

2024-2025

Local Chapter Annual Business Report



Presented by:

Jessica Haggerty
Alisabeth Guepet
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Stroudsburg High School

Stroudsburg, PA

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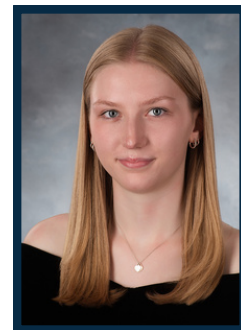
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State of the Chapter

February 17, 2025

Future Business Leaders of America
Stroudsburg High School
1100 W Main Street
Stroudsburg, PA 18360



Dear Fellow Stroudsburg FBLA Members:

Future Business Leaders of America is the largest student business organization in the nation. This organization provides our members with numerous leadership development opportunities, gives them the chance to participate in community service activities, the chance to learn about a possible career in the business world, and, of course, earn special recognition through competitive events and different awards offered by FBLA.

This was an amazing year for Stroudsburg FBLA! Our chapter was once again recognized as the Largest Local Chapter in Pennsylvania. We were proud to earn the William E. Selden Outstanding Chapter Award at the 2024 State Leadership Conference (SLC). Our dedication to the state project was shown with our 4th Place Award for our donation to Special Olympics. Stroudsburg's passion for volunteering was shown with our 3rd Place Most Community Service Hours with 1,975.25 hours in total. One of our members, Leyla Yilmaz, placed 3rd in the state for individual community service hours. Seven of our members were selected for the National Business Honor Society. In total, seven members advanced to the National Leadership Conference (NLC), and two placed in the top ten throughout the nation in Orlando, Florida. In addition to this, we received the Gold Seal Chapter Award of Merit.

The first half of the 2024-2025 school year has been filled with numerous successes. This year we had the opportunity to continue our community service by participating in football concessions, volunteering at a local church food pantry, and stuffing stockings for a local elementary school. Your efforts for recruitment to continue the great legacy of Stroudsburg FBLA are evident, and are also greatly appreciated. Our FBLA members have continued to show outstanding achievement individually as well as working as a team. I have watched this club grow throughout the year, and it warms my heart to see such leadership and success within our local chapter. Your chapter officers and I have been working very hard to help make this the best year ever for Stroudsburg FBLA!

Sincerely,

Jessica Haggerty

Jessica Haggerty

Stroudsburg High School FBLA Chapter President

Chapter Information



SCHOOL PROFILE

Stroudsburg High School is located in northeastern Pennsylvania, in a town with a population of about 6,000 people. Our school mascot is the Mountaineer and the school colors are maroon and white. We are home to about 1,200 students in grades 10-12 and about 400 in grade 9, which is housed at Stroudsburg Junior High School. Stroudsburg FBLA offers membership to all students in grades 9-12.

CHAPTER MEMBERSHIP

In the last few years, Stroudsburg FBLA has maintained a streak of excellence with chapter membership. It is the hope of each year's officer team to increase the number of members within the chapter. Stroudsburg FBLA currently consists of 197 active members.

CHAPTER HISTORY

Stroudsburg High School's chapter was chartered in the 1984-1985 school year by Mrs. Vicki Celin after she recognized the importance of an organization that can prepare students for careers in business through academic competitions, community service, and leadership development opportunities. Since its beginning 40 years ago, the chapter has been led by six different advisers. Mrs. Jodie Haggerty, the current adviser of Stroudsburg FBLA, has poured her heart and soul into this organization and heavily encourages student involvement at the regional, state, and national levels.

STROUDSBURG FBLA ADVISERS

1984-1987	Mrs. Vicki Celin
1987-1994	Mrs. Jane Possinger
1994-1997	Mrs. Karen Nace
1997-2012	Mrs. Pat Rufe
2012-2022	Mrs. Kathy Sickler
2022-Present	Mrs. Jodie Haggerty



Officer Application Process

In March 2024, interested FBLA members had the opportunity to apply for a chapter officer position for the upcoming school year. The process to apply consisted of a written letter to our adviser, Mrs. Jodie Haggerty, expressing their interest in one of the 12 officer positions. Once applications were received applicants were scheduled for an in-person interview with our local chapter advisers, Mrs. Jodie and Mrs. Stacy Stephani. Stroudsburg FBLA gives an opportunity to our freshmen at the junior high school to apply for an officer position as a Freshman Representative. This position allows there to be communication between the senior and junior high schools. The Freshman Representative is appointed by our adviser, Mrs. Stephani.

