

KANSAS EXCHANGE

Kansas Future Business Leaders of America Newsletter

In This Edition:

Officer Team Update



(FRONT) JACEE CARPENTER, KELLY ANNUNZIATO, KAYLEE OLBERDING, EMMY LYTLE. (MIDDLE) DARYL JULO, GABE SMITH, HARRISON BURKE, DECLAN BARNES. (BACK) KORYN ALEXANDER, ALLISON HUBER, SCHOLASTICA BAXA, RAJ GUGNANI. NOT PICTURED: LAUREN TAYLOR.

CHAPTER HIGHLIGHTS



Atchison, Burlingame, Centralia, Eudora, Girard, Hanover, Pleasant Ridge

NLC CHAMPIONS



OWEN MURPHY, SETH WILSON, BENJAMIN SCHÉLBE

SUMMER LEADERSHIP SEMINAR RECAP



State President's Message

Hello Kansas FBLA!

I hope everyone is having a great start to the school year! As your 2026–2027 Kansas FBLA State President, I am incredibly excited for everything we have ahead of us this year. First, I want to congratulate all of our Kansas FBLA members who competed at the National Leadership Conference this summer. Representing Kansas on the national stage is a huge accomplishment, and I am so proud of everyone who worked hard and represented our state! I also want to say thank you to everyone who helped make Summer Leadership Seminar such a great experience. Getting to learn, connect, and grow alongside FBLA members from across Kansas was something I will not forget. One of our biggest goals this year is to visit as many chapters as possible. We want to meet you, hear what your chapter is doing, and find ways that Kansas FBLA can better support you. If your chapter would be interested in a visit from me or another state officer, please reach out and let us know! Finally, don't forget that this is Kansas FBLA's 75th anniversary year! Make sure your chapter gets involved in the anniversary events and challenges throughout the year. I can't wait to see what we accomplish together. Let's make this an incredible year!

Best,

Gabe Smith

2026–2027 Kansas FBLA State President



Message from the State Editor

Dear Kansas FBLA Members and Advisers,

Welcome to a new school year and a new membership year with Kansas FBLA! After a busy summer that included the Summer Leadership Seminar and National Leadership Conference, it's exciting to begin another year of opportunities, events, and experiences for members across Kansas. This year, Kansas FBLA is *Honoring the Past and Shaping the Future* as we celebrate 75 years of Kansas FBLA. Throughout the year, we'll be highlighting our history while looking ahead to what's next for our organization and its members. As the year gets underway, be sure to stay connected and up to date through the Kansas FBLA website. Important information, upcoming opportunities, deadlines, programs, and resources will continue to be shared throughout the year. With a new year comes new opportunities, new experiences, and new leaders. Kansas FBLA is *where leaders begin*. Thank you for reading this issue of The Kansas Exchange. I hope you enjoy it and have a great year in Kansas FBLA!

Sincerely,

Daryl Juló

2026-2027 Kansas FBLA State Editor



Summer Leadership Seminar



SUMMER LEADERSHIP SEMINAR ATTENDEES AT THE KANSAS STATE UNIVERSITY COLLEGE OF BUSINESS

Kansas FBLA's Summer Leadership Seminar was held for one day in July at Kansas State University. Members enjoyed hearing from an engaging speaker, participating in interactive workshops, and exploring the K-State College of Business. Outside of the sessions, members had the opportunity to soak in downtown Manhattan and connect with fellow Kansas FBLA members throughout the day.



"Summer Leadership Seminar this year was an absolute success. We had an incredible day filled with engaging workshops, team-building fun, and an inspiring message from speaker Rhett Laubach. It was wonderful to see such a fantastic turnout, and our officer team truly enjoyed connecting with so many passionate members of Kansas FBLA."

- Harrison Burke
Kansas FBLA Treasurer

Join the Active Membership Advisory Council

The Active Membership Advisory Council (AMAC) is a student-led council made up of 10 members each year, including the Kansas FBLA Executive Vice President, who serves as chair. The council meets virtually each month, providing opportunities for collaboration, feedback, and member input.

