

**Maryland FBLA
Board of Directors Update #1
September 20, 2021**

Advisor Update #1 - General Information

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. 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 document:

- Membership dues processing procedures
- National FBLA Leadership Community Communications Portal
- Advisor Training
- 2021-22 State and National Theme: “Success Starts Here” and chapter welcome kit
- Competitive Events Update
- Conferences (Fall, Regional, and State)
- Champion Chapter (**NEW–National FBLA initiative)
- Revamped BAA’s (FBLA level)
- Revamped LEAD Awards (Middle Level)
- Maryland FBLA website and how to sign up for our monthly newsletter
- Important Calendar Dates for National FBLA Programs/Recognition

Membership dues processing procedures

Dues for 2021-22 for Middle Level and FBLA are \$14 per student (\$6 national and \$8 state). Just like prior years, ALL dues payments (both state and national) are to be remitted directly to National FBLA. Dues payments are not to be sent to Maryland FBLA. Below is information on registering members, paying dues, and new or reactivating chapters.

Registering Members and Paying Dues

Register members and pay or renew dues online at <https://my.fbla-pbl.org>. If a credit card is not used at the time members are entered, an option will be available to have an invoice sent to the school for payment with a check.

New or Reactivating Chapters

If you are a new chapter or need to reactivate your chapter or know of a chapter interested in chartering or reactivating, complete the Chapter Organization Packet (COP) request form via the national Web site at <https://fblapbl.wufoo.com/forms/chapter-organization-packet-cop-request/>.

There are two great resources to assist you with navigating the membership system:

- *My.FBLA* Video Tutorial: [Click Here](#) (a quick 3 minute video that walks you through the membership system)
- Quick Guide PDF (attached to this email, the PDF contains screen shots and instructions for the membership system)

If you have any issues with registering members or paying dues, you may contact the Membership Services Specialists at National FBLA as follows: Eric Jones (ejones@fbla.org) or Katera Poma (kpoma@fbla.org).

National FBLA Leadership Community Communications Portal

All National FBLA communications with Local Chapter Advisors are available through the FBLA Leadership Community (<https://leadershipcommunity.fbla.org/home>). The national office no longer uses traditional email for mass communications with advisors. As such, it is critically important that you are registered as an advisor through the Membership Database and that you also review communications within the Leadership Community each day. If you do not wish to log in each day, you can go into your settings within the community to receive an email each day that includes all communications that were sent out for the previous day. This will ensure that you are receiving all important updates from the national office on programming, conferences, etc.

You can set up notifications to get emailed every time something is posted (“Real Time”) or get a “Daily Digest” that is one email per day and includes all topics discussed in the previous day. There is a “No Email” option that is not recommended as this will require you to log-in to view all posts. **Please take a moment to log into the FBLA-PBL Leadership Community to verify your Email Notifications in the “Settings” button in the “FBLA Local Chapter Advisers” community.**

Advisor Training

National FBLA has an online training module that will help you to learn how to utilize the newest features within the chapter membership portal <https://my.fbla-pbl.org/>. **Click here** to view the National FBLA local advisor training. The passcode to view training is: **aYq%Cc#0**

Additional advisor training resources will be provided throughout the year, including an online Maryland FBLA advisor training session that will be free and available on-demand for those advisors who cannot attend the live session. Additional details on the advisor training session will be released soon!

2021-22 State and National Theme: “Success Starts Here!”

All active and newly activated or reactivated chapters should have received a welcome kit mailing that includes a poster representing this year’s theme along with additional programming materials. If you have not received your mailing, please contact Eric Jones (ejones@fbla.org) or Katera Poma (kpoma@fbla.org) at the national center.

Competitive Events Update

The Maryland State Handbook - Competitive Events Guide will be distributed to all advisors and posted on the Maryland FBLA website in the early October. 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 addresses: FBLA - <https://www.fbla-pbl.org/divisions/fbla/fbla-competitive-events/> and Middle Level - <https://www.fbla-pbl.org/divisions/fbla-middle-level/competitive-events/>.

Conferences - Fall, Regional, and State

The Board of Directors is continuing to monitor key COVID-19 metrics as well as federal, state, and local protocols and restrictions regarding travel and meetings. We have tentatively set the following dates for our conferences and while we hope that we will be able to conduct in-person conferences, we will evaluate each event as we get closer to the dates and will communicate that information as soon as it is known.

Fall Leadership Conference - November 3, 2021**

Regional Conferences

REGION	LOCATION	DATE	SNOW DATE
Region 1	Manchester Valley HS	Wed, January 12, 2022	Thurs, January 20, 2022
Region 2	Eastern Technical HS	Tues, January 4, 2022	Thurs, January 6, 2022
Region 3	South River HS	Sat, January 22, 2022	Tues, January 25, 2022
Region 4	Dr. Henry A. Wise, Jr. HS	Sat, January 8, 2022	Thurs, January 13, 2022
Region 5	Howard HS	Sat, January 8, 2022	Tues, January 11, 2022

State Leadership Conference - March 10-12, 2022

**The Fall Leadership Conference is planned as a virtual event and more information will be provided in the next advisor update. The date is tentative and will be finalized in the next advisor update.

