



FALL 2012



Welcome from Incoming State President

We are enthralled to kick off another exciting year! Improving FBLA in Massachusetts is an overarching theme for the year.

We will first strive improve MA FBLA by ensuring all chapters have better communication tools and resources in order to be successful. This began with the distribution of the Chapter Guide to advisers. The intent of this is for it to be a guidebook for how you might structure your year, from fundraising ideas, volunteer opportunities, state and national events, and more!

Furthermore, we are striving to increase our availability to all those chapters seeking assistance, from performing chapter installation ceremonies, to making presentations at local chapters, and participating in local chapter activities. In the Spring we will hold the Spring Leadership Conference where winners will have the opportunity to attend the National Conference in Anaheim, California this year.

As we grow and become a more prominent organization in Massachusetts, it is the state board's goal to increase our participation at the National level. By capitalizing on the opportunities this would provide, we will be able to hold a larger Spring Conference and provide better networking events for FBLA members. We strongly believe that bringing the state together and allowing leaders to interact will significantly help the productivity of each and every chapter. Moving forward, we will be open to any and all suggestions as we strive to continue to improve MA FBLA and have a fun, memorable year and one where we are "igniting innovation."

Sincerely,
Naren Inukoti

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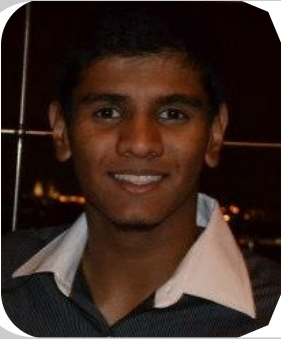
- View and submit national, state, and chapter news
- Download the state newsletter and important materials from the national office
- Obtain conference information
- Contact the State Board



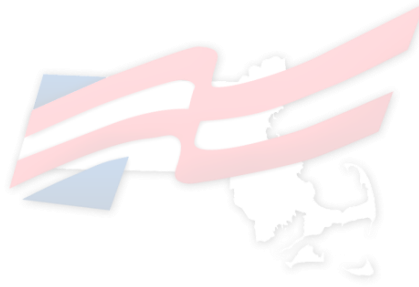
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Meet Your 2012-2013 State Board

Naren Inukoti
State President



Naren is a senior at Acton-Boxborough Regional High School who is a dedicated and hard-working member of FBLA. He started in his local chapter as a treasurer and then became president and finally State President. With many aspirations, Naren hopes to further increase membership of FBLA by starting various new chapters as well as being more transparent to the leaders of chapters in the state. At Acton, he runs a 75 member local chapter that is involved in networking, fundraising, and learning about the business world. He is also an upcoming entrepreneur, with his software company Convenu which specializes in improving restaurant efficiency and communication by providing the restaurant staff with touch screen tablets. He is an enthusiastic individual always looking to help his peers and hopes to be a useful resource to anyone in FBLA.



Bryan Scordino
State Vice President



Hello to all,

My name is Bryan Scordino, and I will be your State Vice President this year in the Massachusetts chapter of FBLA. Currently, I am a sophomore at Belmont High School, and I am a member of the Belmont chapter of FBLA. This is my second year in FBLA.

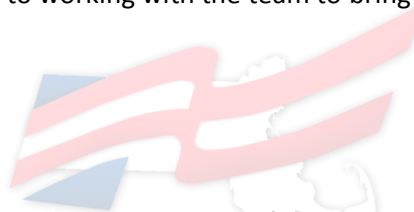
I am a three-sport athlete, playing competitively for the Belmont golf, basketball, and baseball teams, and hope to bring my leadership in sports to FBLA as Vice President. At school, my favorite subjects include American Studies and English. I am fortunate to have an older brother, a senior, who has also been a member of FBLA in Belmont since his freshman year, and was able to begin learning about FBLA even before my High School career began. I am excited to be taking the role of State Vice President, and hope to help improve FBLA and make it a great experience for every member on both the local and state levels during the course of this year.

Meet Your 2012-2013 State Board

Chris Van Winkle
State Secretary



Hello all, my name is Chris Van Winkle and I am the new Secretary of FBLA for the state of Massachusetts. I hope to do well in continuing to serve the organization this year. One of my goals is to, along with the rest of the State officer team, increase membership of FBLA in the state by recruiting new schools in the area. As for events, I hope to direct our attention on conferences, as well as fund raising. I got involved with FBLA 4 years ago because I knew it would provide me with the footing necessary to take on the business world. Also I've found the experience to be very fun, especially the competitions, and that keeps my enthusiasm running high. I would encourage further competitions within individual chapters as well as on a state level, because I feel competition is one of the finest ways to enhance growth. I feel very privileged to be involved. I was very pleased to collaborate with the other new state officers, and I am looking to working with the team to bring you another eventful year of FBLA.



Blake Reynolds
State Chairperson



Hello and welcome to another exciting year for MA FBLA! This is my fourth year leading the state and each year brings new challenges and exciting opportunities and possibilities!

A bit about my FBLA background: I was heavily involved in FBLA throughout high school in Maine, serving as local chapter secretary and president as well as state parliamentarian, vice president, and finally Maine state president. I have conducted installations of local chapters, coordinated many FLC and SLCs, attended regional and national conferences, worked with the business community to promote and foster FBLA, and much more!

FBLA has given me a tremendous amount of leadership skills that I have carried through college and into the workforce. I am excited to be advising MA FBLA for a fourth year and to work with our new incoming state president, Naren Inukoti, to continue to strengthen the core of MA FBLA, increase our number of chapters and overall membership, and provide increased benefits for our members. We have fresh faces on our state board and new ideas, so stay tuned! Please feel free to reach out to any of us if you have questions, comments, would like us to visit your local chapter, or any other need you may have.