AMAC members assist with District Vice President voting at their respective District Conference, obtain two corporate sponsors, attend meetings with the Executive Vice President, and create activity ideas for American Enterprise Day, Alzheimer's Awareness, and FBLA Week. Members must be current paid FBLA members, cannot be current state officers, and must have completed the Contributor Level of the BAA.

Serving on AMAC allows students to share ideas, make their voices heard, gain leadership experience, collaborate with members across the state, and contribute to the growth of Kansas FBLA. Members are recognized during the State Leadership Conference, with their names included in the SLC program and on the state website. Applications can be found at www.kansasfbla.com and are due September 30.

Message from the Executive Vice President

"Before I became a state officer, I applied for the Active Membership Advisory Council (AMAC) and got the chance to see what it was like making decisions and deciding which fundraiser to participate in at SLC. While it can feel like a lot of work, whether it is gathering corporate sponsorships or attending AMAC Zoom meetings, it is worth it. You will have resources along the way to help you succeed and grow as a future business leader. On top of that, you will also make lifelong friends, some of whom you may eventually serve alongside with on the state executive board. As the current Executive Vice President and Chair of AMAC, my advice to members interested in this council is this. "Take the leap and be confident in your ability to succeed as a leader. Take the first step to make your mark on our state. Don't feel like you can't do this, because you are capable of anything you put your mind to." Overall, you can learn a lot from AMAC, and it will aid you on your journey to accomplishing your goals. So take the chance today, and apply for AMAC."



State Officers Attend CTSO Officer Training



(FRONT) JACEE CARPENTER, KELLY ANNUNZIATO, KAYLEE OLBERDING, EMMY LYTLE. (MIDDLE) DARYL JULO, GABE SMITH, HARRISON BURKE, DECLAN BARNES. (BACK) KORYN ALEXANDER, ALLISON HUBER, SCHOLASTICA BAXA, RAJ GUGNANI. NOT PICTURED: LAUREN TAYLOR.

In June, the Kansas FBLA State Officer Team joined fellow Career and Technical Student Organization (CTSO) state officers from across Kansas for the annual KSDE CTSO Officer Training. The training gave officers the opportunity to learn more about their roles, develop leadership skills, and connect with student leaders from other CTSOs. Other CTSOs in attendance included Business Professionals of America (BPA), DECA, Family, Career and Community Leaders of America (FCCLA), HOSA – Future Health Professionals, SkillsUSA, and the Technology Student Association (TSA). It was a great way to kick off the year and prepare for the work ahead!

KS FBLA Legacy Challenge



As Kansas FBLA celebrates its 75th anniversary, chapters across the state have the opportunity to take part in the Kansas FBLA Legacy Challenge. The challenge is designed to celebrate our organization's history while encouraging chapters to make their own mark on the future of Kansas FBLA. To complete the challenge, chapters must complete 10 of the 14 available activities between July 1 and December 15, 2026. The first seven activities are required, and chapters may choose any three of the remaining seven activities to complete. Activities include taking a chapter photo, preparing for District Conference, presenting about FBLA to a school board or community organization, completing a community service project, submitting a Program of Work or Calendar of Events, supporting the Kansas FBLA Alumni Legacy Network, and creating a poster celebrating the 75th anniversary.

The remaining activities give chapters additional ways to participate, including working with FBLA alumni, supporting the Kansas FBLA Endowment Fund, promoting Alzheimer's Awareness, holding a fundraising event, involving middle school students, completing a level of the national BAAs, and submitting all chapter dues by the October 20 deadline. Chapters that successfully complete 10 activities will earn a special reward at the 2027 State Leadership Conference. Every adviser and paid member attending SLC will receive a commemorative 75th anniversary ribbon, while each paid member from a qualifying chapter in attendance will also receive a 75th Anniversary Trading Pin. More information about the Legacy Challenge, including the complete list of activities and submission requirements, has been sent to all Kansas FBLA advisers and can also be found on the Kansas FBLA website. Be sure to check the details and get your chapter started on the challenge!

National Leadership Conference



Kansas FBLA members traveled to San Antonio this summer for the National Leadership Conference, joining thousands of FBLA members from across the country. From competitive events and general sessions to workshops, networking, and exploring San Antonio, members had the opportunity to experience everything NLC had to offer. It was a memorable way to wrap up the year and celebrate the accomplishments of Kansas FBLA members on the national stage.

