

KANSAS EXCHANGE

Kansas Future Business Leaders of America Newsletter

In This Edition:

CHAPTER HIGHLIGHTS

Meet the 2026-27 Officer Team:



(FRONT) KELLY ANNUNZIATO, LAUREN TAYLOR, KORYN ALEXANDER, EMMY LYTLE. (MIDDLE) GABE SMITH, DECLAN BARNES, HARRISON BURKE, DARYL JULO, RAJ GUGNANI. (BACK) ALLISON HUBER, SCHOLASTICA BAXA, JACEE CARPENTER, KAYLEE OLBERDING



Andover, Atchison, Burlingame, Centralia, Emporia, Hanover, Washington County, Wellsville

ADVISER OF THE YEAR



BETH WILSON, GIRARD FBLA ADVISER

SUMMER LEADERSHIP SEMINAR PREVIEW



State President's Message

Dear Members and Advisers,

I am truly honored and excited to serve as your president this year. I'm happy to share that our first officer meeting went extremely well and set a strong, positive tone for the year ahead. The level of preparation, energy, and commitment from our officer team was impressive and reflects the dedication within our state association.

One of the most encouraging takeaways from our first meeting was how well our team works together. There is already a strong sense of collaboration, respect, and shared purpose among the officers, which will be essential as we move forward. This kind of teamwork creates a solid foundation for a successful and impactful year.

We are also in the process of developing several exciting plans that we look forward to sharing with you soon. These ideas are focused on creating more opportunities for involvement, growth, and connection within our chapter, and I am confident they will make this year both meaningful and memorable.

Thank you for your continued support and involvement. I am looking forward to working with all of you and making this a great year for our chapter.

Best Regards,

Gabe Smith

2026-2027 Kansas FBLA State President



Message from the State Editor

Dear Kansas FBLA Members and Advisers,

As the school year comes to a close, this edition of *The Kansas Exchange* provides an opportunity to reflect on the year, recognize accomplishments, and stay informed about what lies ahead for Kansas FBLA. As we look forward, Kansas FBLA will celebrate 75 years during the upcoming membership year. This milestone will bring additional opportunities for members and chapters to get involved, and I encourage you to take advantage of them as they are announced. Participating in programs, attending conferences, and staying active in your chapter are some of the best ways to grow your skills and make the most of your FBLA experience.

Be sure to stay connected by regularly visiting the Kansas FBLA website for updates, deadlines, and resources. You can also stay informed by following the Kansas FBLA State Officers on Instagram. Many opportunities will continue to be shared throughout the summer and into the fall, and staying informed will help you and your chapter make the most of what's offered. Thank you for taking the time to read *The Kansas Exchange* and for your continued involvement in Kansas FBLA this year.

Sincerely,

Daryl Juló

2026-2027 Kansas FBLA State Editor



Newly Elected State Officers



Gabe Smith - President

Gabe became more involved in FBLA because he wanted to grow and be his best. He finds inspiration at conferences and says, "The keynote speakers are always amazing and bring the whole conference together." He encourages others to step outside their comfort zone and try new things. This year, he is focused on improving his communication skills as he grows in his role.



Raj Gugnani - Executive VP

Raj became more involved in FBLA after being inspired by his brother, who previously served on the state officer team. Through his experiences, Raj has learned the importance of stepping outside of your comfort zone and encourages members to try new opportunities whenever possible. He also reminds members to "enjoy every moment in FBLA" and make the most of their experiences. After high school, Raj plans to pursue a degree in accounting before attending law school.



Scholastica Baxa - Secretary

Schola became more involved in FBLA after seeing firsthand how the organization can make a difference. She encourages others to take every opportunity and connect with as many people as possible at conferences. Schola values the relationships built through FBLA and the growth that comes from stepping outside your comfort zone. This year, she is excited to reconnect with friends, build new relationships, and complete her BAA capstone project.



Harrison Burke - Treasurer

Harrison was inspired to join FBLA by his adviser, Mrs. Wilson, who continued to push him throughout his career. This year, he is looking forward to creating an unforgettable 75th Anniversary State Leadership Conference. Harrison's advice to members is to push themselves to be as involved as they can, saying, "You'll learn and grow in ways you won't regret."



