williamsville East High School, 151 Paradise Road, Williamsville, NY 14051. The event will take place from 8:30 am to 11:30 am, with registration starting at 8:30 am. The registration fee per student is \$5, which is non-refundable for students who do not attend or decide not to compete. The deadline for submitting registration forms and fees is January 24, 2024. It is crucial to meet this deadline for efficient scheduling of each competitor. There is a prepaid registration fee for each competitor, non-refundable if students fail to report for their competitions. This fee is to ensure that judges, who have been secured for events, are not inconvenienced by no-shows.

The performance events at SDM include Public Speaking, Introduction to Public Speaking (Grades 9-10), Impromptu Speaking, Job Interview, Client Service, and Introduction to Decision Making (Grades 9-10). Additionally, written events such as Parliamentary Procedure, Future Business Leader, and the State Officer Exam will be held. The topic for the Public Speaking Speech is: "Based on the legal and ethical implications of cybercrime, what can be done to help combat cybercrime?" The Introduction to Speaking speech topic is: "What skills are essential to secure your first job?"

Job Interview competitors must submit their application materials electronically to glorialasota@gmail.com by January 24, 2024. Students will receive an email with their assigned time for their competition or written test. It's essential to stay tuned for updates and adhere to the communicated schedule. All competitors must adhere to the FBLA Dress Code. Judges have the authority to disqualify any competitor not in proper business attire.

Beyond competitions, SDM is an excellent opportunity for leadership development. Workshops, seminars, and keynote speakers contribute to the overall educational experience. Members can gain insights into effective leadership strategies, career development, and emerging trends in the business world.

SDM brings together FBLA members from various chapters, creating a unique networking environment. Engaging with peers, advisors, and even professionals present at the event can open doors to new perspectives, collaborations, and future opportunities.

To make the most of your SDM experience, stay informed about the event details, schedule, and any updates. Regularly check the FBLA website, and Google Classroom, communicate with your chapter officers and advisor, and be proactive in preparing for your specific role or competition.

In conclusion, the State District Meeting is more than just a conference; it's a transformative experience for FBLA members. By understanding the purpose, preparing diligently, and actively participating in all aspects of SDM, members can unlock their full potential and set the stage for success in future FBLA endeavors. As you embark on this exciting journey, embrace the opportunities, challenges, and growth that the State District Meeting has to offer! Remember, preparation and punctuality are the cornerstones of success in FBLA events. Best of luck to all participants, and may this SDM be a memorable and rewarding experience for each of you!