Kansas FBLA is proud to recognize our 2026 National Champions. Seth Wilson from Girard High School placed first in Public Speaking, while Owen Murphy from Girard High School placed third in Agribusiness. Benjamin Schelbe from Girard High School placed sixth in Technology Support & Services, and Emma Gaddis from Waverly Middle School placed seventh in Digital Citizenship. Congratulations to all four members on their accomplishments at NLC!



SETH WILSON
FIRST PLACE
PUBLIC SPEAKING



OWEN MURPHY
THIRD PLACE
AGRIBUSINESS



BENJAMIN SCHELBE
SIXTH PLACE
TECHNOLOGY SUPPORT & SERVICES



EMMA GADDIS
SEVENTH PLACE
DIGITAL CITIZENSHIP



Atchison High School



(BACK) DARYL JULO, CHLOE BRINCEFIELD, CELINE HEALY, DESTINY EYLAR, NAE'ONNA SANDERS, ROBERT FINNEGAN, KENNETH SUNBLOOM, CALVIN MORTENSON. (FRONT) LAYNE TATE, GINNY LOWE, ALLY MORTENSON, BRAIDEN MINER.

This year, twelve members of Atchison High School FBLA attended the National Leadership Conference in San Antonio, Texas. Members competed in presentations and objective tests while learning from leadership sessions and watching other groups compete in finals.

The chapter kicked off the new school year with its first meeting on August 20. Members got to know each other, while officers discussed their committees and plans for the year ahead. Atchison FBLA is looking forward to another successful year of leadership and competition.

Eudora High School

Eudora High School FBLA members spent the summer building their leadership skills through state and national opportunities. Three members, Adryck Correll, Alex Gonzalez, and David Brunner, traveled to San Antonio, Texas, for the FBLA National Leadership Conference. They competed in Economics, Cybersecurity, and Business Law, while all three also completed the ASK Concepts of Finance Certification. Alex and David successfully passed the certification exam.

In July, Ava McBain, Lily McBain, Nikki Roome, and Maddie Yoder attended the FBLA Summer Leadership Seminar in Manhattan. The students learned skills for becoming effective chapter leaders and worked together to prepare for the upcoming school year.

Through these experiences, Eudora FBLA members gained valuable leadership, career, and communication skills while representing their chapter across Kansas and the nation.