Emmy Lytle - Public Relations

Emmy has been a member since 8th grade, when she was inspired to join FBLA by her dad and brother, who were both heavily involved in the organization. She quickly fell in love and began to blaze her own path. Emmy's advice to members is to try new things, talk to people you don't know, and try events you aren't sure about, because you never know how they can change your life. Emmy is excited to watch the organization continue to flourish and grow.



Daryl Juló - Editor

Daryl became more involved in FBLA when his adviser encouraged him to step outside of his comfort zone and explore the unfamiliar. He is inspired by the Kansas State Leadership Conference, where members from across the state come together and celebrate the Kansan spirit. Daryl encourages members to pursue unfamiliar opportunities in life, because you never know where they may lead. This year, he hopes to give members the best possible experience during Kansas FBLA's 75th anniversary year.



Allison Huber - District I VP

Allison joined FBLA her freshman year after her adviser encouraged her to compete at districts. She reminds members that FBLA is more than just competition. It is an opportunity to develop professional skills in a supportive environment. Allison believes that while trophies are exciting, the true value comes from the soft skills members gain through their experiences. She encourages members to stay curious, remain committed, and take full advantage of all FBLA has to offer.



Jacee Carpenter - District II VP

Jacee joined FBLA her freshman year, and it quickly became a passion. Since then, she has become more involved by pushing herself beyond her comfort zone. Jacee's favorite conference is the Kansas State Leadership Conference. She feels inspired each day when she walks through the doors, knowing she is part of something bigger than herself. Her favorite moment is the dance, where everyone is fully present and living in the moment.

Newly Elected State Officers



Koryn Alexander - District III VP

Koryn joined FBLA because she wanted to be part of something greater than a traditional school club. Through her experiences, she has discovered the value of stepping outside of her comfort zone and building meaningful connections with others. She encourages members to try new things, meet new people, and get involved in larger projects. This year, Koryn hopes to make the District III Conference bigger, better, and more engaging for all members who attend.



Kelly Annunziato - District IV VP

Kelly joined FBLA to build her confidence. The organization gave her a chance to practice public speaking, build her network, and become more involved in school. Her continued growth has motivated her to become more involved in the organization. Her favorite FBLA memory is attending local chapter retreats. This year, Kelly is excited to plan the District IV Conference.



Declan Barnes - District V VP

This is Declan's second year in FBLA. He is excited to build relationships with members and advisers across District V and is especially looking forward to bonding with this year's officer team. Declan aspires to grow membership and expand opportunities by helping start new chapters in District V. After high school, he plans to pursue a career as a lawyer.



Lauren Taylor - District VI VP

Lauren became involved with FBLA to pursue her passion for design. She is most excited to further connect with members from across the state and help them be the best they can be. Lauren plans to attend the U.S. Air Force Academy to become a pilot in the U.S. Air Force. During her term this year, she hopes to grow competition in District VI.



Kaylee Olberding - District VII VP

Kaylee was inspired to join FBLA by her adviser, who taught her that there is no limit to what she can accomplish. She quickly developed a passion for the business world and has grown deeply appreciative of the opportunities FBLA has provided her. Kaylee especially enjoys the Kansas State Leadership Conference, sharing that she "loves the atmosphere created at SLC." This year, she is most excited to serve District VII to the best of her ability and make a positive impact on its members.



(FRONT)
KELLY ANNUNZIATO (WASHINGTON COUNTY),
LAUREN TAYLOR (OLATHE SOUTH),
KORYN ALEXANDER (HERINGTON),
EMMY LYTLE (WELLSVILLE).
(MIDDLE)
GABE SMITH (SANTA FE TRAIL),
DECLAN BARNES (ANDOVER),
HARRISON BURKE (GIRARD),
DARYL JULO (ATCHISON),
RAJ GUGNANI (FORT SCOTT).
(BACK)
ALLISON HUBER (GIRARD),
SCHOLASTICA BAXA (REPUBLIC COUNTY),
JACEE CARPENTER (PLEASANT RIDGE),
KAYLEE OLBERDING (CENTRALIA).

A Family Legacy in FBLA

In the 75-year history of Kansas FBLA, leadership has taken many forms. From first-time members discovering their voice to seasoned advisers guiding chapters to success, the organization has built a legacy centered on growth, opportunity, and connection. This year, however, marks a first—one that highlights the impact of FBLA across generations.

