THE GROWLER

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IN THIS ISSUE

- UPCOMING EVENTS
- SUPERINTENDENT SPOTLIGHT
- PRINCIPALS CORNER
- STUDENTS OF THE MONTH
- STATE SMALL GROUP
- CONGRATULATIONS
- READING MONTH
- FFA STATE WINTER CDE'S
- FBLA STATE CONFERENCE

UPCOMING EVENTS

APRIL 9:
V BB VS. HATTON NORTHWOOD

APRIL 10:
T&F @ RRVC INDOOR
V BB VS. MIDWAY/MINTO
V SB VS. MIDWAY/MINTO

APRIL 13:
V BB @ MAYPORT-CG

APRIL 14:
V GOLF @ MCVILLE GOLF COURSE
V SB @ NORTH BORDER

APRIL 16:
T&F @ GRAFTON
V GOLF @ GRAFTON GOLF COURSE
V BB @ MAPLE RIVER
V SB @ THOMPSON

APRIL 17:
V BB VS. HILLSBORO
JH SB @ NORTHWOOD

APRIL 18:
JH/HS T&F @ MAYPORT

APRIL 20:
JH GOLF @ NORTHWOOD GOLF COURSE
JH SB VS. GRAND FORKS

APRIL 21:
JH T&F @ VALLEY CITY
V GOLF @ LAKOTA
V BB VS. NELSON COUNTY
V SB VS. NORTH BORDER

APRIL 23
T&F @ VCSU
B GOLF @ LARIMORE
V BB @ HATTON
JH SB @ LANGDON

APRIL 24:
V BB VS. PEMBINA

APRIL 25:
T&F @ HILLSBORO

APRIL 27:
B GOLF @ NORTHWOOD GOLF COURSE
HONOR SOCIETY @ LHS
BAND & CHOIR @ LHS

APRIL 28:
TC @ GRAND FORKS RED RIVER
V GOLF @ DEVILS LAKE
V BB VS. MAYPORT-CG
V SB @ MINTO

APRIL 30:
TC @ RUGBY
V GOLF @ CAVALIER
V BB @ HILLSBORO
V SB VS. CARRINGTON

THE GROWLER'S



POLAR BEAR PICTURE OF THE MONTH

THE GROWLER

FROM THE DESK OF THE SUPERINTENDENT STEVE SWIONTEK...



