



March 17, 2020

Dear FBLA Advisers:

As with everyone else, FBLA Arizona has been monitoring the COVID-19 situation closely. With the announcement from Governor Doug Ducey and Superintendent Kathy Hoffman first closing schools for two weeks and then the CDC and other public health officials recommending cancelling gatherings of 50 or more people for the next 8 weeks, the most difficult decision was made to change our 2020 In-Person State Leadership Conference to a virtual on-line competition format.

I know that this is disappointing to our students and advisers who have worked so hard all year to prepare for this event and I want you to know this decision was made after countless hours of deliberation, discussion, and consideration of the safety, health, and well-being of all those involved in our FBLA organization. You are our number one priority.

However, I do want you to know that we are currently working on a plan of action to continue with our competitive events and recognition awards through the option of online video submission and video conferencing. We are working with a team to implement this plan. More information will be sent out later this week.

As we make plans to move our competitive events to an online virtual format, I am wondering if you would still be interested in doing this type of conference? Can you please complete this survey with what you intend to do <https://fblaarizona.wufoo.com/forms/s7cmxa21rjgesb/>?

We would like to keep the virtual conference the week of April 6-10 with winners being announced on April 13, 2020. Presentation events would be uploaded to a link we will provide later this week. Speaking events would be scheduled with judges and be done on a zoom or another web conferencing format. The on-line objective and team testing date of April 3, 2020 will be extended to April 9, 2020 with winners being announced on April 13, 2020. Team role play events will now be judged only on the test component with no role plays taken place. Again, a more detailed plan of how each event will be done will come in the next few days.

We are also changing our registration fees as follows:

*High School Students	\$50
*Middle Level Students	\$35
*Advisers	\$0

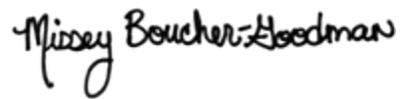
The registration fees includes the following: state t-shirt, plaques and award certificates, virtual conference fees, registration and online testing fees, administration fees, and copy and mailing fees.

Everyone registered for the conference will receive a state t-shirt so if you did not place an order for t-shirts please go back into the registration portal and add your chapter members t-shirt sizes. Please delete all chaperones and guests from your registration.

My heart is saddened as I hear from students and advisers that this is not the way they pictured life to be at this time. I don't think any of us did. However, we are trying to be positive and use our opportunity cost in making a conference happen. I know things change every day and we are constantly on edge waiting for the what will happen next. I hope for the best and appreciate you all at this time of uncertainty and change.

Thank you for everything you do and for your continued support to your school, your students, your chapter and to FBLA Arizona. I am honored to work with such great people as yourselves. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to reach out.

Sincerely,



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