For the first time in Kansas FBLA history, three state officers have served alongside a parent as their adviser. Current State President and former District VII Vice President Gabe Smith, former District I Vice President Seth Wilson, and former District II Vice President Ella Drinkard have experienced FBLA as more than a leadership organization—it has become a shared journey within their families. For these parent advisers, the experience brings both reflection and pride. Once members themselves, they now guide their own children through the same organization that helped shape them.

Julie Smith, adviser at Santa Fe Trail High School and Gabe Smith's mother, reflected on the experience: "Having the opportunity to mentor my own child through my position as an FBLA adviser makes me feel a number of things. Old for one, but also proud, impressed, and occasionally frustrated because he is still my teenager after all. I have thoroughly enjoyed getting a front row seat to his growth in this organization, and this year in particular, he really took the challenges head-on himself, and began transitioning to a role of mentor to other chapter members, which makes me so proud both as a mom and an adviser. I know I will always look back on this brief time in our lives together and truly cherish the time spent, lessons learned, and skills gained."

Beth Wilson, adviser at Girard High School, Kansas FBLA Adviser of the Year, and Seth Wilson's mother, emphasized the impact FBLA has had on her family: "FBLA was not available in my high school when I was a student, but in my 18 years as an adviser, I have witnessed the numerous benefits available through FBLA membership. I have worked to build our chapter into an organization that would truly provide a positive impact on the development and success of its members, as I have seen accomplished by advisers who have inspired and guided me. To have my own son reap the benefits of the opportunities that FBLA offers is very satisfying, and as a parent, I am grateful for this organization."

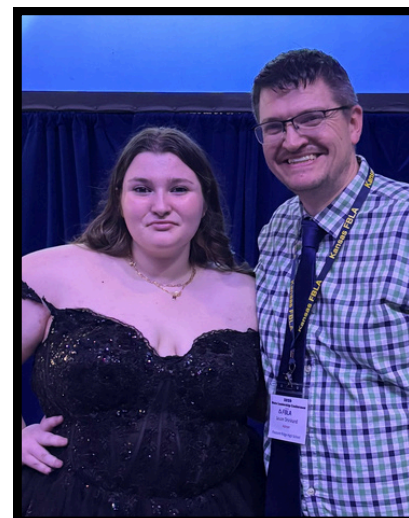
Jason Drinkard, adviser at Pleasant Ridge High School and Ella Drinkard's father, pointed to the shared experience and lasting bond it created: "I'm very lucky that I have had the opportunity to share FBLA with my daughter. Being her adviser has given me the chance to not only mentor her, but to share something that meant a lot to me when I was in high school. When she decided to run for the office of District II Vice President, I was so proud of her. Having her serve in the same office that I did when I was her age really has been the highlight of my time as an adviser. With all of the traveling to conferences and meetings and shared experiences, our bond has become stronger. It's been fun watching her transform from being quiet and shy to a young lady who isn't afraid to initiate a conversation and network with strangers."



GABE SMITH (LEFT) AND JULIE SMITH (RIGHT)



SETH WILSON (LEFT) AND BETH WILSON (RIGHT)



ELLA DRINKARD (LEFT) AND JASON DRINKARD (RIGHT)

A Family Legacy in FBLA cont.

The Drinkards' shared experience stands out as especially meaningful. Both father and daughter served as District II Vice President—an uncommon and historic connection that underscores just how deeply FBLA spans generations.

Mentoring their children has also reshaped how these advisers view FBLA. What began as their own student experience has deepened as they watch the next generation grow.

Reflecting on this shift, Julie Smith shared that "It's been 24 years since I belonged to the organization as a student, and so much has changed, but the core values have remained the same. I can truly appreciate the mission of FBLA on the adviser side of this organization in a way I couldn't as a student because I couldn't possibly know how valuable the skills I would learn would become. It's changed my perspective in a way one can only have it changed through life experiences. Having that knowledge, I think I encourage my child to try more new things, to be braver about networking and communication than I would have been as a student member."

Beth Wilson noted that "Seth's involvement in FBLA has not changed my perspective of FBLA, but probably increased my desire to work to make membership be an instrumental springboard into success and realization of the life the student dreams of enjoying."

Jason Drinkard reinforced that perspective, adding, "I've always felt that all students would benefit from being a member of FBLA, especially now with how the organization has expanded. But, being able to watch what FBLA has helped my daughter to become, I will never not advocate for FBLA. I firmly believe she is who she is today because of her time in FBLA."