I look forward to meeting you all in the near future and to "ignite innovation"!

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Blake Reynolds".

Belmont High School Kicks Off the Year Strong

"The Belmont chapter of FBLA has once again become a prominent and model organization at Belmont High."

As the school year begins, the Belmont chapter of FBLA has once again become a prominent and model organization at Belmont High. With a solid nucleus of returning members and a slew of fresh underclassmen faces, we entered into the activities fair in early October with confidence and class. We have held a few meetings so far, including the introductory meeting where the goals of the club were presented. Our chapter has held elections for chapter positions and has seen the implementation of our underclassmen leadership team, where 2-3 underclassmen are selected to help plan meetings and learn how to run the club so there can be a smooth transition into the 2013-14 year as the bulk of our club members depart for college and other endeavors. As a group, we plan to learn new business practices and leadership techniques that will allow us to succeed in the business world in the future and other economic and professional sectors.

We look forward to the Spring where we plan to continue our gold medal streak and to maintaining the integrity of our nationally recognized club. Have a great year FBLA members. Stay classy.

Danny Dignan

Belmont FBLA Historian

Check out the MA FBLA website!

www.mafbla.org

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New Chapter Amherst Regional Off to an Impressive Start

The FBLA chapter of Amherst Regional High School (ARHS) kicked-off its activities in mid-July, even before school was in session, supporting our local Chamber of Commerce with its annual golf tournament. This community service event marks the first of several projects planned for the year.

To improve outreach and communication, a club website has been established. The website is updated regularly with events and schedule information. As our activities have expanded, members often fan out to concurrent events. FBLA at ARHS has instituted a scheme for recognizing two students every week as "Students of the Week" for their academic, athletic, performing achievements. Funding for our projects mostly comes from the revenue of our school store. Aside from ongoing projects, the FBLA chapter has recently completed spirit week events. The events scheduled for Spirit Week were organized in conjunction with the athletic department and the school administration. The events were publicized throughout the school, and promoted competition between grades to generate spirit and excitement. On Friday of Spirit Week, the winning class who displayed the most spirit was awarded a pizza party. The success of the week stemmed from our efforts in marketing and promotion throughout school. Our ventures are entirely student-run and serve the larger community of ARHS and Amherst.

Currently, the chapter is planning our 'Canes for the Cure' event, focused on the fight against cancer. We have partnered up with the Cooley-Dickinson Hospital Cancer Care association for the fourth consecutive year and plan to donate 100% of our proceeds to their fund to vitalize interest in cancer and provide aid to those in need. As a part of 'Canes for the Cure activities, we are seeking donations from local businesses to advertise their logos on the back of designed T-shirts. These T-shirts will be sold to raise cancer awareness. The T-shirts will not only support the fight against cancer, but also the Amherst Regional High School basketball teams, the performing arts department, and the contributing businesses. To promote the sale of the T-shirts, persons wearing them will be exempted from paying for the ARHS basketball games on selected dates. During half-time of those games, various student groups of the performing arts department will perform. Over the past two years, these endeavors have allowed us to raise \$5500 to the Cooley-Dickinson Hospital Cancer Care Fund, and earn recognition from the *CDH Philanthropy Magazine* and the *Daily Hampshire Gazette* in 2011. We were chosen to receive the 2012 Outstanding Young Philanthropist Award of Hampshire County which will be awarded at the local celebration of National Philanthropy Day on November 14.

As a newly reactivated chapter of the larger state organization, we would welcome any advice or feedback at amherstfbla@gmail.com.

Shohini Kundu - President, Amherst Regional FBLA

"Currently, the chapter is planning our 'Canes for the Cure' event, focused on the fight against cancer."



Acton-Boxborough Hosts Affinova President & CEO

"He has inspired the students of our chapter and provided us with a strong foundation to an electrifying and successful year. "



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Networking is an essential skill that is needed in order to expand your contacts and grow within the business world. This is exactly what we provide the members of the Acton Boxborough Chapter. Recently, we hosted Mr. Waleed Al-Atracqhi, President and CEO of Affinova, a high-growth software and services company that enables innovative organizations to drive better ideas to market faster.

Mr. Al-Atracqhi is an interesting, charismatic, and successful business leader. He was at the forefront of Imagitas, an innovative lifestage marketing services company, and with his leadership increased revenues from \$50 million to \$125 million in four year. In his compelling keynote address to a room packed with over sixty enthusiastic Acton-Boxborough students, Mr. Al-Atracqhi not only stated his distinguished credentials but also conveyed supportive guidance to those wishing to succeed. He was keen in pointing out that "education is necessary in order to succeed."

When starting his career, Mr. Al-Atracqhi first owned an extremely successful bagel shop. However, his hunger for learning and passion-driven diligence drove him to receive his MBA and accelerate into a whole new world. After, graduating from Carnegie Mellon with his MBA in the top ten of his class, he excelled in every single task that he was assigned. He worked ten times as hard as everyone else, and this he states is the reason for his success. The valuable lessons he learned are ones he strongly encourages us to learn from. In the end, he emphasized the importance of networking and stated that all the jobs he received are through the connections he has made. In order to further expand our network at Acton-Boxborough, we plan to attend entrepreneurial conferences, lectures from highly regarded university professors, and learn how to start our own businesses. This keynote presentation from Mr. Al-Atracqhi has inspired the students of our chapter and provided us with a strong foundation to an electrifying and successful year.

Naren Inukoti
President, Acton-Boxborough Regional High School