NEW NORTH DAKOTA DEPARTMENT OF INSTRUCTION SUPERINTENDENT VISITS THE LARIMORE SCHOOL DISTRICT

GREETINGS EVERYONE. IT HAS BEEN A WHILE SINCE I HAVE A PROVIDED AN UPDATE REGARDING THE QUESTION OF PROPERTY TAXES COLLECTED FROM THE GRAND SKY PRIVATE ENTITIES ON THE AIR BASE. WE DID FINALLY RECEIVE THE ND ATTORNEY GENERAL'S OPINION THIS PAST FEBRUARY. TO RECALL, THERE WAS A QUESTION REGARDING WHICH SCHOOL DISTRICT, GRAND FORKS OR LARIMORE, SHOULD COLLECT PROPERTY TAXES PAID BY THE PRIVATE ORGANIZATIONS FOUND ON THE AIR BASE. BOTH SCHOOL DISTRICTS JOINTLY REQUESTED AN OPINION FROM THE ND ATTORNEY GENERAL. AS STATED, WE DID RECEIVE AN OPINION THE PAST FEBRUARY WHICH BASICALLY STATES THAT THE SCHOOL DISTRICT THAT IS CURRENTLY RECEIVING THOSE PROPERTY TAXES (LARIMORE) SHOULD CONTINUE TO RECEIVE THOSE PROPERTY TAXES. THE COUNTY AUDITOR AGREED. THEREFORE, LARIMORE PUBLIC SCHOOLS WILL CONTINUE TO COLLECT THE PROPERTY TAXES FROM THE GRAND SKY COMPANIES. I HAVE TO BOTH CONGRATULATE AND THANK OUR ACTIVITIES DIRECTOR MRS. PATTI AANENSON FOR BRINGING AND ORGANIZING TWO MAJOR BASKETBALL TOURNAMENTS TO LARIMORE THIS SPRING. LARIMORE HOSTED BOTH THE REGION 2 GIRLS BASKETBALL TOURNAMENT AND THE DISTRICT 3 BOYS BASKETBALL TOURNAMENT. AS YOU CAN GUESS WHILE FUN, THEY REQUIRE A GREAT DEAL OF WORK FROM MANY PEOPLE FOR THESE TOURNAMENTS TO BE SUCCESSFUL. IN MY OPINION BOTH TOURNAMENTS WERE WELL RUN AND VERY ORGANIZED. OBVIOUSLY, TOURNAMENTS OF THIS MAGNITUDE BRING HUNDREDS OF PEOPLE TO THE CITY OF LARIMORE. THE LARIMORE HIGH SCHOOL FACILITY PROVIDES TEAMS AND FANS WITH A GREAT FACILITY TO BOTH PLAY AND ENJOY WATCHING THEIR RESPECTIVE TEAMS. THE HIGH SCHOOL PROVIDES A LARGE GYM WITH COMFORTABLE SEATING AND A CONCESSION AREA IN THE COMMONS WITH LOTS OF GREAT CHOICES FOR THE ATTENDEES. WHEN LARIMORE HOSTS THESE TOURNAMENTS, IT ALSO PROVIDES OUR STUDENTS WITH THE OPPORTUNITY TO PLAY THEIR TOURNAMENT GAMES ON THEIR HOME COURT AND IN THEIR OWN COMMUNITY. THANK YOU PATTI.

I WANT TO CONGRATULATE BROOKLYN GERZEWSKI WHO WAS SELECTED TO PARTICIPATE IN THE ALL-STATE TREBLE CHOIR IN BISMARCK ON MARCH 26, 27 AND 28. THE FIRST TWO DAYS WERE DEDICATED TO PRACTICE WITH A MAJOR CONCERT WITH ALL THE STUDENTS IN THE STATE SELECTED FOR THIS TREMENDOUS HONOR WHICH WAS HELD ON THAT SUNDAY.

OVER THE PAST COUPLE OF YEARS, WE HAVE SEEN AN INCREASE IN THE NUMBER OF STUDENTS WHO ARE VAPING WITH SOME VAPING IN THE SCHOOL BUILDING. ACCORDING TO THE CDC THE USE OF CIGARETTES AMONG MIDDLE AND HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS HAS DECREASED OVER THE PAST NUMBER OF YEARS, E-CIGARETTES OR VAPING HAS INCREASED. THE CDC STATISTICS INDICATE THAT ONLY 1.4% OF THOSE STUDENTS USE CIGARETTES WHILE 5.9% MIDDLE AND HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS ARE VAPING OR USING E-CIGARETTES. PERSONALLY, I BELIEVE THESE NUMBERS ARE A LITTLE LOW. WE NEED TO EDUCATE OUR STUDENTS THAT VAPING IS HARMFUL AND MAY RESULT IN LONG TERM HEALTH ISSUES. THEREFORE, LARIMORE SCHOOLS IS LOOKING AT A FOUR STEP PROGRAM TO REDUCE AND HOPEFULLY CONVINCE OUR STUDENTS NOT TO USE TOBACCO OF ANY KIND AT ALL. THE STEPS TO THIS PROGRAM: (1) EDUCATION OF OUR STUDENTS, PROVIDED BY HEALTH EXPERTS, REGARDING THE LONG TERM HARMFUL EFFECTS OF TOBACCO USE: (2) EDUCATION FOR THE PARENTS OF OUR STUDENTS SO THEY UNDERSTAND THE DANGERS OF VAPING INCLUDING NICOTINE ADDICTION, WHICH CAN HARM THE BRAIN AND LEAD TO ADDICTION: (3) INVITE THE GRAND FORKS COUNTY SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT TO EDUCATE OUR STUDENTS REGARDING THE LEGAL ISSUES AND PENALTIES THAT CAN BE IMPOSED BY LAW ENFORCEMENT FOR VAPING. THE EDUCATION WILL ALSO INCLUDE THE SCHOOL DISCIPLINE THAT WILL BE ENFORCED IF A STUDENT IS FOUND VAPING OR USING E-CIGARETTES IN THE SCHOOL: AND (4) PLACEMENT OF VAPING DETECTORS IN THE SCHOOL BUILDINGS. IT IS IMPORTANT THAT WE (THE SCHOOL, PARENTS, THE COMMUNITY, AND STUDENTS) WORK TOGETHER TO REDUCE AND MOST IMPORTANTLY ELIMINATE COMPLETELY THE USE OF TOBACCO OF ANY KIND BY MIDDLE AND HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS.