Champion Chapter

Champion Chapter is a series of membership engagement-focused challenges that chapters may complete for national recognition. By completing activities, chapters accrue points. Completing activities across four sections (to accrue points) will result in Champion Chapter recognition, with a banner for the advisor's classroom/meeting space or school award case. Additional incentives such as ribbons at conferences, national recognition in publications, and plaques are available. In your chapter toolkit, you should have received a poster for each quarter with the assigned tasks to complete. Congratulations to those chapters that completed the first set of tasks for the initial deadline of September 15! The Champion Chapter sections are:

Summer Starter (August 1 - September 15)
Shaping Success (September 16 - October 31)

Service Season (November 1 - December 15)
CTE Celebration (January 1 - March 1)

More information on Champion Chapter can be found at <https://www.fbla-pbl.org/divisions/fbla/fbla-membership/>.

Revamped BAA's (FBLA level)

This year, the Business Achievement Awards are revamped and better than ever! The new BAAs are module based - allowing each member to complete the tasks at their own pace and progress through engaging activities present in each module. The BAA's can be accessed through the Learning Center (<https://learn.fbla-pbl.org/>) and are broken into four levels: Contributor, Leader, Advocate, and Capstone.

One of the easiest ways for your members to become engaged members is to get them registered, paid and working on individual recognition. Please get them started immediately on the revamped **Business Achievement Awards**. Since the BAAs have been revamped current students will start at the first level and may pick up where they left off if they do not complete all levels.

You can find more information on BAA at: <https://www.fbla-pbl.org/divisions/fbla/fbla-education/>

Revamped LEAD Awards (Middle level)

The LEAD Awards are an individual achievement award program open to all active, paid FBLA-ML middle school students. Participating students have the opportunity to enhance their leadership skills, expand their business knowledge, contribute to their local communities, and earn recognition by immersing themselves in their school and communities. There are two levels to the LEAD Awards: Explore and Aspire.

You can find more information on LEAD Awards at: <https://www.fbla-pbl.org/divisions/fbla-middle-level/education-programs/>

Maryland FBLA website and how to sign up for our monthly newsletter

Please be sure to visit the Maryland FBLA website at www.mdfla.org for information about our conferences, competitive events, state officers, and many other resources to assist you in managing your chapter throughout the year. All advisor updates will be posted to the website so you can easily find them in one spot as well as all of our newsletters.

MD FBLA newsletter subscription—If you or your students are not receiving our monthly newsletter via e-mail, please sign up at <http://www.mdfla.org/newsletter-sign-up.html>. It's quick and easy to sign up and you'll be sure to stay up-to-date on the activities of our state chapter throughout the year!

Important Calendar Dates for National FBLA Programs/Recognition

Note: All submission deadlines are 5:00 p.m. Eastern Time (ET) unless otherwise indicated. Dates are subject to change. Specific deadlines related to Maryland FBLA conferences (due dates for registration, payment, competitive event materials, etc. will be included in the Competitive Events Guide and released with the conference information for each conference). **Dates of the Maryland FBLA conferences are in green.**

September

September 16	Shaping Success begins for Champion Chapter**NEW**
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October

October 11	Fall Stock Market Game Begins
October 18	Fall LifeSmarts Challenge Begins

October 19	Fall Virtual Business Management & Business Personal Finance Challenges Begin - Registration opens 10/5 in Learning Center **NEW**
October 29	Fall Stock Market Game Registration Deadline
October 31	Shaping Success Submissions Due for Champion Chapter **NEW**

November

November 1	Service Season begins for Champion Chapter **NEW**
November 3	Maryland Fall Leadership Conference (tentative date)
November 12	Fall LifeSmarts Competition Ends; Fall Virtual Business Management & Personal Finance Challenges End
November 15	American Enterprise Day
November 17	March of Dimes World Prematurity Day

December

December 15	Service Season Submissions Due for Champion Chapter **NEW**
December 17	Fall Stock Market Game ends

January

January 1	CTE Celebration begins for Champion Chapter **NEW**
January 8 - 22	Maryland FBLA Regional Conferences Region 1 - January 12 Region 2 - January 4 Region 3 - January 22 Region 4 - January 8 Region 5 - January 8
January 31	Spring LifeSmarts Challenge Begins

February

February 1-28	National Career and Technical Education Month
February 1	Spring Virtual Business Management & Business Personal Finance Challenges Begin - Register in Learning Center
February 12	Lead4Change Challenge Deadline
February 13-19	FBLA-PBL Week
February 14	Spring Stock Market Game Begins
February 25	Spring LifeSmarts Competition Ends; Spring Virtual Business Management & Personal Finance Challenges End

March

March 1	CTE Celebration Submissions Due for Champion Chapter **NEW**
March 4	Spring Stock Market Game Registration Deadline
March 10-12	Maryland State Leadership Conference

April

April 1	National Dues Deadline to Compete and Vote at NLC Award submission deadlines: – Distinguished Business Leaders Scholarship – Chapter/State/Membership Recognition Awards – National Bylaw Amendment Proposal submission deadline
April 22	Spring Stock Market Game ends

May

May 3	BAA Capstone Submission Deadline for Competitive Review **NEW**
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June/July

June 29 - July 2	National Leadership Conference (FBLA & ML) - Chicago, IL
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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 2021-22 school year! I look forward to seeing each of you (even if it's virtually!) throughout the year at our conferences and other events.

Sincerely,
David Jones
Chairman
Maryland FBLA-PBL Board of Directors