2024-2025 Officer Team





Meet the Team



JESSICA HAGGERTY
PRESIDENT

Jessica has been a member of FBLA and a chapter officer for four years. She also served as Region 21 Secretary for two years. She is a NBHS member and a one time national qualifier. She looks forward to traveling to states for a fourth time to compete in the performance event of Broadcast Journalism.



ALISABETH GUEPET
CO-SENIOR VICE PRESIDENT

Alisabeth has been a member of FBLA since her freshman year, and has been an officer since her sophomore year. She is a NBHS member and has completed 3 BAAs. She looks forward to traveling and competing at the SLC for the fourth time in the performance event of Broadcast Journalism.



WILLIAM AWUAH
CO-SENIOR VICE PRESIDENT

William has been an FBLA member for 4 years, a chapter officer for 2 years, and a regional officer for 1 year. He is mainly involved in competitive events, competing in Intro to Business Procedures, Data Analysis, and Computer Applications. He is a 4 year SLC qualifier, NBHS member, and has completed 2 out of 4 BAA's.

Program of Work

GOAL #1: INCREASE OVERALL MEMBERSHIP

- Host an FBLA Fair at the first meeting to have a fun first introduction to the club
- Jr. High Recruitment Event at the Junior High School
- Encourage more upperclassmen to join the organization
- Host different celebrations throughout the year, such as a 40 years of Stroudsburg FBLA party



GOAL #3: INCREASE NUMBER OF PARTICIPANTS IN COMPETITIVE EVENTS

- Provide more support for members who want to compete
- Describe competitive events and competitions in greater detail so members have a better understanding
- Host study sessions and form connections between members who have competed in events and members who are new to competitions



GOAL #2: CONTINUE OUR POSITIVE INVOLVEMENT IN THE COMMUNITY

- Work with our local churches in their soup kitchens and food pantries
- Continue to participate and volunteer at the Quiet Valley Living Historical Farm events
- Encourage members to participate in their own personal connections, such as volunteering in their local communities



ACTIVITIES TO BENEFIT THE CHAPTER AND ITS MEMBERS



Recruitment Activities

Presentations

Our chapter vice presidents, William Awuah and Alisabeth Guepet, created two slideshow presentations for the students at Stroudsburg Junior High School. One presentation provided information on the benefits of joining FBLA, while the other showcased specific competitive events to students in various business electives. All officers showcased the main presentation in different history classes at Stroudsburg Junior High School. The teachers were kind enough to let us occupy a portion of their class time. At the end of the presentation, we handed out membership forms to freshmen who displayed interest in joining the chapter.

Activities Fair

Officers and members set up an informative table at the school annual activities fair. There was a trifold poster, FBLA banners, and trophies from our most recent conferences on the table. We hosted a recruitment contest to grow interest within students who were not already FBLA members. This also encouraged our current members to reach out to their fellow classmates about joining FBLA.

FBLA Fair

To kick off the start of the 2024-2025 FBLA year, the SHS FBLA officer team created multiple posters on their own time to display all the enticing aspects of FBLA to prospective members. Posters included information about competitive events, volunteer opportunities, fundraising goals, and programs that promote the principles of FBLA, such as Pennsylvania Free Enterprise Week.

Open House

In October 2024, members of SHS FBLA set up a table in the lobby of the school to sell Liz Tech Pins and Gertrude Hawk Candy Bars, as well as hand out membership forms to prospective members. This opportunity was very useful for recruitment as both parents and students were able to learn about the benefits FBLA offers.

ACTIVITIES TO BENEFIT THE CHAPTER AND ITS MEMBERS

Leadership Development

Stroudsburg FBLA aspires to develop tenacious, competent, and successful business leaders.

