



Massachusetts FBLA

SPRING | 2014

State Newsletter

Current FBLA Topics From Around the State and Country

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Don't Forget!



- State officers are available in person to chapters for:
 - Installation ceremonies
 - Member recruitment
 - Presentations
 - General guidance
 - and more!

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www.mafbla.org

**Massachusetts FBLA is pleased to announce your
2014-2015 State Officers. Congratulations!**

William DiGravio
President
Plymouth North

Nikolas Lazar
Vice President
Newton South

James Rao
Secretary
Newton South

Perspectives From a New Local Chapter

By Will DiGravio, Chapter President, Plymouth North High School

A passion for learning combined with business interests and competitive natures resulted in the formation of a new FBLA Chapter at Plymouth North High School.

Ten chapter members attended the 2014 State Leadership Conference at Bentley University. PNHS FBLA members were no strangers to business conferences and competitions as they walked into their first FBLA event, as Plymouth North has a long history with organizations like DECA and more recently, with the Young Entrepreneurship Challenge.

Although arriving late due to traffic, the PNHS FBLA delegation took no time in becoming involved and engaged throughout the conference. Students pursuing careers in business loved the tour of Bentley's trading room and getting a glimpse of the campus itself provided the perfect setting for serious business students. Throughout the conference, attendees shared jokes and business knowledge, making for a great day. Taking advantage of team building activities and chances to network, students made new friends and in some cases, even reconnected with old ones. PNHS students enjoyed both workshops. Students related to Entrepreneur Stephen Martyak and were engaged throughout his entire presentation.

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Perspectives From a New Local Chapter

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Johnson & Wales University Admissions Rep. Barbara DiSaia's workshop made many students question what they were looking for in a college and resulted in a healthy discussion on FBLA members' futures. FBLA Eastern Region VP Natalie Tran and PBL Secretary Beau Cobb had lunch with the PNHS delegation and answered questions and told FBLA stories that made PNHS not only feel welcomed by the organization but sparked an even greater desire to be more involved with FBLA-PBL.

Plymouth North students dove right into FBLA and took advantage of all that the organization has to offer. PNHS FBLA members competed in a variety of categories ranging from Entrepreneurship to Marketing and even had students register for the Future Business Leader and Public Speaking competitive events. The highlight of PNHS FBLA's time at the State

Leadership Conference was the awards ceremony. Students were ecstatic over the awards and amazed by the scholarships given out by Johnson & Wales University. It is one thing to get an A in a business class, but to compete, put their knowledge to the test, and be recognized for their knowledge and business acumen creates a much more rewarding and memorable experience for high school students.

With a great day of speakers, workshops, and awards, PNHS FBLA members left Bentley University with a love of FBLA. Chapter adviser Katherine Schram and chapter members told their classmates and business classes at Plymouth North about their experiences at FBLA and PNHS FBLA Officers foresee a large increase in not only membership, but in attendance to next year's SLC.

Another State President Bids Farewell

By Scott Stewart, Outgoing State President



First off, as the outgoing State President, I would like to wish the new MA FBLA State Board and each chapter the best of luck in the coming year.

My experience as the MA FBLA State President has been a spectacular learning experience providing me with opportunities no other organization can provide. MA FBLA has experienced promising growth both in membership and as an organization. Through the new updated state website, consistent newsletters, and the biggest Spring Leadership conference to date, the foundation has been set for Massachusetts to expand and reach its full potential.

MA FBLA has made tremendous efforts this year establishing a solid platform for the future and with fortitude and support from our chapter, new and old, I know that MA FBLA will continue to put excellence into action.

