

This & That

Autumn Issue, 2008

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STAFF

Note New Email Addresses

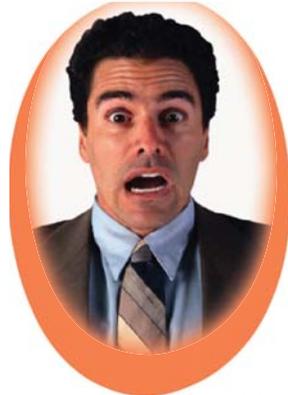
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Change is Inevitable

Robert C. Gallagher tells us that "Change is inevitable - except from a vending machine." As you begin the new school year, you are sure to encounter changes that may have occurred in policies, procedures, students, teaching assignments, extra-curricular assignments, room assignments, etc. The Nebraska Department of Education staff has also experienced many recent changes. Our staff transitioned from Office 2003 to Office 2007, from Lotus Notes to Outlook and acquired new email addresses (firstname.lastname@nebraska.gov). We are transitioning to Perkins IV with new programs of study, new state legislation for standards and assessment (Statue 79-760), and learning to navigate NSSRS (Nebraska Student and Staff Record System). By early October a new Commissioner of Education will be named.

Change can be hard but we encourage you to embrace the changes that face you this school year. Think not only about the changes you may be facing but the changes that your students encounter. Alfred Edward Perlman warns us that "After you've done a thing the same way for two years, look it over carefully. After five years, look at it with suspicion. And after ten years, throw it away and start all over." What changes will you make this year?

Welcome New Teachers!



If you are beginning your first- or second-year of teaching business, marketing or information technology, please introduce yourself to us via email or phone. Bonnie Sibert maintains a distribution list of new teachers and shares electronic resources and teaching strategies each month during the school year. Please send Bonnie an email at bonnie.sibert@nebraska.gov if you wish to be included in the distribution list. Veteran teachers, if you have a new teacher in your department, please let us know their name and school email address.

BMIT and NEFBLA Listserves

Has your email address recently changed? If you are a business, marketing or information technology teacher, you are encouraged to subscribe to the BMIT listserve. If you are an FBLA adviser, you should also subscribe to the NEFBLA listserve. Please follow the directions on the BMIT listserve link on the BMIT web site. Once you are subscribed, you can send a regular email message to bmit@lists.k12.ne.us or nefbla@lists.k12.ne.us.



Professional Development Opportunities

Business, Marketing and Information Technology (BMIT) ESU Workshops

Using Programs of Study for Curriculum Development

Programs of Study, career education implementation using C4C, and new Perkins legislation will headline the 2008 Fall ESU workshops. Bonnie Sibert and Bev Newton invite all secondary and/or postsecondary business, marketing and information technology secondary and postsecondary teachers and preservice college students to attend a 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. ESU workshop. Pick the date or location that works best for you and register today! Each workshop participant will receive a CD of new resources that includes 2 course guides, 10 hands-on activities/simulations, state models for programs of study and the newly released Career Cluster Knowledge and Skills statements.

Workshop goals include:

- Review the new BMIT Programs of Study by cluster and pathway with work time for teachers to identify their existing programs of study as well as plan for implementation of additional programs of study within their schools.
- Learn strategies for implementing the Business, Marketing and Management Career Field and the Information Technology Career Cluster into your curricula.
- Go Curriculum Cruising by spending time in a computer lab reviewing 5 new curriculums: ESI, C4C—Curriculum for Careers, Introduction to Business course guide, Marketing Principles course guide, and 10 project-based learning modules.
- Select one of the following courses and share your current course outline with your peers. Please bring enough copies of a course outline to share with all workshop participants.
 - Advanced Information Technology Applications
 - Middle Level Career Education (or Secondary)
 - Business Management or Entrepreneurship
 - Marketing (Beginning or Advanced)

To register for the workshop, please call or register online with the host ESU at least 5 days prior to the workshop you plan to attend. This assures that we will have enough copies for all in attendance. A complete listing of dates and locations are available on the Nebraska BMIT web site, click on Conferences/Meetings, click on ESU Workshops or visit www.nde.state.ne.us/BMIT/pdf/BMIT_ESU_workshop_registration.pdf.