Our officers and members progress in leadership through competitive events, which are practiced intensely with many faculty members from our high school, and community service opportunities, which foster growing networks for our chapter and members. Stroudsburg FBLA strives to promote leadership by encouraging members to indulge in FBLA programs like The Stock Market Game, and the Virtual Business Challenge.

Officer Meetings

In preparation for upcoming meetings, Mrs. Haggerty and the officer team devote their time to creating the meeting agenda. Officers Alisabeth Guepet, Rebecca Dishong, William Awuah, and Jessica Haggerty are enrolled in an Office Apprenticeship class, where the officers update and print attendance sheets in addition to planning meeting agendas for all officers. Through these meetings, the officers strengthen their communication and leadership skills that help them develop into strong leaders in the future.

Elections

By participating in local, regional, and state elections, members and officers have the opportunity to learn valuable social and interpersonal skills for the future. At the regional level this year, sophomore member Mason Ulmer ran, but was not elected for the position of Region 21 Treasurer.

Conferences

Stroudsburg FBLA consistently attends the multiple workshops and conferences offered by FBLA. All members are given the opportunity to participate in competitive events, in which they compete at regional, state, and national conferences. These conferences not only allow members to compete but also give them a chance to learn valuable life skills from the workshops and keynote speakers. Members have the opportunity to meet and engage with other FBLA members around the state and country.

ACTIVITIES TO BENEFIT THE CHAPTER AND ITS MEMBERS

CAREER PREPARATION AND EXPLORATION:

Stroudsburg High School offers many different business courses to help members in career exploration and preparation. These courses introduce students to business, financial, legal, and technological knowledge. Many FBLA members are enrolled in these business classes and take advantage of the early exposure to business education. The diverse list of courses offered to students gives them the opportunity to study many different topics. Our members are highly encouraged to enter competitive events of their choice to give them the opportunity to advance to state and national-level conferences. Recognition for outstanding performances at the competitions gives incentives to students. During meetings, members are given different resources like books, websites, and various tips on each event.

BUSINESS COURSES AT STROUDSBURG HIGH SCHOOL	
Accounting	International Business
Accounting 2	Introduction to Business
Accounting 3	Keyboarding
Advanced Web Page Design	Marketing
Advanced Computer Applications	Microsoft Office Specialist
Business Law	Office Apprenticeship
Business Practice & Procedures	Personal Finance
Career Planning	Read, Write, Code
Computer Skills	Virtual Animation
Entrepreneurship	Web Page Design



BUSINESS PARTNERSHIPS

Two years ago, we added a new chairperson position to our officer team: Chairperson of Business Partnerships. The person appointed in this position has the responsibility of recruiting local businesses to support our efforts as a chapter. They help build relationships between these businesses and FBLA with the hope of receiving sponsors for our various chapter activities. Jaden Harper has served in this position for 2 years, helping tremendously with our outreach through a new creation of donation request letters, and outreach to local businesses.



CHAPTER FUNDRAISING

Christmas Wreaths

Everyone loves Christmas wreaths during the holiday season. Our FBLA members sell Christmas wreaths to their family, friends, and teachers for \$23 dollars each. There's a choice of a red, ivory, or burgundy ribbon. We sold a total of 121 wreaths and earned \$690.75. Our top seller this year was Abby Hevener.

Gertrude Hawk Candy

We sell a variety of different treats during the holiday season with the Gertrude Hawk catalogs. FBLA members are highly encouraged to participate. To help engage our members we implemented a competition and prize for the top seller. This year our top seller was Abby Hevener, and we raised \$2691.20 as a chapter.

Stroudsburg FBLA Apparel

We designed t-shirts and crewneck sweatshirts in our school colors for members to wear at school. The money raised will go towards the scholarship fund for our senior officers.

Snap! Raise

This year, we used an online fundraising service called Snap! Raise to help raise funds for our chapter. Each member is responsible for setting up an account with emails and phone numbers from family and friends. This service is solely donation-based. While this fundraiser will help increase our donations to our State and National projects, funds from this service are also used to help lower the SLC cost for students that set up donation accounts. As of the end of January, we have raised over \$11,000 as a chapter.