DAVID BRUNNER, ADRYCK CORRELL, & ALEX GONZALEZ



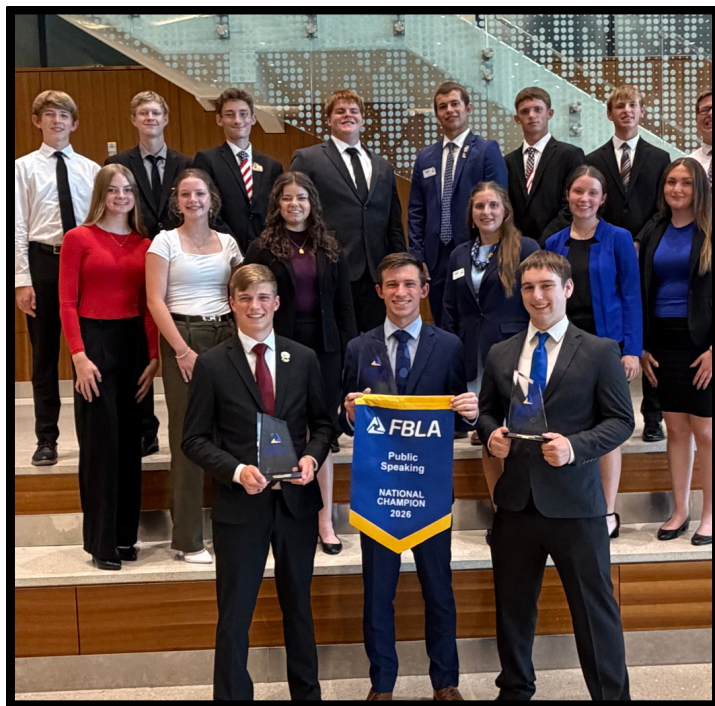
AVA MCBAIN, LILY MCBAIN, MADDIE YODER, NIKKI ROOME

Girard FBLA

Girard FBLA attended the National Leadership Conference with 18 competitors. They had a fantastic trip traveling on the charter bus with other chapters from Kansas to San Antonio, Texas. Girard FBLA performed well in competition while also enjoying Six Flags, the Alamo, the Witte Museum, the San Antonio Zoo, an evening at the Tower of Americas with dinner on top at the Chart House, and an evening spent at the River Walk which ended with a river cruise. The trip finale was the Award of Excellence in which they celebrated the achievements of Seth Wilson being awarded the national title in Public Speaking, Owen Murphy earning third place in Agribusiness, and Benjamin Scheibe receiving sixth place in Technology Support and Services.

Girard FBLA kicked off the year with recruitment activities which began with a social media video by the officer team, a booth at the activities fair, a back-to-school swim party, and then a recruitment cart in which they have achieved a 70-member chapter as of August 24th.

The Girard High School Leadership Team attended the Summer Leadership Seminar. After SLS, the team stayed an extra night to make plans for FBLA at GHS for the new school year.



Centralia High School



Centralia High School's FBLA, FCCLA, and FFA chapters came together to host a Back-to-School Bash at Centralia Lake. The event was designed to welcome students back to school, build school spirit, and encourage students to get involved in the different organizations.

Forty-two students attended the event, enjoying grilled hot dogs, chips, and refreshments while playing cornhole, swimming, playing sand volleyball, and listening to music. The event also gave students the chance to connect with members from other organizations.

Hanover FBLA



Hanover High School FBLA is starting the school year with strong momentum and a focus on its mission of being a place "Where Leaders Begin." Before the school year started, Hanover's student officers met over the summer to develop their Program of Work, turning new ideas into goals for the year ahead. To kick off the school year, Hanover FBLA partnered with the Hanover FFA chapter for a back-to-school barbecue. Students enjoyed food and friendly competition through Spikeball, cornhole, and pickleball while getting to know members from both organizations. With 55 paid members and growing, Hanover FBLA is looking forward to a busy year focused on business competitions, leadership conferences, and community involvement while continuing to strengthen their chapter.



COLBY DOEBELE & EASTON HEUER

Pleasant Ridge High School

This summer, Pleasant Ridge FBLA chapter officers attended the Summer Leadership Seminar, where they focused on ways to increase member involvement and build stronger connections within their chapter.

Throughout the seminar, officers took part in interactive activities, teamwork challenges, and informational sessions. The experience gave them new ideas for helping their chapter grow and creating more opportunities for members to get involved.

With the new school year underway, Pleasant Ridge FBLA is excited to put what they learned into action and make this their strongest year yet.



IZZY BRYAN, CLAIRE HEIM, OLIVIA PUCKETT, REBECCA TEMPLETON

Burlingame FBLA

Burlingame Future Business Leaders of America traveled to San Antonio, Texas, from June 28 through July 3 to attend the FBLA National Leadership Conference. Chloe Suddarth and Kaegen Ward represented Burlingame alongside FBLA Adviser Travisray Salyers.

Ward competed in Introduction to Public Speaking, while Suddarth and Ward teamed up for the Local Chapter Annual Business Report. Although no Burlingame students placed in their events, the conference gave them valuable opportunities to grow and compete on a national level.

Outside of competition, members attended workshops, connected with FBLA students from across the country, participated in voting for national officers, and took part in the competitive events program. Burlingame FBLA also earned a National Gold Seal Chapter recognition and Silver in the National Champion Chapter Program.

The chapter would like to thank everyone who supported its national team through fundraising, donations, encouragement, and guidance. Their support helped make this experience possible for Burlingame FBLA.



CHLOE SUDDARTH, TRAVISRAY SALYERS (ADVISER), AND KAEGEN WARD

Kansas FBLA Day at the Speedway

Join Kansas FBLA for Kansas FBLA Day at the Speedway on September 25, 2026, at Kansas Speedway in Kansas City, KS. From 8:00 a.m. to noon, members will hear from business leaders in a Q&A panel, explore different motorsports career opportunities through department spotlights, and take a track tour, weather permitting. Registration and payment are due Monday, September 21, 2026. For registration and payment details, contact your chapter adviser