



MARYLAND FBLA

FEBRUARY 2019 EDITION

MDFBLA CHAPTER CONNECTIONS



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- Middle Level FBLA SLC for ML

KEY DATES

FEBRUARY

National Career Technology Education Month

Jan 1 - Mar 1 National FBLA Action Awareness

Feb 4 - Mar 1 Virtual Business Finance & Management Spring Challenge

Feb 27 SLC Registration and Dues Deadline

Feb 3 - Feb 9 FBLA-PBL Week

Feb 22 MDFBLA Pre-judge Materials including FBLA Week Due

BAA Rockstar & CSA Pay It Forward - MDFBLA Chapter Challenge Due

MDFBLA Outstanding & Gold Seal Chapter Criteria Due

RUNNING FOR STATE OFFICE?

-Joey Weiland, State Secretary-Treasurer

Running for State Office may be daunting, but I promise it is an experience well worth the effort and can deeply enrich your FBLA experience.

You should run for FBLA State Office for numerous reasons: 1) Being a State Officer allows you to grow your skills, meet fantastic new people, serve a great organization, and surround yourself with like-minded and hardworking State Officer Team members; 2) Most importantly being a State Officer is extremely fun from traveling to the National Leadership Conference to CTSO Officer Training.



So, are you going to run for State Office?
Yes, that is what I thought.

Now that you made the decision to run for State Office you need to tackle the application, screening, and campaign process. I will break down the whole process step by step for you.

First, to be a State Officer, you must have at least one year remaining in high school, hold an officer position at your local chapter, and hold at least a 2.5 GPA in all your high school coursework. If you satisfy those requirements, I would recommend that you now decide what officer position you would like to run for. There are ten positions available:

Vice-President

President

Secretary-Treasurer

Parliamentarian

5 Region VPs

Reporter-Historian

On the MDFBLA website, in the Resources section, is the State Officer Candidate Handbook. The Handbook provides a description of the duties and responsibilities of each role as well as a complete description of the process of running for State Office. You should review the Handbook in its entirety prior to beginning the application process.

The next portion of the process is the application and supporting materials. By February 1st, using the Wufoo link provided in the Appendix of the Candidate Handbook, you must submit your State Officer Application, State Officer Certification Statement, Essay on "Why You are Seeking State Office", high school transcript, and resume.



The next part of the process is new for 2019, the Candidate Interview and Screening Meeting; which will be held February 23. All candidates are required to attend the meeting to be considered and granted permission to campaign for State Office. Upon preliminary acceptance of application materials, candidates will be required to submit qualifying information. That includes but is not limited to, writing an article for submission to a publication, demonstrating ability to manage social media, writing a business letter, and demonstrating knowledge of parliamentary procedure. At the meeting, candidates will be interviewed by the Candidate Screening Committee, deliver a prepared speech to the Committee, discuss additional qualifying information, and complete an objective test on general FBLA-PBL knowledge.



Upon approval for candidacy, you will be required to submit all your campaign materials for approval. These materials include a final copy of your campaign speech, final copy of campaign brochure, literature, and any handouts (all handouts must be properly labeled with your name and office sought), campaign booth materials (you will be given a table to run your campaign from, you may not hang anything to the surrounding walls so it is recommending that candidate create tri-folds or free-standing displays), a financial statement, and a description of any audio or video that will be used at your campaign booth. Once these items are approved, you are ready to attend the Maryland State Leadership Conference and run your campaign.

At the conference, candidates have several requirements. First, each candidate, alongside their advisor and campaign manager, must attend a final candidate meeting. After the meeting, candidates will set up their campaign booths. It is recommending that you or your campaign manager/representatives man the booth during all campaign hours. Also, Candidates are required to deliver their 2-minute campaign speeches at the State Officer Campaign Rally to all voting delegates. Candidates for non-Region VP elected positions will also deliver their speeches at the opening session to all attendees. Lastly, all candidates must attend the voting session where they will be introduced a final time to all voting delegates and delegates will cast their votes.

The winners are announced and inducted into office during the awards session on the final day of the conference.

If you have any questions about the process of running for state office, feel free to contact any of the current state officers as they are willing and excited to help candidates/advisors in any way they can.

Enjoy running for state office. Win or lose, it is a great learning and growth experience for all candidates.

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



ESMERALDA SAMUDIO

Dear FBLA Friends,

It is difficult to believe that my term as the MDFBLA State President is soon coming to an end, but it fills my heart with joy to know that someone new will get to be in my position next year and experience all the amazing opportunities this organization has to offer. I truly believe that this position has made me a better leader and it has taught me how to be a useful citizen.