SINCERELY, DR. STEVE SWIONTEK, SUPERINTENDENT

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PRINCIPAL'S CORNER
PRINCIPAL KAL TRIPLETT



PREPARATION FOR THE 26-27 SCHOOL YEAR HAS BEGUN

WE HAVE HAD NUMEROUS MEETINGS WITH STUDENTS REGARDING SOME OF THEIR INTERESTS FOR NEXT YEAR AS WELL AS WHAT CORE CLASSES THEY WILL BE REQUIRED TO TAKE.

WE HAVE A HANDFUL OF CURRENT 10TH AND 11TH GRADERS THAT WILL BE TOURING THE CAREER IMPACT ACADEMY IN GRAND FORKS THIS MONTH, AND WE HAVE NUMEROUS STUDENTS SEEKING OUT WHAT OTHER ELECTIVES WE PLAN TO HAVE NEXT YEAR.

WE LOOK TO OFFER AS MANY ELECTIVE COURSES AS WE CAN NEXT YEAR. WHY? SO, WE CAN GET KIDS ENROLLED IN AS MANY IN-HOUSE CLASSES AS POSSIBLE.

IF THERE ARE ONLINE COURSES THAT WE SIMPLY DO NOT HAVE, THOSE ARE GREAT FOR SOME KIDS. WE ENCOURAGE KIDS WHO ARE INTERESTED IN FACS, ART, FOREIGN LANGUAGE, AND HEALTH CAREERS TO SEEK THOSE ONLINE OPTIONS.

WE WILL BE SENDING HOME SOME MOCK SCHEDULES FOR PARENT APPROVAL OVER THE NEXT MONTH. THE BUSY SPRING IS UPON US!

GO POLAR BEARS!



PRINCIPAL'S CORNER
PRINCIPAL KYLIE SWANSON

READING MONTH BRINGS BOOKS, STEM, AND PICKLEBALL FUN TO ELEMENTARY STUDENTS





MARCH WAS FILLED WITH EXCITEMENT AS ELEMENTARY STUDENTS CELEBRATED READING MONTH WITH A VARIETY OF ENGAGING ACTIVITIES DESIGNED TO PROMOTE A LOVE OF BOOKS AND LEARNING. THROUGHOUT THE MONTH, STUDENTS PARTICIPATED IN THEMED DRESS-UP DAYS CONNECTED TO READING, BRINGING FAVORITE CHARACTERS AND COZY READING STYLES TO LIFE IN THE HALLWAYS. FROM PAJAMA DAY TO DRESS-LIKE-YOUR-FAVORITE-BOOK-CHARACTER DAY, STUDENTS AND STAFF ENJOYED CELEBRATING LITERACY IN CREATIVE WAYS.

CLASSES ALSO TOOK PART IN SCHOOLWIDE DEAR TIMES (DROP EVERYTHING AND READ) SCHEDULED THROUGHOUT THE MONTH. DURING THESE SPECIAL MOMENTS, THE ENTIRE SCHOOL PAUSED TO ENJOY INDEPENDENT READING, REINFORCING THE IMPORTANCE OF MAKING TIME FOR BOOKS EACH DAY.

