

Nebraska's Bright Ideas

Nebraska Future Business Leaders of America

Table of Contents

American Enterprise Project	3
FBLA Week.....	4
Fundraising	5
Partnership with Business	6
Professional Activities	7
Recruitment	8
School Service	11
Social Activities.....	12



American Enterprise Project

- **Blair** shadowed for a half day in local businesses to learn more about how the free enterprise system works.
- **Blair** members held a coloring project for the kindergarten students on future careers, so students would realize that the free enterprise system guarantees the right to choose a career. These pictures were displayed during FBLA Week at local banks and at the Chamber of Commerce.
- **Blair** surveyed several homerooms to determine what the students knew about the free enterprise system.
- **Cambridge** conducted a consumer survey showing what and why people buy locally or out of town.
- **Fairbury** members presented a skit to elementary students about the concepts of the American Enterprise system. The program incorporated information on the beginning of many companies that make products familiar to the children.
- **Gibbon** took pictures of all the business owners in Gibbon and wrote paragraphs about them to be compiled in a booklet for use as a business directory. Each business was asked how their business was started, what advice they would give to prospective entrepreneurs, etc.
- **Lyons-Decatur Northeast, Stanton and Waverly** held a poster contest for middle school or elementary students. The students created a poster of a business that they would like to own. Lyons-Decatur Northeast Chapter displayed the posters in the local bank.
- **Waverly** prepared an American Free Enterprise bulletin board.
- **Waverly** distributed and tabulated a survey to high school students about the American Enterprise system.
- **Waverly** created a flyer about the American Enterprise system for the grocery stores to put in sacks.
- **Waverly** wrote a skit on American Enterprise and presented it to the elementary students.
- **Waverly** had an American Enterprise coloring contest for the kindergarten class.
- The **Wymore Southern Chapter** read *The Berenstain Bears On the Job* book to elementary students.

FBLA Week

- **Blair** tours businesses during FBLA Week.
- **Cambridge, Gibbon, Lyons-Decatur Northeast** and **Neligh-Oakdale** members serve rolls and coffee for businesspeople during FBLA Week.
- **Elkhorn** honors the school secretaries during FBLA Week.
- **Fairbury** has an *FBLA Question of the Week*. The first ten people to submit a correct answer are rewarded.
- **Gibbon, Stanton** and **Wymore Southern** post stickers on the lockers.
- **Gibbon** once baked 600 cupcakes to deliver to everyone in school to celebrate FBLA Week.
- **Lyons-Decatur Northeast** has the mayor sign a proclamation during FBLA Week.
- **Lyons-Decatur Northeast** and **Omaha Northwest** have a different activity each day of FBLA Week such as a Business Dress-up Day or a Career Dress-up Day.
- **Neligh-Oakdale** and **Waverly** host a teacher appreciation breakfast.
- **Omaha Northwest** has business trivia each day of FBLA Week.
- **Osmond** raffled a Husker jacket with the proceeds donated to MADD.
- **Osmond** runs the concession stand and donates the profits to a local scholarship fund.
- **Osmond** and **Waverly** suggest putting an article about FBLA into a local newspaper.
- **Stanton** has a teacher appreciation day.
- **Stanton** sells and delivers candy grams.
- **Stanton** sends an FBLA member to speak to students during homeroom period.
- **Stanton** members receive FBLA buttons.
- **Twin River** designs a flyer to distribute to prospective members emphasizing the benefits of FBLA.
- **Waverly** has a different dress-up theme for each day of FBLA Week.
- The **Waverly FBLA Chapter** prepares an FBLA bulletin board.
- **Waverly** makes flyers promoting FBLA Week for the grocery stores to put into the sacks.
- **Waverly** makes FBLA placemats for local restaurants.
- **Waverly** puts an announcement on the radio about FBLA.
- **Waverly** puts an FBLA display in the display case by the office.
- **Waverly** advertises FBLA Week on the street marquee.
- **Waverly** hosted a career fair during FBLA Week.
- **Waverly** gives all of the career education teachers a flower.
- **Waverly** and **Wymore Southern** display FBLA posters around the school and community.
- **Wymore Southern** takes chapter field trips during FBLA Week.