For the officers, having a parent serve as an adviser creates a unique dynamic. While FBLA already fosters strong connections, the added layer of family introduces both opportunities and challenges.

Gabe Smith acknowledged the impact directly: "My relationship with FBLA has been changed because my mom is my adviser! I probably never would have run for state office without her guidance and support."

Seth Wilson offered a slightly different perspective: "I don't think having a parent adviser changes your relationship with FBLA. The same opportunities are there for every student. However, it is very nice to have your parent be involved in it."

Ella Drinkard highlighted the deeper meaning behind the experience: "Having my dad as my adviser has made FBLA so much more meaningful to me. Knowing that we both served as District II Vice President makes me feel like I'm continuing something he started. It's brought us closer and created a bond that I don't think could have formed in any other way."

Despite any added pressure or expectations, each officer points to the influence their parent adviser has had on their growth.

Gabe Smith reflected on that support: "My journey through FBLA has been shaped by my mom and in the way she encourages me when things aren't going the way I hoped and in the way she helps me succeed."

Seth Wilson emphasized the role of support and encouragement in his journey: "While my relationship with FBLA hasn't changed with a parent being a part of it, my journey definitely has. My mom has always been a support system, encouraging me to take risks and be bold all throughout my high school career. She has supported me through every step, and has helped me grow into the leader I am today."

Ella Drinkard added, "My dad shaped my FBLA journey by encouraging me to take risks, like running for local office my freshman year. That experience showed me what true hard work and dedication look like behind the scenes. Throughout it all, he supported me not only academically, but emotionally, which made all the difference."

These shared experiences highlight the strength of FBLA's mission. More than competitions, conferences, or titles, FBLA creates lasting connections—ones that extend beyond chapters and into families. Parent advisers guiding their own children demonstrate how leadership, mentorship, and passion for FBLA can span generations.

As Kansas FBLA celebrates 75 years, this moment serves as a reminder that its impact does not end when a member graduates. Instead, it continues to grow, evolve, and, in some cases, come full circle.

Through the experiences of these officers and advisers, one thing is clear—FBLA is more than an organization. It is a legacy.

Beth Wilson Named Adviser of the Year



BETH WILSON, ADVISER AT GIRARD



SETH WILSON (LEFT) AND BETH WILSON (RIGHT)



(LEFT TO RIGHT) ALLISON HUBER, BETH WILSON, HARRISON BURKE

Beth Wilson, the current and longtime FBLA adviser at Girard High School, was awarded Adviser of the Year at the 2026 Kansas State Leadership Conference, a well-deserved honor for someone who has played a big role in the success of her program. Over her 18 years in FBLA, Wilson has helped build confident, driven students while creating a chapter focused on growth, leadership, and making a difference.

"Hearing my name be called to the stage as Adviser of the Year was a wonderful surprise," Wilson shared. "As I was standing up on the stage with Ms. Lindell and my son, I remembered last year when Lisa Beye was on stage receiving the award and how I thought, 'Yes, so deserving!' I had witnessed her get-things-done abilities and how she had developed high-achieving, confident students that were going to really be doing some amazing things with their lives. I hope that is what I am doing for my chapter members and the students in my classroom."

That care for students is what keeps Wilson going each day. She says a lot of her energy comes from the students she works with. "The energy of teenagers fuels me. I learn so much from them, whether it be guidance to understand the language of knowing what cap, rizz, drip, fit, and slaps mean in their Gen Z world or them showing me how to maneuver technology after a software update. They keep life lively, and I love it!"

Wilson believes in always giving her best to her students and knowing when it is time to step aside if she cannot. "If ever I lose the desire or grow too tired of hoping to make a positive difference in their lives, please let me realize that it is time to retire. Our next generation of leaders deserves us at our best." Her goal in FBLA is simple and clear. "My goal in FBLA is to work and encourage our chapter leaders and members to put in the effort to make our organization something we can all be proud of, by being the catalyst to make things better in the lives of our members, our school, and our community."

Wilson also shared her appreciation for the people who have supported her along the way. "Connie Lindell and Dawn Rottinghaus have both been an amazing support system and role models of giving your best to Kansas FBLA. I am grateful to the FBLA advisers that have mentored me in my 18 years with this organization and I am honored to be on the list of Kansas FBLA Adviser of the Year with so many truly amazing counselors for their students."