IN ADDITION, STUDENTS PARTICIPATED IN A WHOLE-SCHOOL STEM ACTIVITY CENTERED AROUND READING. CLASSES WORKED COLLABORATIVELY TO COMPLETE HANDS-ON CHALLENGES CONNECTED TO STORIES, ENCOURAGING PROBLEM-SOLVING, CREATIVITY, AND COMPREHENSION. THE ACTIVITY HIGHLIGHTED HOW READING AND STEM LEARNING GO HAND-IN-HAND.

FAMILIES ARE ENCOURAGED TO CONTINUE SUPPORTING READING AT HOME. HERE ARE A FEW SIMPLE IDEAS:

- SET ASIDE 15–20 MINUTES EACH EVENING FOR FAMILY READING TIME
- TAKE TURNS READING ALOUD WITH YOUR CHILD
- ASK QUESTIONS ABOUT THE STORY (FAVORITE PART, CHARACTERS, PREDICTIONS)
- VISIT THE LOCAL LIBRARY TOGETHER
- LET CHILDREN READ RECIPES, DIRECTIONS, OR MAGAZINES TO BUILD REAL-WORLD READING SKILLS

THE FUN DIDN'T STOP IN THE CLASSROOM. IN PE, STUDENTS ARE GEARING UP FOR AN EXCITING TEACHER-VERSUS-STUDENT PICKLEBALL TOURNAMENT FEATURING 5TH AND 6TH GRADERS. THE FRIENDLY COMPETITION HAS CREATED A LOT OF BUZZ, AND STUDENTS ARE EAGER TO TEST THEIR SKILLS AGAINST STAFF. IT'S A GREAT WAY TO PROMOTE TEAMWORK, SPORTSMANSHIP, AND SCHOOL SPIRIT.

READING MONTH WAS A WONDERFUL REMINDER THAT LITERACY CAN BE CELEBRATED IN MANY WAYS, THROUGH BOOKS, CREATIVITY, HANDS-ON LEARNING, AND EVEN A LITTLE PICKLEBALL COMPETITION. HAPPY SPRING!



THE GROWLER

STUDENTS OF THE MONTH

FEBRUARY STUDENTS



BIANCA IS A HARD WORKING STUDENT WHO HAS REALLY PUT HER BEST FOOT FORWARD WITH HER FUTURE IN MIND. SHE HAS BEEN WORKING HARD MANAGING HER CLASSES HERE AND HER DUAL CREDIT CLASSES FROM MAYVILLE STATE UNIVERSITY. SHE HAS EXCELLED IN ALL OF HER ONLINE CLASSES AND IS WILLING TO ASK AND ACCEPT HELP WHEN NEEDED. SHE STANDS OUT AS A YOUNG PERSON WHO COMBINES STEADY IMPROVEMENT, RESPONSIBILITY, AND A GENUINE CARE FOR OTHERS. PROUD OF YOU BIANCA!



MASON IS A STUDENT WHO YOU NEVER NEED TO WORRY ABOUT. HE WORKS HARD IN CLASS TO MAKE SURE THAT HE HAS A GRASP ON EVERYTHING GOING ON IN CLASS. WHEN HE MISSES CLASS HE DOES A GREAT JOB OF COMMUNICATING AND COMES BACK WITHOUT MISSING A BEAT. HE ASKS GOOD QUESTIONS AND HELPS THE STUDENTS AROUND HIM. HE IS LEVEL HEADED AND A CALMING PRESENCE IN THE CLASSROOM. CONGRATS MASON



BENTLEY IS A HARDWORKING AND ACTIVE KID, HE'S NOT ONLY WON POLAR BEAR OF THE MONTH AS AN 8TH GRADER, BUT HE ALSO SHOWS LEADERSHIP IN THE CLASSROOM. HE HAS A POSITIVE AND FRIENDLY PERSONALITY THAT IS SURE TO PUT ANYONE IN A GREAT MOOD. HE WORKS HARD IN CLASS AND IN ATHLETICS. AND HE'S GREAT AT MARIO! CONGRATULATIONS, BENTLEY!