Fundraising

- **Arlington** takes orders for roses and carnations in school colors during homecoming week. FBLA members distribute the flowers after school on the night of the homecoming game.
- **Arlington** bakes and sells Otis Spunkmeyer cookies for home junior high and high school sporting events. The profits from one night's sales went to MADD.
- **Blair** sells raffle tickets with the proceeds being used to award scholarships.
- **Blair** holds luncheons to raise funds.
- **Cambridge** suggests selling Watkins products.
- **Cambridge** and **Lyons-Decatur Northeast** hold cake raffles.
- **Elmwood-Murdock** held a silent auction during several home basketball games. Fans were able to bid on several donated items. This project raised more than \$1,000 for service projects.
- **Gibbon** sells and delivers balloons and flowers.
- **Gibbon** conducted a fun Save or Shave contest once to raise money for the March of Dimes. A teacher on staff agreed to shave his beard if the votes were in favor of it.
- **Gibbon** sells Tom Wat and Watkins merchandise.
- **Gibbon** bakes cookies and sells them after school.
- **Neligh-Oakdale** sells Christmas greenery.
- **Neligh-Oakdale** sells Antelope County Christmas ornaments.
- **Neligh-Oakdale** and **Waverly** members run a concession stand at several auctions.
- **Omaha Northwest** has a Club's Choice Food fundraiser where the top seller gets a prize.
- **Omaha Northwest** has candy sales and cookie sales.
- **Syracuse Chapter** members babysit the children of the Jaycees during the Jaycee's monthly meeting. The Jaycees pay the chapter \$10 and each family pays 50 cents per child.
- **Twin River** members prepare business cards for local business people and school staff.
- **Waverly** has a car wash in the summer.
- **Waverly** sells Otis Spunkmeyer cookies.
- **Wood River** has a 'Topless' Car Wash where the members charge extra to wash the top of the car.

Partnership with Business Project

- **Arlington** hosts a career and college fair for all junior high and high school students.
- **Aurora** members conduct a job-shadowing program. They host two breakfasts where students can meet the person they are to shadow and arrange a shadowing time and another as a culminating event to the project.
- **Aurora** organizes an annual Co-ed Golf Tournament. Teams of four, two businesspersons and two students, compete at the Aurora Country Club for the coveted title of the FBLA Golf Tournament champions.
- **Blair** members work in the gift shop in the local hospital, in thrift shops and at rummage sales to gain experience in retail sales.
- **Genoa** designs the monthly Chamber of Commerce newsletter and prepares mailing labels for all newsletters.
- **Gibbon** belongs to the local Chamber of Commerce. This membership provides the chapter with many opportunities to learn about various businesses.
- **Lyons-Decatur Northeast** and **Waverly** participate in the AT&T Investment Challenge.
- **Neligh-Oakdale** showed a Halloween movie at the local theater. The \$1 admission was donated to the March of Dimes.
- **Waverly** members designed brochures for area businesses in cooperation with the Chamber of Commerce to be placed in a Welcome to Waverly folder.
- **Waverly** tours at least two businesses during the year.
- **Waverly** has a job-shadowing program where members shadow business people of their choice.
- **Waverly** has at least two business professionals speak at their monthly meeting.
- **Wood River** has a Work World Success Day. Professionals in various fields are invited to present workshops to the student body.

Professional Activities

- **Blair** members celebrate Free Enterprise Day.
- **Blair** members tour local businesses.
- **Blair** works with the Chamber of Commerce.
- **Blair** submits articles about FBLA to the local newspaper.
- **Cambridge** invited a speaker to speak to their chapter and give a demonstration on videoconferencing. Jeff Ommert of Ommert Tech was the guest speaker.
- **Lyons-Decatur Northeast** gives a local Quality Member award and local Mr. and Ms. FBLA awards.
- **Lyons-Decatur Northeast** and **Waverly** hold an installation of officers and recognition night in May.
- **Neligh-Oakdale Chapter** members serve on the Neligh Chamber of Commerce as recording secretary and treasurer. They learn how to prepare the minutes of a meeting, the agenda and the cash flow report.
- **Twin River** members attend the annual Chamber of Commerce banquet and help prepare for it.
- **Waverly** presents to a member who is not an officer an Outstanding Member of the Year award.
- **Waverly** presents a certificate to an outstanding member from each class.
- **Waverly** presents a Businessperson of the Year award and a Business of the Year award.
- **Waverly** officers attend a leadership training seminar in June for the newly elected officers.
- **Wymore Southern** delivers cards to members' bosses on Boss's Day.
- **Wymore Southern** asks local business people to serve as speakers at chapter meetings.

