

COLORADO FBLA TODAY

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LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT

FBLA is all about helping its members become better leaders. The February issue of Colorado FBLA Today features articles from state officers as well as some fellow members! Be sure to check the last page for announcements and upcoming dates!

BEING A TEAM LEADER

Your FBLA state officers wrote pieces on the most significant part of being a leader... your team! Leading a team to be successful can be a rather daunting task if you are not sure where to start. Hunter Donovan and Brayden Clark have shared some of their tips and tricks to help your team be as effective as possible!

FBLA: NOT JUST A COMPETITION

WHAT IS FBLA? FBLA is a non-profit that helps students help high school students prepare for careers in business through academic competitions, leadership development, and educational programs.	AIMS TO DEVELOP FUTURE LEADERS FBLA is known to hone future leaders. The organization is incredibly active in organizing national leadership events, annual conferences, and mentorship programs. If you want to become the best you can be, learning FBLA lessons is critical to providing you the most promising future.
OPENS UNIQUE DOORS AND OPPORTUNITIES FBLA gives you something beyond what you learn in your classes. It gives you the opportunity to network, and share your thoughts and ideologies. You'll also develop a web of mentors and other aspiring leaders early on. As you grow, you will find that these opportunities assure you of a brighter, better future.	
	TEACHES YOU WHAT IS IMPORTANT FBLA opens your eyes to what matters. Remember that you are never too young to start on the path to success. So allow yourself to be surrounded by the right support group, peers, and mentors.

www.coloradofbla.org

**CHECK OUT THE SPECIAL
FBLA POSTER!**
PRINTABLE VERSION AT THE END OF THE NEWSLETTER!

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HOW TO KEEP TEAMS ENGAGED

By Hunter Donovan

One of the most important parts of serving as a leader within your school and community is ensuring that team members are actively engaged and participating! Although it may be hard to keep team members or other officers involved (especially when the school year gets hectic), their involvement and attitudes are vital to your team's success. This article shares several tips to help keep your class, leadership team, and project group motivated and excited at all times!

- **Set goals from the beginning-** It has been proven that teams work more effectively when they all try to reach a shared goal. To ensure all team members are actively participating, set goals from the beginning and constantly remind each team member what they are working towards to keep them on track!
- **Recognize success-** Celebrating their work is another excellent way to keep your team motivated! Whenever your team accomplishes a significant project or goal, recognize them and appreciate their hard work.
- **Get team input-** Hearing from your team is another great way to keep everyone involved. When all members of the team have a say on what is being discussed, they are more likely to relate to the tasks at hand more personally and dedicate more time to project completion.



- **Emphasize effective communication-** Too often, team hostilities rise due to poor communication. Be sure to always communicate your ideas effectively with your team members and ask for clarification when necessary. Remember, an essential part of communication is active listening. Be sure to listen to your teammates and respect their thoughts.
- **Take time for fun-** Although leading a team can be stressful at times, you and your teammates must take time to have fun. Schedule team-building activities, have breaks between projects, and incorporate new games or small group activities into each project work time or meeting!

Although keeping a team engaged may seem daunting at first, there are so many ways you can increase your team's productivity and excitement. Be sure to implement any of these tips in your chapter or workplace whenever times get hectic or overwhelming!

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LEADING A TEAM

By Brayden Clark

Managing or leading a team is one of the biggest challenges yet at the same time opportunities that a leader has in their position of leadership. When you're leading a team you will have to handle disagreements between team members, scheduling conflicts, and mistakes that occur.

In these times of need a team will look to its leader as a guiding light through the storm. As a leader, every other leadership quality you have will be utilized. Your communication, time management, and dependability will be relied on to take initiative and solve whatever problem you have encountered. There is a wide array of common tactics that you can use to lead a team.



The first one I would think to mention is to set a clear goal for what you want to do in the very beginning. This will allow everyone to have a clear-cut picture of what is going on. Individually listening to every single member of your team and their thoughts on what is happening can be a great way to come to a compromise where everyone agrees too. As a state officer team, we often let our ideas mold into one by taking turns and listening to everyone's thoughts and then bringing them together in the end to form one great idea.

Another great tactic is to keep a healthy work environment and incentivize your team members. Team members that are working in a healthy work environment where they are comfortable with their mates will make collaboration and the creation of ideas much easier. Incentives are the way to most people's hearts. If you can give your group the opportunity to earn a team bonding activity or some type of little food party, it will influence them to shift into that last gear and work their hardest.

This can be a great opportunity to create a healthy, but competitive and successful work environment. However, these qualities don't only have to be utilized in a leadership position. These can be used whenever you are in a group working with your peers. Feel free to take the lead and let these skills allow your team to flourish. In the long run, everyone will be thanking you!

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MY FBLA STORY

*By Naisha Naik**Discovery Canyon Campus*

I joined FBLA during my freshman year, to learn more about business but also I just wanted to join an extracurricular my friends were part of. I didn't expect it to be an important part of my life or a memorable experience, but upon joining I gained knowledge, skills, and connections that changed my perspective.