EBEN THOUGH HE HAS ONLY BEEN HERE A SHORT TIME, EBEN HAS ALREADY MADE A VERY POSITIVE IMPRESSION. I HAVE APPRECIATED HIS WILLINGNESS TO LEARN NEW SKILLS IN PE CLASS...LIKE FLOOR HOCKEY. STARTING AT A NEW SCHOOL CAN BE CHALLENGING, BUT EBEN HAS DONE A GREAT JOB ADJUSTING. HE DEMONSTRATES A POSITIVE ATTITUDE, KINDNESS TOWARD OTHERS, RESPECT TO TEACHERS AND A WILLINGNESS TO TRY HIS BEST EACH DAY. HIS EFFORT AND BEHAVIOR HAVE QUICKLY MADE HIM A WONDERFUL ADDITION TO OUR SCHOOL. KEEP UP THE EXCELLENT WORK, EBEN!



CLAIRE IS AN AMAZING STUDENT AND CLASSMATE. SHE ALWAYS HAS A POSITIVE DISPOSITION REGARDLESS OF THE DAY SHE IS HAVING. SHE IS ALWAYS WILLING TO HELP HER CLASSMATES AND LOOK FOR WAYS TO BE HELPFUL. CLAIRE IS TRUSTWORTHY, DEPENDABLE, AND RESPECTFUL AND DOES A GREAT JOB OF LEADING BY EXAMPLE. SHE IS ALSO AN EXCELLENT TEAMMATE ON AND OFF THE COURT, CONSTANTLY ENCOURAGING OTHERS. HER KINDNESS IS A GIFT. CONGRATS ON STUDENT OF THE MONTH, YOU'VE EARNED IT!



MILA IS A HARD WORKING, KIND AND POSITIVE STUDENT. SHE ALWAYS WILLING AND READY TO HELP OTHER WITHOUT BEING ASKED AND SHE NEVER HAS ANYTHING NEGATIVE TO SAY. SHE'S NOT ONLY A GREAT STUDENT BUT SHE'S GREAT AT THE NERDLE, SHE'S CURRENTLY ON A 3 DAY STREAK OF GETTING FIRST OR SECOND PLACE IN CLASS. CONGRATULATIONS, YOU'VE EARNED IT!

STATE SMALL GROUP

CONGRATS ON QUALIFIYING FOR STATE SMALL GROUP:



EMILY S.-TROMBONE SOLO

EMILY AND ETHAN P.-TROMBONE DUET

GRACE S.-CLARINET SOLO

ABBY SCHADLER-SAXOPHONE SOLO

GRACE AND RENAE M.-WIND DUET

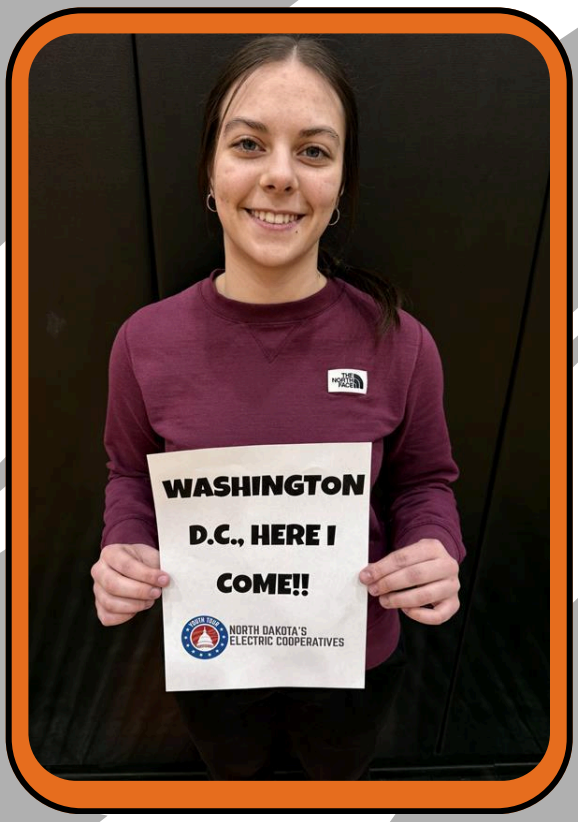
BROOKLYNN-VOCAL SOLO

THE GROWLER

CONGRATULATIONS

WE ARE SO PROUD TO SHARE THAT ONE OF OUR STUDENTS HAS BEEN SELECTED TO ATTEND THE NORTH DAKOTA ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE YOUTH TOUR IN WASHINGTON, D.C. THIS JUNE!