Nebraska State Business Education Association (NSBEA) Fall Conferences

Saturday, October 11, 2008 – Lincoln

- Lincoln, TierOne Center— October 11, 8:30 – 11:45
- *Location:* 1221 N Street, Lincoln, NE 68510-2449
- Focus on Finance. Dena Stevenson, Employee Development of TierOne Bank will take participants through a training session that bank employees receive. Training will be followed by a panel presentation of area business teachers from small and large schools sharing curriculum and resources they use for their personal finance courses.
- NSBEA board meeting following
- Coordinated by Lisa Wilson, lwilson@esu3.org and Toni Landenberger, tlandenb@southeast.edu

Wednesday, October 22, 2008 – Scottsbluff

- Scottsbluff, ESU 13 – October 22, 9 – 3
- *Location:* Western Nebraska Community College, Harms Advanced Technology Center, 2620 College Park, Room B132
- Preregister through ESU 13 by calling Cindy at (308) 635-0661
- Offered in conjunction with the NSBEA Fall Conference
- For a small fee, lunch will be provided by NSBEA
- Coordinated by Carolyn Campbell - carolync@bbc.net and Brenda Budler - bbudler@panesu.org

Thursday, October 23, 2008 – North Platte

- North Platte, ESU 15 & 16 – October 23, 9 - 3
- *Location:* Center for Enterprise located on the north campus of North Platte Comm. College at 1101 Halligan Drive, Room 200. Enter through the front doors and double check room assignments at entrance.
- Offered in conjunction with the NSBEA Fall Conference
- For a small fee, lunch will be provided by NSBEA
- Preregister through ESU 16 by calling Deana Fager at (308) 534-2427 or send email to dfager@esu16.org
- Coordinated by Janice Arent, jarent@esu15.org; Jean Condon, condonj@mpcc.edu; and Celeste Rogers, crogers@esu10.org

Elementary Keyboarding Workshop

Looking for strategies and resources to implement elementary keyboarding in your school's curriculum? If so, spend November 12 with Bev Newton and Bonnie Sibert at the Nebraska Department of Education learning teaching pedagogy and reviewing leading keyboarding software packages. Teams consisting of an elementary teacher, computer teacher and/or a business teacher are encouraged to participate. The workshop cost is \$15 per person. Register online at www.nde.state.ne.us/techcen/training.html.

Information Technology Career Cluster

Technology Toys

If you attended the NCE Conference and were confused when you overheard teachers discussing how to cha cha, that means you probably did not attend the Technology Toys session presented by Corinne Hoisington. Melissa Schram of Ralston High School took copious notes that she shares with our readers. Thanks, Melissa, for documenting these tips.

Corinne Hoisington has been confirmed as a presenter for the 2009 NCE Conference. She will conduct a preconference workshop on Intermediate Excel and Access on Tuesday, June 9. On Wednesday, June 10, she'll present 4 one-hour sessions. Mark your calendars and plan to be in Kearney, June 9 – 11, 2009.

<http://chacha.com>

- Ask any question and you should receive an answer in 2 minutes
- If you have text messaging on your cell phone, you can send your question to 242-242 (chacha)
- If you ask the question online, you will be asked to give a cell phone number where the answer will be sent
- You can ask questions about the weather, places to eat, who won the Indy 500 in a certain year, etc.

<http://zillow.com>

- New York Times #1 Website of 2007
- Created by Richard Barton, Expedia
- Allows you to find the value of your home (or anyone else's), based on 19 values
- Gives you detailed information about the property (how many bedrooms, bathrooms, sq. ft., when it was built, when it was last sold, etc.)