Best Regards,

Scott Stewart

2013-2014 Massachusetts State President



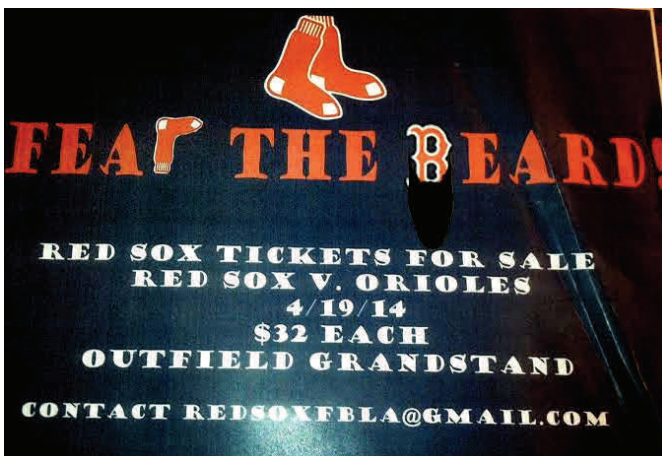
State Leadership Conference Competitive Event Winners



Westborough Designs Red Sox Poster

Westborough High School was the sole chapter from Massachusetts FBLA to design a poster for the Fenway Sports Management competition.

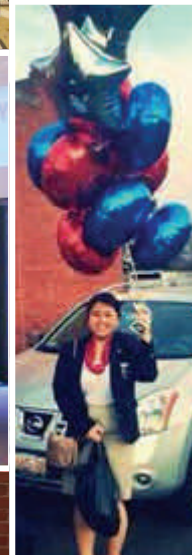
While the competition had to be cancelled, we appreciate Westborough's participation and hard work and we hope to have all of our chapters participate should there be a similar competition next year.



Assessment	First Name	Last Name	School
Accounting	1 Jamie	Monteleone	Acton-Boxborough
	2 Angela	Botto	Plymouth North
	3 Christopher	Chee	North Reading
Business Law	1 Jae Seung	Lee	Newton South
	2 Sachin	Srivastava	Newton South
	3 Serena	Kuang	Acton-Boxborough
Business Math	1 Shiva	Mudide	Acton-Boxborough
	2 Thomas	Yan	Acton-Boxborough
	3 James	Rao	Newton South
Desktop Pub.	1 Kitty	Fei	Lexington
	1 Junho	Cho	Lexington
	2 Tamila	Babinova	Westfield
	2 Janis	Luna	Westfield
	3 Eric	Lin	Newton South
Economics	1 Jack	Caljouw	Milton
	2 Bryan	Scordino	Belmont
	3 Chris	Ricciuti	Milton
Entrepreneursip	1 Nikolas	Lazar	Newton South
	1 Bhavik	Nagda	Newton South
	1 James	Rao	Newton South
	2 Will	DiGravio	Plymouth North
	2 Shawn	Westcott	Plymouth North
	3 Zack	Mullin Bernstein	North Reading
	3 Jake	O'Connell	North Reading
Future Bus. Leader	1 Ryan	Boudreau	Plymouth North
	2 Max	Tripp	Plymouth North
	3 Terry	Taskey	Westfield
Intro. to Business	1 Jack	Stewart	Belmont
	2 Nikolas	Lazar	Newton South
	3 Lea	Inhaber	Westborough
Mgmt. Dec. Making	1 Zack	Mullin Bernstein	North Reading
	2 Nicholas	Phillips	North Reading
	3 Angela	Botto	Plymouth North
Marketing	1 Colin	Keally	Milton
	1 Brandon	Musto	Milton
	2 Robert	Tabachnik	Acton-Boxborough
	2 Thomas	Yan	Acton-Boxborough
	3 Daniel	Coveney	North Reading
Personal Finance	1 Jessica	Strowkowski	Belmont
	2 Gered	Sockol	Westborough
	3 Bhavik	Nagda	Newton South
Public Speaking	1 Jae Seung	Lee	Newton South
	2 Sachin	Srivastava	Newton South
	3 Serena	Kuang	Acton-Boxborough
Sports & Ent. Mktg.	1 Ryan	Boudreau	Plymouth North
	1 Will	DiGravio	Plymouth North
	1 Shawn	Westcott	Plymouth North
	2 Nikolas	Lazar	Newton South
	2 Bhavik	Nagda	Newton South
	2 James	Rao	Newton South
	3 Bryan	Scordino	Belmont