You can often find Beth with a bright smile, lifting others up with her positivity and encouragement. She is always putting others before herself, making sure her students feel supported, valued, and confident in what they do. Her willingness to give her time, energy, and care does not go unnoticed, and it creates a space where students feel motivated to grow and succeed. Through her dedication and care for her students, Beth Wilson shows what it means to be a great adviser. She leads by example and continues to make a lasting impact on the students around her.

Centralia FBLA Excels at SLC



Members of the Centralia FBLA chapter delivered an impressive performance at the State Leadership Conference held in Topeka on March 30-31. Out of the chapter's 38 members, 26 competed at the state level, with 11 earning top placements in their respective events.

Five Centralia students qualified to advance to the FBLA National Leadership Conference, including Jacie Koch in Career Portfolio and Job Interview, Keelyn Rempe in Future Business Educator, Hunter Albrecht in Network Design, Carter Lasky in Networking Infrastructure, and Keira Kramer in Intro to Business Procedures. In addition to their competitive success, the chapter also celebrated a historic achievement as Kaylee Olberding was elected as District VII Vice President and now serves as a state officer, marking the first time a Centralia FBLA member has earned this honor.

The chapter's strong showing reflects the hard work, dedication, and talent of its members as they continue to represent Centralia with pride on the state and national stage.

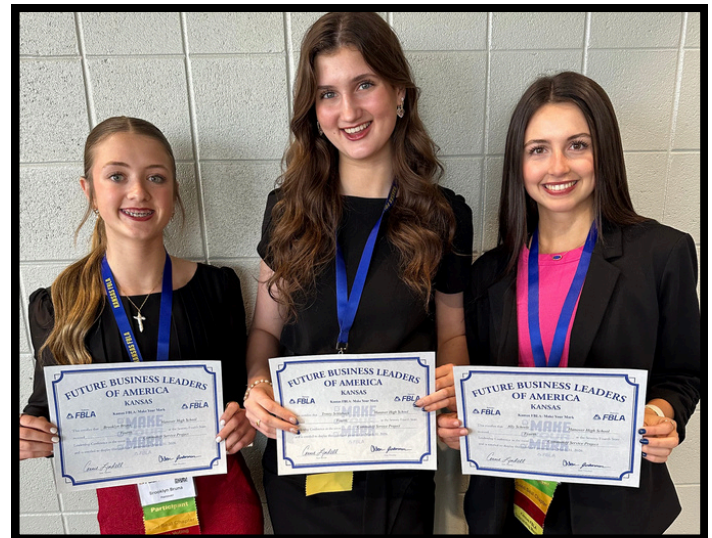
Emporia High School



COOPER VAHSHOLTZ, CHESNEY ERKEL, TALON KIRK, MARLEY HARTER, CARSON GEITZ & KAYLEE GILLILAND - EMPORIA HIGH SCHOOL PERFORMANCE EVENT TOP 10 PLACERS

Emporia High School had 15 students attend the SLC and 7 of those students placed in the top 10 in at least 1 event. Students enjoyed the opportunity to network with other chapters while competing in their respective events.

Hanover High School



TRINITY SCHLABACH, ALLY SCHEELE, & BROOKLYN BRUNA - HANOVER COMMUNITY SERVICE PROJECT PLACERS

Hanover had an excellent showing at this year's SLC. Hunter Kickhaefer was recognized for completing the BAA Advocate Level. The Community Service Project team of Ally Scheele, Trinity Schlabach, and Brooklyn Bruna placed fourth and qualified for NLC. Additionally, Audrie Minge placed fifth in Local Chapter Annual Business Report.

Washington County FBLA



KELLY ANNUNZIATO, MADISON LEDUC, ANNA GOECKEL, MACIE GEPNER, ALLISSON CISNEROS, MADISON LINK, SUSY PALLAIS

This year's State Leadership Conference was a successful and rewarding experience for Washington County FBLA. Members had the opportunity to showcase their business knowledge and skills through a variety of competitive events while also learning from other chapters and receiving valuable feedback from judges. As the school year comes to a close, the chapter has remained active by hosting meetings focused on reflecting on the past year and planning for the future. Washington County also elected new officers for the upcoming membership year, and the newly elected team has already begun preparing for summer activities and chapter goals. The chapter is now focused on preparing for the National Leadership Conference. This year's qualifiers include Layla Tholstrup, Alyssa Jueneman, Jayden Laflen, and Janessa Weiche. Members will compete in Digital Animation, Community Service Project, and Financial Statement Analysis. Qualifiers have continued preparing for competition by reviewing judges' feedback and refining their presentations and projects. To help support their trip to NLC, qualifiers hosted a free-will donation bake sale. Members dedicated many hours to baking goods and creating T-shirts for various groups and organizations as part of their fundraising efforts.

