"But, I don’t have time!" ~ Managing Competitive Events in the FACS Classroom

Tips for Student and Adviser Success October 2016

With today’s educational emphasis on accountability and student achievement, FCCLA’s competitive events program provides a ready-made framework for documenting student achievement. Match a STAR Event or Skill Demonstration Event with each course or unit of study and use the nationally-tested rubrics as a means for authentic assessment. It doesn’t take extra time ~ you’re already teaching it!

What does take some extra time is working with students to take their event on to the next level of competition. If you’re ready to “just go for it”, here are some important dates to remember:

◊ Skill Demonstration Events and the FCCLA/LifeSmarts Knowledge Bowl take place at National Cluster Meetings in the fall. Follow established registration deadlines.

◊ Online STAR Event entries due to national by February 1.

◊ Affiliate all members entering competition with national by February 15 so that names will appear in our online conference registration site.

◊ Handle the online registration process for state conference and STAR Events competition by February 15 to get early registration rates and to ensure that students are able to get into events before they become full.

◊ For those eligible to compete at the National Leadership Conference, register those participants with national by our May deadline (deadline to be determined based on date each year of our state competition).

◊ July 1—June 30: Beginning and ending dates for individual and chapter projects to be presented in that competition year.
TOP 10 TIPS FOR MANAGING COMPETITIVE EVENTS

10—Fall is the time for action. Start in-class, school, and community projects, then use these for STAR Events later in the year.

9—Affiliate early to avoid the worry of affiliation looming over you when working with students to get ready for competition.

8—Save multiple copies of chapter articles from the local paper, your school newsletter, Teen Times, etc. Take lots of pictures.

7—Use the state STAR Events Manual to find event rules and rubrics. When a student has a question about what is allowed, help them find the answer by looking in the manual.

6—Allow extra time for roadblocks, planning, and delays.

5—The adviser advises...students do the work.

4—Hold an event in your school to select the representatives to the next level of competition. Use school resources such as the gifted coordinator, guidance counselor, etc. as evaluators. It not only helps to prepare students but also promotes your program.

3—Use other school or community resource people to advise or coach a team. You may not feel confident in parliamentary procedure, but another teacher or community leader may find this opportunity very rewarding.

2—Be enthusiastic!

1—Recognize all participants and celebrate successes!

Student Guide to Preparing the Presentation:

~Use the FCCLA Planning Process—plan a project that you will enjoy and be interested in.

~Use the event rules and rubric as a guide to write the presentation.

~Write a rough draft.

~Double-check that you are completing all parts of the competitive event. Your event may require a portfolio, a display, etc. ALL competitive events require a live (oral) presentation, except for the state-only Culinary Arts Exhibit event.

~Ask questions, then ask more questions. Answers can be found in the national manual and on the website.

~Proofread everything—seek help from other members and adults.

~Practice your presentation in front of a group—a FACS class, an FCCLA chapter meeting, a faculty meeting, etc.

~Revise your presentation to include comments you received from your practice sessions.

~Make sure any equipment you are using is in working order.

~Practice again—LOTS—and enjoy the experience!