MY FBLA CHAPTER DURING OUR SCHOOL'S ACTIVITIES PARADE



MY FRIENDS AND I SETTING UP OUR FBLA CREPE FUNDRAISER

I have had experiences that taught me key business knowledge that I wouldn't have gained by limiting myself to classroom experiences. Attending workshops contributed to my knowledge of skills like leadership. A seminar by Kyle Wilkom taught me that being a leader is a choice, and that to lead a community means representing others by taking time to understand and educate yourself on others' viewpoints and ideologies.

This knowledge was vital this year when, as my chapter's vice president, I was responsible for organizing a fundraiser. I coordinated business activities for others and used our collective understanding of business to strategize a successful event. With leadership skills learned in FBLA, I led the team to make and sell crepes to our local community and raised over \$200.



A PICTURE OF ME WITH MY FRIENDS BY THE BEAN DURING FBLA NATIONALS IN CHICAGO(2022)

Attending state and nationals this past year provided opportunities to expand my network by building lasting relationships with various qualified and intelligent individuals. In my freshman year, I was competing with two of my friends and I remember being scared the first time I presented. As I kept competing and presenting I developed self-confidence and gained public-speaking skills. I remember the joy and feeling of accomplishment when my team and I were the state champions.



MY PARTNER SOUMYA DEVULAPALLI AND I AT COLORADO SLC 2022

Every FBLA experience is meaningful whether I am competing, attending workshops, or simply talking with others and learning about their own FBLA experiences. I am grateful to FBLA, for giving me the opportunity to learn more about business, myself, and the community around me.

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FBLA: WHAT IS THE VALUE?

By Ben Kleve

Holyoke

Future Business Leaders of America (FBLA) is an organization that provides students with opportunities to develop leadership skills and gain knowledge about business and industry. Through FBLA, students have access to a variety of programs and activities that help them prepare for careers in business and other related fields.

One of the key elements of FBLA is leadership development. The organization offers a wide range of leadership opportunities, including local and state officer positions, leadership conferences, and training programs. These opportunities allow students to develop important skills such as communication, problem-solving, and decision-making. Additionally, FBLA members are able to network with business professionals, which can be invaluable as they prepare for their future careers.

Another important aspect of FBLA is its focus on business and industry. The organization provides students with information about current business trends and practices, as well as opportunities to participate in competitions and events that showcase their business knowledge and skills. These experiences help students gain a better understanding of the business world and prepare them for careers in various fields, including finance, marketing, and management.

Finally, FBLA is also focused on business education. The organization offers a variety of programs and resources that help students learn about different aspects of business, such as accounting, economics, and management. These resources can be used to supplement classroom instruction, and they help students better understand the concepts they are learning in school. Additionally, FBLA's business education programs can also help students prepare for college and future careers.

Overall, FBLA is a valuable organization that provides students with opportunities to develop leadership skills, gain knowledge about business and industry, and prepare for their future careers. By participating in FBLA, students can gain a competitive edge in the business world and be better prepared for success in their future careers.



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IMPORTANT DATES

February

- February: District Leadership Conferences
 - February 1: District 1 Leadership Conference, UNC
 - February 1: District 3 Leadership Conference, NJC
 - February 2: District 4 Leadership Conference, NJC
 - February 7: District 8 Leadership Conference, Adams State
 - February 7: District 10 Leadership Conference, Arapahoe County Fairgrounds
 - February 8: District 11 Leadership Conference, Arapahoe County Fairgrounds
 - February 9: District 5 Leadership Conference, Arapahoe County Fairgrounds
- February 5-11: FBLA Week
- February 13 - April 21: Spring Stock Market Game
- February 16: Colorado FBLA SLC Survival Series, Virtual (4-5 pm)
- February 20: Colorado FBLA Membership Meeting, Virtual (7-8 pm)
- February 23: Colorado FBLA SLC Survival Series, Virtual (4-5 pm)

March

- March 1: CTE Celebration (Champion Chapter) Deadline
- March 2: Colorado FBLA SLC Survival Series, Virtual (4-5 pm)
- March 3: Colorado State Leadership Conference Early Bird Registration Deadline
- March 3: NLC T-shirt & Pin Design Contest Deadline
- March 6: FBLA Night with the Nuggets
- March 9: Colorado FBLA SLC Survival Series, Virtual (4-5 pm)
- March 10: Colorado State Leadership Conference Regular Registration Deadline
- March 13: Colorado FBLA Membership Meeting, Virtual (7-8 pm)
- March 16: Colorado FBLA SLC Survival Series, Virtual (4-5 pm)
- March 23: Colorado FBLA SLC Survival Series, Virtual (4-5 pm)
- March 30: Colorado FBLA SLC Survival Series, Virtual (4-5 pm)



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