



# ULTIMATE E-NEWS

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## Chapter Report

Though the year has only just started, chapters are busy getting ready for another exciting year of FCCLA! Every year FCCLA chapters all over do fun and exciting things, and sometimes they do them year after year with great success. An example of this is my chapter at Marlboro High School in District 3. Each year we do activities old and new. One of the activities we do each year is our annual Pancake Breakfast. This is an event where we raise money for our State/National Project, which this year happens to be Share Our Strength. We get donations from local stores and we make the food we serve. Each year this tends to be a hit, hopefully it will be the same this year!

This year we are also taking on new projects like the School Spirit Carnival. This event will be held during our school Homecoming week. We will spread the word about FCCLA and try to encourage new members to join. This will be a new event and my chapter is very excited to see how it turns out.

By now, chapters have started to plan FCCLA activities for the upcoming year. Communicating and sharing ideas both new and old is a great way to come up with new events and projects that will help FCCLA members and chapters grow in membership and support. – **Mia Rende**

## Running Chapter Meetings

Because FCCLA has so many components and chapter meetings differ, each one requires a specific focus. There are several types of meeting you can plan throughout the year: officer meetings, informational meetings, brainstorm meetings, member recruitment meetings, fundraising meetings, and others that are specific to your focus. Preparation for meetings depends on the length and focus. For example: when you are planning a chapter member meeting for the beginning of the year, you will have a different focus than a

brainstorming officer meeting. At an officer meeting, your main focus may be brainstorming the program of work for the following year and may not require a strict schedule. Member meetings for the beginning of the year require more time to plan because you may have to introduce FCCLA to all members. Over time, you will become an expert on knowing what best for your chapter.

When it comes to preparing and running any meeting, communication is crucial. Communicate the information clearly and ahead of time, including the date, time, location, materials, and focus. Make announcements and publicize your FCCLA event. The frequent communication of officers is significant to brainstorming ideas before meetings instead of wasting time during them, as well keeping everyone “in the loop.”

Parliamentary procedure helps to make an FCCLA meeting run smoothly and efficiently. Whether or not you want your chapter meetings to follow the common format for an FCCLA chapter meeting is up to you. However, learning Parliamentary procedure provides a framework, organization, momentum, and place to start so you don’t waste meeting time. Your members learn the FCCLA creed and gain insight into how an FCCLA business meeting is run at the state and national level. Officer installation and specific ceremonies for officers and members teach FCCLA’s mission, purposes, values, and ideals. It is guaranteed that every meeting held will not include every aspect for the common format of an FCCLA business meeting, but each chapter should implement this a few times to express FCCLA’s positive image of organization and professionalism.

A record of what happens at your FCCLA chapter meetings is important. This is commonly done through taking notes, which is accomplished by the secretary during meetings. For larger events you can always publicize results, take pictures, record video, and much more. Lastly, the conclusion to any FCCLA chapter meeting must bring new action to members or officers. Whether

you are recruiting members, installing officers, assigning tasks, discussing projects or events, or explaining progress on tasks, every meeting should encourage further action to prepare for the next meeting or event. One of the toughest challenges is maintaining focus after an important event, so you don't slow chapter progress and procrastinate.

- **Matt Palka**

## District Highlights



District 5B held their Fall Leadership Conference on October 19, 2011 at the Croghan Fire Hall. The theme for the day was **“Stayin’ Safe with FCCLA.”** Sixty-six FCCLA members from Beaver River, General Brown, Lowville, South Jefferson, and South

Lewis schools were in attendance. They held their Fall Business Meeting and installation of 2011-2012 District Officers.

The workshops were conducted by Sergeant Eric Schmitt of the Lewis County Sheriff's Department; Deb Townsend, Director of Camp Aldersgate; Amanda Reed, Health Teacher; and Jared Martin, EMT with the Croghan Fire Department. The Lowville Chapter provided lunch for the group.



## Fundraising

It takes money to do a lot of things these days. FCCLA members also need money to go to events such as Summer Leadership, Fall Planning, State Meeting, or even National Meeting. FCCLA members also often raise money for different community service or charity events. There are many ways to raise money for both community service and FCCLA events. Some ideas that have worked for FCCLA members in the past are Yankee Candle sales and Zap-A-Snack or similar types of sales. These fundraisers work well but it is important to keep in mind that they require some turn around time to get your products and money.

Some simple fundraisers include chicken barbeque, holding bake sales, selling candy, or selling refreshments at your local sporting events. These fundraisers are pretty easy to plan but you must make sure to get permission from your school and have members who are willing to work in order for them to be successful.

Your chapter can also host events such as a school dance or roller skating party. There are many fundraising possibilities. Most importantly, remember to keep in mind what types of fundraisers will work in your local area as well as what your chapter has the time to do. – **Tiffany Rolfe**

## Dates to Remember

November 4-6, 2011: NYSFCCLA Fall Planning at the Villa Roma Resort & Conference Center

November 11-13, 2011: National Cluster Meeting in Denver, CO and Minneapolis, MN

November 18-20, 2011: National Cluster Meeting in Atlanta GA

February 1, 2012: Master Advisor & Advisor Mentor applications due to State Coordinator

February 12-18, 2012: National FCCLA Week, “Raising the Bar”

March 1, 2012: Membership Affiliation Deadline in order to participate in STAR Events

March 28-31, 2012: New York State Leadership Conference at Villa Roma Resort & Conference Center

July 8-12, 2012: National Leadership Conference in Orlando, FL

July 30-August 2, 2012: NYS Summer Leadership/Professional Development

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