SLC 2014 IN PICTURES



**Best of luck to our chapters and
members attending and competing at
the National Leadership Conference in
Nashville next month!**





Tales of a Former State Officer - "Musings from Musi"



As the school year comes to an end, it is often a time for celebration for our next steps and a chance for reflection over our previous academic year. While my freshman year at Boston University comes to a close, Mr. Reynolds, our State Chair, asked for me to share what I've learned during my time as a member and State Officer of Future Business Leaders of America and how the lessons I've learned there became applicable throughout college and beyond.

Similar to most student organizations you'll come across in high school and even more so in college, you get out what you put in. My time with FBLA has taught me a set of personality traits which I continue to carry around with me today. FBLA serves as a platform to participate in events you normally wouldn't have access to and provides the opportunity to interact with people you otherwise wouldn't have met. I can recall my sophomore year of high school, a few months after being elected the new Massachusetts State President, making over 90 phone calls to prospective high schools to establish FBLA chapters. Fast forward some three years later and contacting potential employers for a summer internship becomes second nature. My exposure within FBLA brought me out of my comfort zone while in high school, allowing myself to be more comfortable down the road.

In hindsight, being a State and Chapter President was simply preparation for my collegiate and professional career. Through such involvement, I received firsthand experience of what it means to be a true team member as I worked alongside members from various towns on the State Board and nationally during my time as an Executive Vice President's Assistant. Not until I reached Boston University did I experience a similar team setting, and by that point I already had a strong taste of team work. Think of your time with FBLA as a testing ground to discover your abilities and comfort level, and then challenge yourself to go beyond those limits.

My involvement with Future Business Leaders of America became one of the single largest building blocks during my high school career. Having a strong foundation before entering college will place you far beyond the rest, and will offer you a toolbox of skills which can be applied on a regular basis.

If you have any questions, comments, or simply would like to discuss my involvement with Future Business Leaders of America or Boston University, please feel free to reach me at joemus@bu.edu.

Best Regards,
Joseph Musi
School of Management, Boston University 2017

Adviser Corner: Westfield Reactivates With New Advisers and Members

By Karen Tyburski, Local Chapter Co-Adviser, Westfield Voc Tech High School

As a new/reactivated chapter of Future Business Leaders of America, our students were excited to attend the Spring Leadership Conference on April 14, 2014. We were surprised when we were the only chapter representing the Western Massachusetts area, but we were glad to be there. Both students and advisers did not know what to expect of this event, but we walked away with a good feeling that choosing to become part of FBLA was a move we will not regret.

The event was professional and well organized. We enjoyed both the speakers, whom we learned much from, and the competitive events. As this was our first experience competing, we did not expect to do very well, but to our surprise we walked

away with a second in Desktop Publishing (Janis Luna and Tamila Babinova) and a third in Future Business Leaders (Terry Tasky). We all are so proud of these students and what they have accomplished.

We look forward to next year and participating in Future Business Leaders of America. For our first year we had 16 members and hope to increase that membership next year. We only have one senior, so everyone else will be back including our president, vice-president, secretary, and treasurer. We also have many other goals we would like to accomplish, and now with a year under our belt, we can start next year with knowledge, drive, and enthusiasm.



Local Chapter News



Acton-Boxborough FBLA collaborated earlier this year with Bentley University and Sperry Top-Sider Shoe Company in the Bentley Immersion Challenge.

2014-2015 Membership Theme Announced



The FBLA National Center has announced that the 2014-2015 membership theme is “Step Up to the Challenge.” Find out more and download a membership recruitment poster at mafbla.org!



Contact Information

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