Andover High School



Andover High School had an outstanding performance at this year's SLC, with more than 20 event placers recognized throughout the conference. Their chapter will be sending 13 members to NLC this summer in San Antonio. In addition to their competitive success, Andover members have remained active in their community by hosting a Daddy-Daughter Dance fundraiser to help offset SLC expenses and support members attending conferences. The event provided a fun opportunity for community involvement while also helping the chapter continue its strong tradition of participation and achievement.

Wellsville

Wellsville High School had an excellent showing at SLC, earning several top-ten placements and qualifying 10 members for NLC. Additionally, several members collaborated on a state officer campaign for member Emmy Lytle. Recently, Wellsville has hosted several fundraisers to support members attending NLC, including a lemonade stand.

PHOTO: ELLIE STRAIN, NORA TAYLOR, OLIVER DWYER, EMMY LYTLE, RYKER ROBERTSON, RHEMI PASCAL, BLAKE LYMAN, AND JOSH TOMAN



Burlingame Junior/Senior High School

Burlingame FBLA earned the Gold Seal Chapter of Merit at the State Leadership Conference for the fourth consecutive year. The Local Chapter Annual Business Report team of Chloe Suddarth and Kaegen Ward placed fourth, while Kaegen Ward also earned fifth place in Introduction to Public Speaking. Chloe and Kaegen qualified to compete at the National Leadership



(FRONT TO BACK) GRACELYNN GRIFFIN, KAEDYNCE WARD, ELISE PRIM, LAUREN MIDDLETON, NATALEE WHITMORE, RILYNN BOWMAN, EVA WYATT, HARPER SEELÉ, CHLOE SUDDARTH, ROSLYN ATCHISON, DOMINIC GOOCH, KAEGEN WARD, TRISTEN HITT, NAVY VANDRUFF, AND NAHZIR AUSTIN

Conference in San Antonio. In the middle school division, the team of Gracelynn Griffin and Kaedynce Ward placed second in Annual Chapter Activities Presentation and fourth in Exploring Management & Entrepreneurship. Individually, Gracelynn Griffin placed third in Digital Citizenship, fourth in Exploring Business Concepts, and fourth in Exploring Technology. Kaedynce Ward placed sixth in Digital Citizenship, sixth in Exploring Business Concepts, fourth in Exploring Economics, and sixth in Exploring Technology. Burlingame FBLA also nominated Ryan and Chrissie Atchison for Kansas FBLA Businessperson of the Year. Both were recognized during the Awards of Excellence Ceremony. Additionally, Burlingame FBLA was recognized at the conference after being selected as the January Chapter of the Month. Kaegen Ward was also recognized for serving on the Active Membership Advisory Council. The following members were honored as Outstanding Members: Harper Seele, Chloe Suddarth, Kaegen Ward, Natalee Whitmore, and Eva Wyatt.

Summer Leadership Seminar



Make this summer one to remember by attending the 2026 Kansas FBLA Summer Leadership Seminar! This year's seminar will be held at the College of Business at Kansas State University and will provide members with opportunities to grow as leaders, connect with members from across the state, and prepare for the upcoming year. Attendees can look forward to engaging sessions, interactive workshops, and inspiring speakers throughout the seminar. Be sure to review this year's brochure below and visit www.kansasfbla.com for more details.



This year's schedule:

Registration (8:30-9:00a.m.)

General Session with Facilitator (9:00a.m.-12:00p.m.)

Lunch (12:00-1:30p.m.)

Breakout Session 1 (1:45-2:15p.m.):

- Ice Breakers
- Paving the Road to NLC 2027
- Building Business Partnerships

Breakout Session 2 (2:15-2:45p.m.):

- So YOU Want to be a State Officer
- Own the Stage
- Ignite Excitement Within

Breakout Session 3 (2:45-3:15p.m.):

- Shark Tank
- FBLA Jeopardy
- Speed Interviewing

Wrap Up (3:45-4:00p.m.)