If you or your friend are thinking about running for State Office, my advice to everyone is "you have nothing to lose and everything to gain". Yes, it may seem intimidating, but it is truly a life changing experience.

The application for running for a State Officer was emailed to your advisor (1/10/19) so it is important to review that information with them and your parents before deciding whether or not you will run for office. Any student who is planning to run for 2019-2020 State Office at the State Leadership Conference must review the "State Officer Candidate Handbook (2019)" and is available on the MDFBLA website under Resources. All student running for office must submit all required information by the February 1, 2019 deadline.

A change that has been made to the application process is that there is now a Candidate Interview and Screening Meeting, all candidates must attend this meeting on Saturday February 23, 2019. Candidates that are not able to attend this meeting will be disqualified from state office, so it is crucially important that everyone attends.

On behalf of the Maryland FBLA State Officer Team, the Board of Directors, the State Officer Advisor and State Officer Coach we genuinely encourage and urge you to run for a State Officer position. If you have any questions in regard to running or the position itself please reach out to myself or any of the other officers, we would love to answer your questions. We hope to see you campaigning at the SLC and best of luck to you all! The only regret you'll have is not running for a position.

Best of luck in the year ahead! I know you will "Create. Lead. Inspire." everyone around you!

All the Best,
Esmeralda Samudio, State President

WANT TO REQUEST
A CHAPTER VISIT?

[CLICK HERE](#)

CHECK OUT OUR
FIVE MINUTE FRIDAYS

[CLICK HERE](#)

FBLA-PBL WEEK

-Isabelle Zhan, State Vice-President

It's finally February, which means it's time to celebrate CTE month! Career and Technology Education is a vital component of the American education system, covering a range of 16 career clusters. Some examples are agriculture, government, law, and business. CTE provides students all over the country with important technical skills that follow them into the workforce, and more and more people are recognizing its value. This month, celebrate CTE by raising awareness in your school or community; you can design and distribute flyers, invite a guest speaker to speak in an assembly, or host an event in your chapter.

The second week of February (February 3 to 9) is dedicated to FBLA-PBL week, a national FBLA holiday, where each day of the week focuses on a different aspect of the organization. Your local chapter can participate by posting activities on the following days assigned by National FBLA:

Sunday- share your FBLA-PBL story, favorite memory, or takeaways on social media with the hashtag, #FBLAPBLWeek

Monday- all three national division presidents (FBLA, PBL, and Professional Division) host a live Internet broadcast

Tuesday- talk to peers and community members about the benefits of joining FBLA-PBL

Wednesday- dress for success and show your appreciation for chapter adviser(s)

Thursday- connect with Professional Division members in your community

Friday- post a group photo the FBLA-PBL Facebook page and use the hashtag #FBLAPBLWeek on Instagram and Twitter

Saturday- participate in a community service project

This February, your MDFBLA State Officers are choosing to celebrate FBLA-PBL week by advocating for their chapter in school, recruiting Professional Division members, and staying active on social media.

To receive recognition for your chapter's participation during FBLA-PBL Week, you may also enter in Maryland FBLA's competitive event. The video can include narration, music, and/or a slideshow that is no more than 3 minutes in length. Each day's focus is slightly different from National FBLA's recommendations, so be sure to read the guidelines before completing activities. For more information, check out the Competitive Events Guide on the MDFBLA website.



Do you think your chapter has been outstanding?

Then enter your chapter in next month's Chapter Spotlight!!

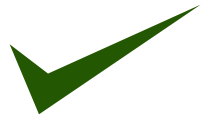
[CLICK HERE](#)

Maryland FBLA has so many outstanding members who do great things for this organization and local chapters.

If you know of an outstanding member, let us know in the link below!

[CLICK HERE](#)

CHAPTER PLAN OF ACTION



HOW SHOULD YOU LEAD YOUR CHAPTER? TIPS FROM YOUR STATE OFFICERS:

- 1** Begin to prepare for State Leadership Conference (March 28-30)
- 2** Celebrate CTE Month
- 3** Celebrate FBLA week! Events can include: a member appreciation party at a meeting, a special gift to your adviser from members, chapter T-Shirts, a community service project, FBLA trivia, and a breakfast for members from the chapter officer team.

TIPS AND TRICKS

- 1.** Now that RLC is over, it's time to prepare for States, so study the judges scores and test preps to prepare for the SLC.
- 2.** Hold fundraisers to help cover the cost of the SLC for your chapter.
- 3.** Remember to take breathers, Rest your mind and body to prepare for the rest of the school year.
- 4.** When you don't know the answer to something, ASK! DO NOT be afraid to ask for help.

