

**Maryland FBLA
Board of Directors Update #1
October 12, 2020**

Advisor Update #1 - MD FBLA Virtual Fall Leadership Conference and Competitive Events Update

Dear Maryland FBLA Advisors:

The Maryland FBLA-PBL Board of Directors is geared up for another exciting year for Maryland FBLA-PBL and is looking forward to working with each of you again this year. With your help and involvement, we are sure to experience our most rewarding year yet. While this year will undoubtedly be extra challenging, the Board is committed to making our virtual events fun, engaging, and inspiring. I will be sending out Board of Directors Updates throughout the year and will keep them sequentially numbered so they are easier to keep track of.

Summary of information included in this update:

- MD FBLA Virtual Fall Leadership Conference - November 11, 2020
- Competitive Events Update

MD FBLA Virtual Fall Leadership Conference - November 11, 2020

Maryland FBLA is excited to present the 2020 Virtual Fall Leadership Conference on November 11, 2020. This one-day event will be highly interactive and includes:

- A live motivational keynote speaker and other guest speakers;
- Messages from the state officer team;
- Interactive workshop breakout sessions;
- A Competitive Events panel discussion and Q&A with state and national competitive event judges;
- Local Chapter Officer Spotlights; and
- Much more!

This conference is a great way to get students excited and engaged in FBLA.

Led and facilitated by world-renowned motivational speaker Patty Hendrickson, this virtual conference is one you and your students won't want to miss. Just because it's virtual doesn't mean it won't be fun, engaging, and motivating! It will be all these things and more. We've worked with Patty for many years now and she always gives 110%. She is super excited about bringing a high-quality production and amazing content to you and your students.

Schedule and format

The event will run live on **Wednesday, November 11 from 8:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.** There are short breaks scheduled during the event as well as a lunch break.

Registration fee

The cost for students and guests to attend is \$10. The conference is open to those that have paid dues and to those that may be considering joining. This is an excellent recruitment tool for potential members!

The Board is pleased to offer complimentary registration for advisors.

How to register?

There are two ways to register: individually or as a chapter.

Individual Registration

If you and/or your students would like to register individually and have each person pay with a credit card when they register, you may register using the Wufoo form at the following link: <https://mdfbla.wufoo.com/forms/2020-virtual-fall-leadership-conf-registration/>. Advisors please share this link with their students directly and they can each register on their own. Payment must be made by credit card for those students completing individual registrations and after

submitting the registration information, the registrant will be taken to a payment screen to securely enter their credit card information. Registration fees are non-refundable once payment is submitted.

Chapter Registration

If you would prefer to register as a chapter and submit payment for your chapter via a school check, you can register through the Blue Panda system (<https://www.gobluepanda.com/>). If you use Blue Panda to register your chapter, please be aware that you will need e-mail addresses for each of your students. Please ensure that the student e-mail addresses are able to receive external e-mails (some schools have school e-mail addresses for students that are only able to receive mail from within the school system; those e-mail addresses will not work for this conference as we will be e-mailing conference log-in instructions directly to all registrants). If you have any trouble logging into Blue Panda, please e-mail the system directly at support@gobluepanda.com for log-in assistance. There is also self-service "forgot user name/password" feature on the Blue Panda registration website as well.

Whichever registration method is used, advisor registration is complimentary and doesn't require a payment.

Registration closes at 5 p.m. on November 9, 2020.

Instructions on how to access the conference via Zoom will be e-mailed to all registered participants on November 10.

Local Chapter Officer Spotlight

As part of the Virtual Fall Leadership Conference, we will be spotlighting local chapter officers or one of your local chapter members who has gone above and beyond. When each advisor submits their registration, there will be a field where you can enter the name of one student. Each chapter may nominate one local chapter officer who may be chosen to speak during the conference. This is a fun and exciting opportunity for one of your superstar members to possibly get recognized and speak to all conference attendees! Students chosen may be asked to tell a little bit about themselves, what accomplishments they are proud of, what they are working on in their local chapter, etc. ***The nominee must be registered for the FLC.***

Competitive Events Update

The Maryland State Handbook - Competitive Events Guide will be distributed to all advisors and posted on the Maryland FBLA website by the end of this week. The e-mail that will include the Competitive Events Guide will also include other important information regarding competitive events, including information on updated event guidelines, deadlines, and other updates. In the meantime, you can review the National FBLA Competitive Events Guide and other competitive event information at the following address: <https://www.fbla-pbl.org/fbla/competitive-events/>

We appreciate all of your hard work and dedication and know that Maryland FBLA-PBL would not be as successful without you. Best wishes for the 2020-21 school year! I look forward to seeing each of you.... *virtually*....throughout the year.

Sincerely,

David Jones
Chairman
Maryland FBLA-PBL Board of Directors