CONGRATULATIONS TO MEG REINHOLD ON THIS AMAZING ACHIEVEMENT — WE ARE SO PROUD OF YOU!!





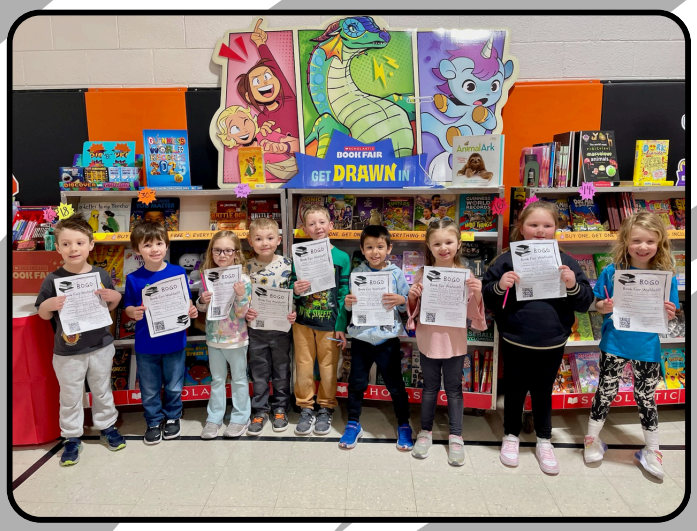
WE ARE PROUD TO SHARE THAT ONE OF OUR VISION ZERO STUDENTS HAS BEEN CHOSEN TO ATTEND THE LIFESAVERS CONFERENCE IN BALTIMORE THIS SPRING! THIS EVENT BRINGS STUDENTS AND LEADERS TOGETHER TO LEARN ABOUT ROAD SAFETY AND HOW TO HELP OTHERS STAY SAFE.
CONGRATULATIONS, JACIE PERNAT! WE ARE SO PROUD OF YOU!

THE GROWLER

LARIMORE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL CELEBRATES READING MONTH

DRESS LIKE YOUR FAVORITE BOOK CHARACTER DAY!







FFA STATE WINTER CDE'S

LARIMORE FFA HAD 8 MEMBERS COMPETE AT THE STATE WINTER CDE'S IN MINOT!

NIC AND MARCUS BOTH COMPLETED THEIR FIRST YEAR OF LIVESTOCK JUDGING AND DID VERY WELL FOR THEIR SECOND EVER COMPETITION.



TUCKER, MAX, LOGAN, BROGEN, REED, AND LUTHER COMPETED IN AGRONOMY AND TOOK 14TH PLACE AND EARNED SILVER AS A TEAM. INDIVIDUALLY TUCKER EARNED GOLD, MAX EARNED SILVER, LOGAN EARNED SILVER, BROGEN EARNED SILVER, AND REED EARNED SILVER.

THE GROWLER

FBLA STATE CONFERENCE

LARIMORE STUDENTS ATTEND NORTH DAKOTA FUTURE BUSINESS LEADERS OF AMERICA STATE LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE

BISMARCK, ND—MEMBERS OF THE LARIMORE FUTURE BUSINESS LEADERS OF AMERICA (FBLA) CHAPTER ATTENDED THE 59TH ANNUAL NORTH DAKOTA FBLA STATE LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE MARCH 29 – 31, 2026. OVER 60 FBLA CHAPTERS FROM ACROSS THE STATE PARTICIPATED IN THIS CONFERENCE, CONNECTING APPROXIMATELY 1,300 MIDDLE AND HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS TO TEST BUSINESS SKILLS AGAINST THEIR PEERS FROM AROUND THE STATE.