FUNDRAISER IDEAS



LOCAL BUSINESS RAFFLE

Students can buy tickets for a chance to win gift cards to local businesses

PET-A-PET

Students bring pets to school and students can pay to pet the pets

FBLA FUN FACT

FBLA has four different divisions spanning across all age group.



2019 STATE LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE

MARYLAND FBLA



HANNAH KLEIN
REGION 4 VP

The Maryland FBLA State Leadership conference is just around the corner! Here are some things you need to know:

1. The conference will be taking place at the Delta Hotel in Hunt Valley, Maryland, on the days of March 28 to March 31. (For specific deadline, costs, and other due dates - See the Chapter Planning Guide on the MDFBLA website)
 - * Many workshops
 - * Keynote speaker
 - * March of Dimes Baskets for Babies
 - * State Officer Campaigns
 - * Other exciting FBLA experiences!
2. If you're moving onto states in your competitive event, study and/or practice! Prejudged events are due February 22.
3. If you're interested in running for state office, visit the Maryland FBLA website, go to the Resources section, and the information is under the state officer candidate documents.



For any more information, go to Maryland FBLA's website, look under Conferences, and select 2019 State Leadership Conference.

Can't wait to see everyone there!

MIDDLE LEVEL CORNER

The Maryland State Leadership Conference is an opportunity that I encourage all middle level members to take ahold of. It will take place at the Delta Hotel and is from March 28-30. At the Maryland State Leadership Conference, Eric McGarvey hosts an all-day workshop track specifically for the middle level members. Every year, there is a different theme for this workshop track; last years was the 360 strategy challenge. It includes opportunities for you to network with fellow students across Maryland, attend leadership sessions, and participate in interactive team activities. Preparing you to develop as a community minded business leader. Additionally, with the workshop track, middle level members will be able to compete in their events and attend various workshops given by professionals. One piece of advice, I encourage to each and every person is to network with as many people as you can. Building relationships is an important aspect of the professional world. So step out of your comfort zone and start a conversation with someone new!

Best,
Kathy Yao, Parliamentarian

CHAPTER OF THE MONTH

MT HEBRON FBLA



Congratulations to Mount Hebron FBLA Chapter for an outstanding showing at the the Regional 5 Leadership Conference; hosted at Marriotts Ridge High School on January 5. Students from all over Howard County competed in events ranging from objective tests about economics to performance events about social media campaigns for large businesses. Mount Hebron High School students performed extraordinarily well securing numerous recognitions!



In total there were 110 participants from MHHS, 87 of which qualified for states, and 36 placed in the Top 3. Students prepared for many weeks leading up to the conference, and their efforts paid off with many other students who placed first, second, or third. Mt. Hebron High School has been a very active FBLA chapter fulfilling many chapter challenge requisites and even conducting a successful annual community service project. We urge MHHS FBLA to continue to stand-out as upstanding members of our state FBLA chapter.

MEMBER OF THE MONTH

VICTORIA TSYGAN - *Hereford High School*



Victoria Tsygan is serving as the Treasurer of Hereford FBLA. She is an Excel expert who has contributed to major improvements in the way Hereford FBLA operates. Being a techie, she advocates for digitization and digital literacy. This year, she made the decision to go digital. That is, she decided to keep track of Hereford FBLA membership dues, fundraiser collections, and chapter donations using Excel. This had not been done before! Although it might seem trivial, this decision of "going online" has improved the way Hereford FBLA runs its meetings. Instead of documenting paper in large binders, the local officers can just pull up Excel and review necessary information.

Also, Victoria has played a huge role in helping with the Region 2 Leadership Conference. The 600+ attendees conference was held on January 7, where twenty-two schools including one Middle Level chapter joined Hereford FBLA to compete in their respective events. In order to help with this daunting event planning, she began documenting registrations, food packages, auditorium seating, classrooms for competitive events, workshop attendees, and number of judges and guest speakers on her Excel spreadsheets. R2LC would have not been as successful without Victoria's input and Excel expertise! What makes her such a great member is her commitment and resourcefulness. We highly commend her for her continued dedication and hard-work towards FBLA!

CHAPTER CHALLENGES



HELPFUL LINKS

[MDFBLA](#)

[FBLA](#)

[BAAs](#)

[CSAs](#)

[Key Dates](#)

[Competitive Events](#)

Pay It
Forward

DUE: 2/22 FOR MDFBLA - 3/1/19 FOR NATIONAL

The national FBLA Community Service Awards Program (CSAs) Recognizes members with extraordinary commitment to community service. A member who acquires 50 hours of community service to complete the first level, CSA community of the National FBLA CSAs will receive a ribbon at the SLC.