Atchison High School

Since attending the Kansas FBLA State Leadership Conference, members of the Atchison High School FBLA chapter have remained involved in leadership, service, and community engagement. Our chapter is proud to continue representing our school and community while preparing for the upcoming National Leadership Conference. At the Kansas FBLA State Leadership Conference, our members competed in a variety of business and leadership events. Our chapter earned several outstanding accomplishments, placing 3rd in Broadcast Journalism, 2nd in Financial Planning, 6th in Future Business Educator, 5th in Future Business Leader, 3rd and 5th in Health Care Administration, 6th in National Who's Who in FBLA, 6th in Network Design, 4th in Public Service Announcement, 3rd in Social Media Strategies, and 4th in Technology Support & Services. These achievements reflect the hard work, dedication, and preparation of our members throughout the school year.

Following the conference, several FBLA members had the opportunity to speak at both the Atchison City Commission meeting and the USD 409 Board of Education meeting. During these presentations, students shared highlights from the state conference, discussed the impact FBLA has on leadership development, and informed community leaders about the students who qualified for the National Leadership Conference this summer. These experiences allowed members to strengthen their public speaking and professional communication skills while representing our chapter in a positive way. Our chapter has also focused heavily on fundraising efforts to help support students attending nationals. One of our most successful events was our Music Bingo fundraiser, which brought together students, families, staff, and community members for an evening of fun and friendly competition. The event helped raise funds while also increasing community awareness of FBLA and the opportunities it provides for students. In addition, our chapter organized a gift basket fundraiser featuring a variety of themed baskets donated and assembled by members and supporters. The fundraiser encouraged teamwork and creativity while helping students work toward their travel and conference expenses. As the school year comes to an end, our chapter continues preparing for the National Leadership Conference and looking for new ways to serve our school and community. We are thankful for the continued support from our administration, community leaders, parents, and sponsors who help make these opportunities possible for our members.

National Leadership Conference

The 2026 National Leadership Conference is quickly approaching, and we are excited to see Kansas FBLA represented in San Antonio this summer. NLC is an unforgettable experience filled with competitive events, leadership workshops, networking opportunities, and fun activities with members from across the country. As you prepare for the conference, make sure to review your event materials, practice presentations and objective tests, and stay organized before traveling. Most importantly, take advantage of every opportunity NLC has to offer. Attend workshops, meet new people, explore the exhibit hall, and make memories with your chapter and fellow members. Whether this is your first NLC or your last, the conference is a great opportunity to grow as a leader, build connections, and represent Kansas FBLA on the national stage.

KANSAS MEETING AT NLC

Kansas FBLA members and advisers attending NLC are invited to the Kansas Meeting on June 28 from 8:00 to 11:00 p.m. in the atrium of the San Antonio Marriott Hotel. This meet-and-greet style event will give chapters the opportunity to collect registration materials, Kansas pins, and scholarship checks while connecting with members from across the state. Attendees will also have the chance to meet the new Kansas FBLA State Officer Team before the conference begins. Stop by throughout the evening to connect with fellow Kansans and kick off an exciting week at NLC.

Kansas FBLA 2026 Pin Design

This year's Kansas FBLA pin design gives members a unique way to represent Kansas while connecting with members from across the country at the National Leadership Conference. Pin trading is a long-standing NLC tradition that allows members to meet new people, exchange state pins, and build lasting memories throughout the conference. Kansas FBLA members can purchase physical pins either by pre-ordering before NLC or by purchasing them on-site during the conference while supplies last.



DESIGNED BY LAUREN TAYLOR
(OLATHE SOUTH)



DESIGNED BY HENRY NELSON &
ISABELLE ECKLUND (HERINGTON)

2025-2026 Champion Chapters

GOLD

Burlington High School
Marysville High School
Rock Hills High School
Washington County High School

Girard High School
Olathe South High School
Solomon High School

Louisburg High School
Paola High School
Sterling High School

SILVER

Andover High School
Cherryvale High School
Kingman High School
Royal Valley High School

Atchison High School
Hanover High School
Pleasant Ridge High School
Santa Fe Trail High School

Centralia High School
Herington High School
Republic County High School
St Marys High School

BRONZE

Olathe East High School

Osawatomie High School