

Montana FCCLA Fall Mailer – Part 2

NEW – Occupational Course Approval Form

Definition of an Occupational Course: A high school course in a specific FCS area or program of study that concentrates on in-class learning and on-the-job training in preparation for paid employment in that subject area. Examples include the ProStart curriculum for Culinary Arts training and in-house pre-schools or daycares for Early Childhood Education students.

As outlined in the FCCLA National Bylaws, the State Department of Education determines offered Family & Consumer Sciences classes as comprehensive or occupational. **Starting this year, it will be the responsibility of the FCS Education Specialist at the Office of Public Instruction to approve classes as occupational, thus allowing members to affiliate as occupational.** Since our FCS curriculum in Montana is local control, almost all programs are comprehensive to meet the wide needs of the student population. Very few programs offer a true program of study with an occupational focus in only a few subject areas (Culinary Arts, Early Childhood Education). To ensure an even playing field for all Montana FCCLA members, any chapter choosing to affiliate occupational members will first need to complete the Occupational Course Approval Form and submit to the Office of Public Instruction for review. Chapters may not affiliate a member as occupational until this request has been approved on an annual basis by the Office of Public Instruction. If the request is not approved, justification will be provided to the chapter. *Once a course is approved as occupational, it is the adviser's ethical responsibility to affiliate members as occupational only if they have taken or are currently taking the occupational course.*

If a chapter affiliates members as occupational without completing the form this year, the chapter adviser will be contacted with a request to complete the form. If a request is made and not approved, the chapter adviser will be asked to switch any occupationally affiliated students to comprehensive through National FCCLA.

The new Occupational Course Approval Form is attached. This form will also be posted on the website for accessibility. Please complete and return via email if you have an occupational course you would like reviewed for approval.

2011 National Cluster Meetings

Raising the Bar is the theme for this year's cluster meetings. The meetings will be held November 11 – 13 in Denver, CO and Minneapolis, MN and November 18 – 20 in Atlanta, GA. For the most current information, please visit the National FCCLA website. Montana's National Officer, Ariana Lake, will be one of the National Officers in attendance at the Denver, CO meeting.

Many Montana chapters are discussing plans to attend via email as well as the Montana FCCLA Chapter Advisers Facebook group. I will not be attending Clusters due to Big Sky Pathways

meetings and funding. However, if your chapter is attending one of the meetings, please let me know so that I can connect chapters that might be attending the same meeting.

2011 – 2012 State Advisory Board

The current list of the State Advisory Board members can be found on the Montana FCCLA website. Nancy Linnell from Sunburst is the chairperson, Cathe Felz from Three Forks is the vice chair, and Janet Stickney from Plevna is the secretary.

Affiliation

When you are recruiting for new members this year, please remember to follow the membership requirements of our organization – members must have taken or are currently taking an FCS course. Middle school and junior high FCS classes DO count toward this requirement. State Staff do not check to be sure each chapter is following the rules, as we count on the Chapter Adviser to check to be sure members are eligible for affiliation.

Competitive Events PowerPoint

Wondering how to explain all the Competitive Events options to your members? Or, are you still getting it figured out as a Chapter Adviser? Either way, Leah Stout, State Office of Competitive Events, has created and posted a Competitive Events PowerPoint on the Montana FCCLA website (under forms/documents – under STAR/Proficiency Events) for your use. Consider using it in an FCCLA class or chapter meeting when discussing possible ideas for your chapter this year. There is much more to FCCLA than STAR Events, so share this information with your members so they can think about what they'd like to be involved in this year.

A few Competitive Event reminders:

- Family & Consumer Sciences Knowledge Bowl:
 - The first level must be completed online between September 1 and October 1!
- Membership Recruitment Video Contest
 - Submissions due October 30, 2011
- FCCLA Week Poster Design
 - Submissions due October 30, 2011
- Skill Demonstration Events will take place at Cluster Meetings

For more information, please go to <http://www.fcclainc.org/content/competitive-events/>.

Montana FCCLA Website Updates

The Montana FCCLA website has been getting updated this month in an attempt to make sure you have the most current access at your fingertips. A few highlights to mention include new pictures on the home page, about page, and the SEC page. The forms/documents page has been updated with information for this year. And, coming soon will be a new page designated for the State Outreach Project! Be sure to check it out at www.mtfccla.org.

New Advisers

Please welcome the following new (or relocated) advisers to our organization. And, please offer them support while they work to figure out how to manage their new responsibility!

- Melody Lee, Conrad FCCLA
- Kally Lowney, Valier FCCLA
- Haley Kovanda, Huntley Project FCCLA
- Amy Walker, Carter County FCCLA
- Amanda Matdies, Flathead FCCLA
- Heather McMorris, Poplar FCCLA
- Dani Stark, C M Russell FCCLA – new chapter in District 9!
- Sandy Duchateau, Powell County FCCLA – new chapter in District 6/7!

State Outreach Project Flyer

Looking for additional information to share with your chapters on the new State Outreach Project? Please share this flyer designed by our State Officer of Community Service, Sydney Allard, with your members. This flyer will be posted on the website soon for your convenience.

Calendar of Events

October 5, 2011 – FCCLA District 4 Fall Meeting, Forsyth, MT
October 5, 2011 – FCCLA District 8 Fall Meeting, Glasgow, MT
October 9 – 12, 2011 – FCCLA Capitol Leadership, Washington, DC
October 19, 2011 – New CTE Professionals Workshop (including new FCCLA Chapter Adviser Training), Great Falls, MT (*Information to follow*)
October 25, 2011 – FCCLA District 10 Fall Meeting, Billings, MT
November 1, 2011 – FCCLA District 9 Fall Meeting, Lewistown, MT
November 8, 2011 – FCCLA District 11 Fall Meeting, Dillon, MT
November 11 – 13, 2011 – FCCLA National Cluster Meetings, Denver, CO & Minneapolis, MN
November 14, 2011 – FCCLA District 3 Fall Meeting, Havre, MT
November 18 – 20, 2011 – FCCLA National Cluster Meetings, Atlanta, GA
December 6, 2011 – FCCLA District 2 Fall Meeting, Three Forks, MT
March 25 – 27, 2012 – Montana FCCLA State Leadership Conference, Billings, MT