Recruitment

- **Ainsworth FBLA** members spoke at freshmen orientation; they also had an ice cream social.
- **Arlington FBLA** had a pizza party and a barbeque to entice new members. They have also initiated a Mentoring Program where older FBLA members encourage freshmen to join by talking to the 8th grade English classes at the end of the year. Older members then are responsible for reminding the incoming freshmen about meetings at the start of the next school year.
- The **Ashland-Greenwood FBLA Chapter** sponsored a dance, a food feed party, and a pool party.
- **Aurora's** first meeting of the year is a hot dog roast and Frisbee golf night.
- **Aurora** recruits new members by sending the current chapter president to the middle school to speak to the freshmen class about FBLA and to encourage them to attend the hot dog roast.
- **Bellevue East** recruited new members with a game of laser tag and the promise of attending NFLC annually
- **Blair** holds an Activity Fair.
- **Blair** awards a limited number of free memberships.
- **Blair FBLA** sponsored a picnic for new members and spoke to their local business classes about FBLA. They also walked in the Homecoming parade and decorated local business windows.
- **Blair** and **Lyons-Decatur Northeast** host recruitment picnics.
- **Boone Central** made posters and used announcements to tell members about the fun activities they had planned.
- **Cambridge** officers talked to junior high students and had a scavenger hunt at the first meeting of the year. Students also participated in a pool party.
- **Cedar Rapids** offered ice cream cones at their first meeting. They also made use of flyers and announcements at their school.
- **Centennial** members visited junior high students. They also sponsored an ice cream social and barbeque.
- **Centura** talked to freshmen and showed a FBLA slideshow at their first meeting.
- **Chase County** had a picnic for all potential members with a large Subway party sandwich.

Recruitment (Cont'd)

- **Conestoga** had an assembly at the middle and high schools to talk about FBLA. They also had a slideshow that they presented at the assembly. They hosted a potluck dinner and recognized all FBLA members with locker notes and a newsletter.
- **Cozad** had a booth at Recruitment Day at their school, when all organizations tried to recruit new members at the beginning of the school year. They also had an ice cream social and pool party.
- **Crete** has a FBLA breakfast for all new and old members, and they put signs on the lockers of all 7th graders. They also hand out candy to people in the school who would join FBLA.
- **Deshler** members talked to freshmen.
- **Diller-Odell** hosted a Back-to-School Bash for old and new members and enticed members with a pool party.
- **Dundy County** showed an FBLA membership video at the first organizational meeting, and the officers did a skit. They also spoke to the freshmen about the benefits of FBLA.
- The **Elmwood-Murdock FBLA Chapter** planned their first meeting as a Fun Night. The Fun Night had games and snacks that related to a central theme. They gave points for bringing a junior high student to the Fun Night. Junior high students also helped high school FBLA members with fundraising and other activities throughout the year. Finally, the members spoke to business classes.
- **Elmwood-Murdock** adopted the theme *FBLA—Your Network to the Future*. Upon returning to school on the first day, potential members found spider rings and notes from the officer team inviting them to the first meeting.
- **Fairbury** sponsored a pool party to attract new members. Games, such as mini golf, cake walk, and balloon dart board game were played and food was served.
- **Fillmore Central** used a theme for their first meeting with the officers' attire matching the theme. Games and snacks also related to the theme. A skit was also presented at the meeting.
- **Gibbon** had a "5 Person Challenge" for all of the officers to recruit five members and to earn points.
- **Kearney** had an activities fair where non-members could win a \$20 gift certificate.