THE MOST EXCITING ASPECT OF THE CONFERENCE IS THE COMPETITIVE EVENTS PROGRAM. STUDENTS HAVE THE OPPORTUNITY TO TEST THE BUSINESS SKILLS THEY'VE LEARNED IN THE CLASSROOM IN A VARIETY OF INDIVIDUAL, TEAM, AND CHAPTER EVENTS. STUDENTS CAN ENTER EVENTS SUCH AS ACCOUNTING, COMPUTER APPLICATIONS, PUBLIC SPEAKING, JOB INTERVIEW, WEBSITE DESIGN, OR BUSINESS ETHICS. THE CULMINATION OF THE COMPETITIVE EVENTS PROGRAM IS THE AWARDS CEREMONY WHERE WINNERS ARE RECOGNIZED FOR THEIR ACCOMPLISHMENTS, AND WE FIND OUT WHO WILL REPRESENT NORTH DAKOTA AT THE NATIONAL LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE THIS SUMMER. IN ADDITION TO THE COMPETITIVE EVENTS PROGRAM, STUDENTS HAD THE OPPORTUNITY TO ATTEND WORKSHOPS, VOTE FOR THE 2026-27 STATE OFFICER TEAM, AND NETWORK WITH MEMBERS FROM AROUND THE STATE. THIS YEAR, MEMBERS ALSO HAD THE OPPORTUNITY TO HEAR FROM KEYNOTE SPEAKER, DR. CINDRA KAMPHOFF, CMPC, PCC, WITH HER KEYNOTE "HOW TO QUICKLY MOVE ON FROM A MISTAKE" AND HER WORKSHOP – "HOW TO DEVELOP THE HIGH PERFORMANCE MINDSET".

WINNERS

CLAIRE GRAVDAHL – 1ST CAREER EXPLORATION (QUALIFIED FOR NATIONALS)
LILY LAMBERSON – 1ST EXPLORING CUSTOMER SERVICE (QUALIFIED FOR NATIONALS)
AUBREE HENNEMAN – 3RD CAREER RESEARCH
DEVIN MCDONALD – 3RD EXPLORING LEADERSHIP
JACK GRAVDAHL – 1ST INTRO TO INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (QUALIFIED FOR NATIONALS)
5TH PARLIAMENTARY PROCEDURE TEAM
KATELYN AAMODT – 2ND HEALTHCARE ADMINISTRATION (QUALIFIED FOR NATIONALS)
5TH PARLIAMENTARY PROCEDURE TEAM
GRACE SANDS – 2ND BUSINESS LAW (QUALIFIED FOR NATIONALS)
5TH PARLIAMENTARY PROCEDURE TEAM
LIAM FYFE – 2ND INTRO TO FBLA (QUALIFIED FOR NATIONALS)
2ND INTRO TO PARLIAMENTARY PROCEDURE (QUALIFIED FOR NATIONALS)
REED GRATTON – 5TH PARLIAMENTARY PROCEDURE TEAM
8TH SECURITIES & INVESTMENTS
PAYTIN MCMAHON – 5TH PARLIAMENTARY PROCEDURE TEAM
ADDISON ERICKSON – 6TH INTRO TO RETAIL & MERCHANDISING
JULIANNA OSTREM – 6TH INTRO TO FBLA
LILIAN BOOEN – 10TH BUSINESS LAW



FBLA IS A PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATION FOR STUDENTS INTERESTED IN PURSUING BUSINESS CAREERS. THIS YEAR'S THEME OF "MAKE YOUR MARK" REFLECTS THE GOALS OF FBLA MEMBERS, SOME OF THE BEST AND BRIGHTEST OF TODAY'S YOUNG PEOPLE. THE MISSION OF FBLA IS TO INSPIRE AND PREPARE STUDENTS TO BECOME COMMUNITY-MINDED BUSINESS LEADERS IN A GLOBAL SOCIETY THROUGH RELEVANT CAREER PREPARATION AND LEADERSHIP EXPERIENCES. TO LEARN MORE, VISIT FBLA'S WEBSITE AT WWW.FBLA.ORG, ND FBLA'S WEBSITE AT WWW.ND-FBLA.ORG OR VISIT US ON FACEBOOK AT ND FBLA OR INSTAGRAM AT NORTHDAKOTAFBLA.