Public Relations & Chapter Publicity

Announcements

Our High School Principal, Mr. Jeffrey Sodl, makes important announcements regarding FBLA through the intercom in school. Flyers were used to recruit new members and tell of our upcoming meetings and events. We asked all business and history teachers to hang them up in their classrooms. Throughout the year, we also have opportunities to display our chapter achievements on televisions that are placed in the most visited areas of our high school.

Agenda

For every meeting, our chapter president and our adviser create an agenda to inform members of upcoming events and the activities of our chapter. This agenda is then distributed to all members and posted on Google Classroom for all members to stay updated.

Social Media

Stroudsburg FBLA uses numerous social networking sites to communicate with current and prospective members. Stroudsburg FBLA currently uses Twitter, Facebook, Snapchat, and Instagram to keep all members updated with events, fundraisers, meetings, and general information. Our reporter, Nichole Ogwu, updates the social media accounts regularly.

The Mountaineer

Stroudsburg FBLA is actively featured in the school newspaper, "The Mountaineer". Three of our officers write for the newspaper, with Alexis Binikos serving as Editor-in-Chief. This year, articles covered our first FBLA Fair, the presentations at the Junior High School, and the senior officers' trip to Ohio for the NFLC.

The Penn Pal

Stroudsburg FBLA proudly published an article in the Pennsylvania FBLA's newspaper "The Penn Pal" this year. Our secretary, Alexis Binikos, wrote the article on the senior officers' trip to Ohio for the NFLC. This article reported on the officers experience attending the conference for the first time and how the opportunity benefited the chapter as a whole.

Projects

State Projects

- **Red Cross:** The 2024-2025 State Project for this year is the American Red Cross. SHS FBLA has contributed to this cause through our involvement in the SLW Basket Auction, as well as our current online fundraiser, Snap! Raise. Our goal is to raise \$2,500 as a chapter for this organization.
- **Big 33 Community Service Project:** Stroudsburg members submitted their community service hours to this project. Our two Chairpersons of Community Service, Gigi Parker and Lile Bekaia have worked diligently to record our chapter's hours every month. As a result of the recorded hours, chapters and members received recognition and awards at the State Leadership Conference.

National Projects

- **Business Achievement Awards:** Our current highest members are our Senior Vice Presidents, Alisabeth Guepet and Will Awuah, at the Advocate level. Along with that, we have 12 members who have completed at least the Contributor Level.
- **FBLA Week:** From February 9 - 15, Stroudsburg FBLA celebrated FBLA week. To make it a fun week, we held a goose-chase activity for FBLA members, as well as a dress-up day to participate in, with a prize of FBLA merchandise. Additionally, live videos and Zoom meetings were held to get members familiar with their state and national officers through games and discussions.

Community Service Projects

- **Football Concession Stands:** Stroudsburg FBLA members helped sell food and drinks at the concession stand throughout the football season. They helped on Friday nights and Saturday mornings for both the varsity and junior varsity games.
- **Stocking Stuffers:** This winter, SHS FBLA organized a Stocking Stuffer fundraiser for one of the local K-4 schools, Arlington Elementary School. They provided a list of items their students needed and our members and their families had the opportunity to donate toiletries, candies, school supplies, socks, etc. In total, 56 stockings were assembled for the children of Arlington Elementary. We were recognized by our school's newspaper, *The Mountaineer*, Pennsylvania FBLA's newspaper, *Penn Pal*, and my our local news station, WNEP.
- **Teens Teach Tech:** In October, we met with a representative from Teens Teach Tech for a new volunteer opportunity. Through teaching local community members valuable technology skills, we had the opportunity to raise money for our chapter. We held two sessions to educate parents and Stroudsburg staff throughout the month of November.
- **Volunteering at the Stroudsburg United Methodist Church Soup Kitchen:** On select Saturdays and Sundays, a local church in our area offers a free soup kitchen for homeless individuals in our area. FBLA members have the chance to sign up each weekend to help make and serve food.
- **Additional Events:** Each year, we volunteer at many events in our community. This includes participating in activities at Quiet Valley Living Historical Farm, volunteering at the Christ Episcopal Church food pantry, and helping with activities during Craftfest and Musicfest.