Recruitment (Cont'd)

- **Laurel-Concord** received the benefit of a trip at the end of the year, as well as candy and fun activities to entice membership.
- **Lincoln Northeast** had motivational activities at every meeting. They also had a Booster Blastoff and distributed handouts. Chapter members hung posters and flyers to promote FBLA as well.
- **Lyons-Decatur** sponsored a picnic in the park with food, music, and sand volleyball. The local officers talked to potential members.
- **Meridian** members had a Welcome Get-Together where the officers had games to play, and everyone ate free food.
- **Minden** sponsored a BYOB—Build Your Own Brownie Sundae—party for all members.
- **Mitchell** had a membership drive with posters, and they gave points for each new member that an old member brought to a meeting.
- **Mitchell Omaha Northwest** held a recruitment volleyball game.
- **Omaha Northwest** had a Freshman Information Night where interested students can come and play games and learn about FBLA.
- **Neligh-Oakdale** held a kick-off party. Food is served and a short meeting is held.
- **Neligh-Oakdale** placed encouragement and reminder notes about chapter activities in each student's locker.
- **Sandhills** promoted FBLA by holding a pizza and lasagna supper followed by a scavenger hunt and prizes for the winning team.
- **Syracuse** had an ice cream social one evening during the first or second week of school.
- **Waverly** selects a theme to be used during recruitment activities. They prepare a bulletin board following the theme and add members' names to the display when their dues are paid.
- **Waverly** officers visit all the business classes where they distribute a recruiting brochure that follows the theme, explain FBLA, show a video about FBLA and give a treat to the person holding a specially marked brochure.
- **Waverly** places the FBLA emblem on a member's locker once their dues have been paid.
- **Wymore Southern** recruits members by talking to students at the beginning of the year.
- **Wymore Southern** holds a recruitment party at the park with food and games.

School Service

- **Cambridge** members pick up trash after football games.
- The Extension Office is training **Fairbury** members in the Character Counts program. The members will make a presentation about personal character to the sixth grade class at the end of the training sessions.
- **Gibbon** washes and vacuums the school vehicles.
- **Gibbon** maintains the computer marquee.
- **Gibbon** invited elementary students to come after school to make posters for the local care home.
- **Sandhills** members designed and printed business cards for all staff and faculty. Each person received 10 free business cards.
- **Tri County** provides the dinner prior to the school's fall play. This is a form of dinner theatre.
- **Waverly** serves a breakfast for local secretaries on Secretary's Day.
- **Waverly** gives flowers to the secretaries in the district's schools during Secretary's Week.
- **Waverly** presents two FBLA scholarships.
- **Waverly** welcomes a new teacher and welcomes back a returning teacher. They give the selected teachers flowers, cards or treats.
- **Waverly** decorates the classroom doors for Christmas.
- **Waverly** provides treats for different organizations' competitions and plays throughout the year.
- On Teacher Appreciation Day, **Waverly** puts treats in the faculty study, holds a breakfast, and has members sign up to be a teacher's assistant for the day.
- **Waverly** provides refreshments for the teachers at the Waverly Education Association meetings.
- **Waverly** members sign up to clean the area around the school. They pick up trash around the school building, wash the windows in the entrances and tend to the school's commons areas.

Social Activities

- **Blair** has picnics and fun activities at chapter meetings.
- **Twin River** conducted a scavenger hunt where members worked together to locate the items on the list by looking on the Internet or on saved files.
- **Gibbon** held a BYOB (Bring Your Own Banana) party.
- **Gibbon** held a BYOT (Build Your Own Taco) party.
- **Omaha Northwest** has a Halloween hayrack ride.
- **Omaha Northwest** has a potluck Christmas dinner and gift exchange.
- **Sandhills** holds an annual fun day, which consists of a trip to one of the bigger cities. The members enjoy fun activities such as shopping, movies, recreational centers and miniature golf.
- **Syracuse's** December meeting the members Christmas carol at high school teachers' homes. After caroling they have hot chocolate, cookies and a \$5 gift exchange.
- **Waverly** holds a scavenger hunt during the first week in October as a get-aquainted activity. Following the activity, the officers then talk about the state reports the chapter will complete.
- **Waverly** members eat pizza together after caroling.
- **Waverly** holds an end-of-the-year picnic.
- **Waverly** held an FBLA lock-in.