STATE LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE

This 2024 Conference was held in Hershey, Pennsylvania. We had 58 members attend, 4 of them placing as national qualifiers. As they waited to learn of their placements in their events, our members attended many informative workshops and visited booths from colleges all over Pennsylvania. Objective test takers studied their reference materials in order to perform exceptionally well. Competitive events that required presentations were given at the conference and judged in person, and placements were announced during the Awards of Excellence Program.

NATIONAL LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE

The 2024 Conference was held in Orlando, Florida. Nine members were in attendance, and participated in workshops held at the Convention Center, while continuing to practice and study for their competitive events. They were also in attendance at FBLA Night held in Universal Studios. Members and chaperones got the chance to visit many of the highlights of Orlando, such as Disney Springs and a dinner at Dave & Busters.

REGIONAL LEADERSHIP WORKSHOP

The RLW was hosted at East Stroudsburg University in October. The SHS officer team was in attendance for a fun day of leadership building. William Awuah, Vice President, led members through the emblem ceremony with his fellow regional officers. The chapters in attendance participated in a competition where members created a local business that would aid the community. The officers created a poster to present to the judges. They were able to secure third place in this innovative competition.

Conferences & Recognition



STATE LEADERSHIP WORKSHOP

In November, 24 members traveled to Kalahari Resort & Conference Center to attend the SLW. Stroudsburg was able to stay overnight at the resort to take advantage of all of the amenities offered. The days were spent participating in leadership-building workshops with other FBLA members from across the state. The officers had the opportunity to participate in the leadership workshops. Stroudsburg donated two baskets to the basket auction to raise money for the Red Cross. As a chapter, Stroudsburg participated in the Battle of the Chapters and the Goosechase competition.

NATIONAL FALL LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE

The seven senior members of Stroudsburg FBLA's officer team traveled to Columbus, Ohio in November for the NFLC. This was Stroudsburg's first time attending the conference in many years, and the senior officers enjoyed attending workshops, listening to keynote speakers, and exploring the city.

REGIONAL LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE

The RLC was held on January 2nd at Palmerton High School. Many of our competitors were in attendance and patiently waited in anticipation to find out the results. The conference had begun with officer speeches, and a keynote speaker from the Red Cross. The regional officer candidates gave their speeches, including our very own Mason Ulmer for Region 21 Treasurer. At the end of the evening, we had over 60 members advance to the 2025 SLC.

Other Chapter & Individual Recognition



Chapter

- 1st Place Largest Local Chapter
- 3rd Place Most Community Service Hours with 1,975.25 hours
- 4th Place State Project Top Fundraiser
- Chapter Champion - Gold
- Gold Seal Chapter Award
- William H. Selden Outstanding Chapter Award of Merit

Individual

- Business Achievement Award (Advocate) - Alisabeth Guepet, Will Awuah
- Business Achievement Award (Leader) - Will Awuah, Zoey Charles, Rebecca Dishong, Alisabeth Guepet, Leyla Yilmaz, Jessica Haggerty
- Business Achievement Award (Contributor) - Will Awuah, Lile Bekaia, Alexis Binikos, Zoey Charles, Rebecca Dishong, Alisabeth Guepet, Jessica Haggerty, Jaden Harper, Nichole Ogwu, Gabriella Parker, Leyla Yilmaz, Zaynah Wade
- National Business Honor Society - William Awuah, Alexis Binikos, Jake Chung, Rebecca Dishong, Alisabeth Guepet, Jessica Haggerty, Hannah Helm
- 3rd Place Largest Number of Individual Volunteer Hours: Leyla Yilmaz (207 hours)

2024 State Leadership Conference Winners

*** = advanced to the 2024 National Leadership Conference in Orlando, Florida

Second Place

Data Analysis: William Awuah***

Digital Animation: Owen Christian***

Introduction to Business Concepts: Giancarlo Shakai***

Third Place

Introduction to Business Procedures: Mason Ulmer***

Sixth Place

Digital Video Production: Zoe Marie Brown, Jake Chung, and Isaiah Louis-Jacques***

Introduction to FBLA: Zoey Charles

Introduction to Social Media Strategy: Tess Nowosad and Kara Schomberg

Public Service Announcement: Madison Cottle, Kayla Gerard, and Nicole Valderrama

Seventh Place

Healthcare Administration: Zaynah Wade***

Introduction to Parliamentary Procedures: Eva Troiani

Local Chapter Annual Business Report: Madison Cottle, Jessica Haggerty, and Jaden Harper

Eighth Place

Coding and Programming: Ryan Jean

Introduction to Event Planning: Sandy Gravesande

Spreadsheet Applications: Logan Decker

Ninth Place

Business Calculations: Kona Maronpot***

Tenth Place

Accounting 2: Blake Gray



2025 Regional Leadership Conference Winners

1st Place

Broadcast Journalism: Alisabeth Guepet, Jessica Haggerty, and Gabriella Parker

Business Law: Aryanna Vidaic

Economics: Giancarlo Shakai

Healthcare Administration: Zaynah Wade

Introduction to Business: Mason Ulmer

Introduction to Information Technology: Lile Bekaia

Introduction to Marketing Concepts: Ella Finlayson

Organizational Leadership: Iris Heter

Public Policy & Advocacy: Sandy Gravesande

Securities and Investments: Kingston Jones

Social Media Strategies: Tess Nowosad and Kara Schomberg

2nd Place

Accounting 2: Matthew Carr

Banking and Financial Systems: Matthew Sanchez

Broadcast Journalism: Isie Miller, Nyla Stewart, and Liam Munian

Client Service: Leyla Yilmaz

Financial Math: Kona Maronpot

Introduction to FBLA: Mallory Eberz

Introduction to Social Media Strategy: Elizabeth Alekseyev and Anaya Hein

Sports & Entertainment Marketing: Alexander Roman

Visual Design: Luka Gogilashvili and Hridita Hossain

Word Processing: Jaden Harper

3rd Place

Advertising: Jordyn Lippin-Worelds

Agribusiness: Mackenzie Dalton

Business Communications: Noelani Gonzalez

Client Service: Jayden Cespedes

Computer Applications: William Awuah

Graphic Design: Ann Alekseyev, Kaidin Hein, and Julianna Vo

Healthcare Administration: Allison Fazio

Introduction to Business Communications: Isabella Trunk

Introduction to FBLA: Kieran Clingingsmith

Introduction to Information Technology: Austin Fritz

Introduction to Public Speaking: Julia Sauerman

Personal Finance: Karis Wilkins

2025 Regional Leadership Conference Winners



4th Place

Introduction to Business Concepts: Sophia Cartigiano

Introduction to Business: Sasha Castle

Introduction to Information Technology: Adam Fritz

Introduction to Parliamentary Procedures: Eva Troiani

5th Place

Accounting 1: James Lee

Business Law: Kaleigh Sarjoo

Introduction to Business: Lorie Sobieszczuk

Introduction to Financial Math: Soham Patel

Introduction to Marketing Concepts: Dominic Decusatis

Introduction to Parliamentary Procedure: Matthew Schulman

Sports & Entertainment Marketing: Santino Baxter, Christopher Brady, and Alysha Coker

6th Place

Business Law: Reagan Scelza

Economics: Peter Leyba

Introduction to Business Communication: Abby Hevener

Introduction to Business Communication: Olivia Selena

Introduction to Business Concepts: Grace Carr

Introduction to FBLA: Alexandra Zambri

Introduction to Parliamentary Procedure: Nhyle Barron

Financial Math: Sophia Lin

State Only Event Qualifiers

Business Educator: Becca Dishong

Business Plan: Keira King, Shyla Morrison

Digital Animation: Jacob Pachter, Nichole Ogwu, and Zoey Charles

Digital Animation: Eshaal Sohail and Harmony Ufodu

Digital Video: Ana Karataseva and Jack Ozkul

Intro to Programming: Chudi Ogbolu