<http://yousendit.com>

- Allows you to send up to 100mb files to anyone with an email address
- Good when someone doesn't have an external storage device or email won't allow a large attachment
- Available for seven days

<http://newseum.org>

- Today's front pages of over 600 newspapers in the WORLD

<http://tafiti.com>

- Search engine
- Uses sliverlite plugin
- User is able to drag links into squares and saves into the cookies on the computer
- Can search for links, RSS feeds, images, etc.
- User is given the option to email oneself, blog oneself (click on the background of the square to access these options)

<http://tinyurl.com>

- Makes a long URL tiny (easier to remember and give to others)
- As long as it's used once in a year, this URL will stay active

<http://preview.local.live.com>

- Live Maps
- Makes every city in the US drivable, walkable, etc. (You can change the view, it's a pretty cool site, but you need to have a good Internet connection)

<http://www.merlot.org>

- Multimedia Educational Resource for Learning and Online Teaching
- Many searchable lesson plans with great resources

Internet Explorer 8

- The beta version was shown and it will change the way you view a web page
- Ability to translate text to another language
- Instant updates (news story you are following, Facebook, Myspace, eBay, etc.) - Web Slices
- Live map (no longer will you have to copy and paste an address into mapquest, etc. a live map will appear when you highlight an address)
- Should be available this fall

"What is a Web year now, about three months?
And when people can browse around,
discover new things, and download them fast,
when we all have agents - then Web years could slip
by before human beings can notice."

- Tim Berners-Lee





2007 Excel Tips & Tricks

Please Excuse My Dear Aunt Sally

Do your students have difficulty understanding the order of operation when they are working with formulas in Excel? Consider teaching them the following phrase to help them remember the order in which math operations are performed within formulas.

Please = Parenthesis

Excuse = Exponents

My Dear = Multiplication, Division

Aunt Sally = Addition, Subtraction

Checking Formulas

Use Ctrl~ to check formulas (remember to first put your cursor in a blank cell)

Reformatting Worksheets

If you want to reformat one or more worksheets, first group all the worksheets in a file and then your formatting changes will be made in each of the worksheets at the same time.

Select an Entire Data Set

Click inside your data and then use Ctrl + * (use the asterisk on the numeric keypad) to select an entire data set.

Tables

Create tables in Excel instead of starting with a plain spreadsheet. Tables save time for formatting and formulas.

Charts

The fastest way to build a chart is to highlight your numbers and press F11.

Hot New Online Resources

www.jamstudio.com

- Students create their own music
- Students can create multimedia presentation without copyright infringements

www.nde.state.ne.us/BMIT/Curriculum/interactiveactivities-teamwork.pdf

- Interactive Activities to Introduce Teamwork Skills lesson plan developed by Murleen Bellinger, Waverly

www.nde.state.ne.us/BMIT/Curriculum/createowngradannouncement.pdf

- Create Your Own Graduation Announcement lesson plan developed by Janelle Stansberry, Cedar Bluffs

www.optoutprescreen.com

- The official Consumer Credit Reporting Industry website to accept and process requests from consumers to Opt-In or Opt-Out of firm offers of credit or insurance
- Through this website, you may request to Opt-Out from receiving firm offers for five years or from receiving firm offers permanently
- If you choose to Opt-Out, you will no longer be included in company-offer lists provided by the following four consumer credit reporting companies: Equifax, Experian, Innovis and TransUnion

<http://del.icio.us>

- Social bookmarking that allows you to have all your bookmarks in one place
- You can bookmark things for yourself and your friends while checking out what other people are bookmarking

<http://wordle.net>

- A toy for generating "word clouds" from text that you provide
- Clouds give greater prominence to words that appear more frequently in the source text
- Clouds can be tweaked with different fonts, layouts and color schemes



"He who rejects change is the architect of decay.

The only human institution which rejects progress is the cemetery."

~ Harold Wilson

Business, Marketing and Management Career Field

FutureForce Finance

FutureForce Finance has worked hard during the past year to provide new resources that can be used by teachers to encourage students to consider a career in Finance. A FutureForce Finance panel presented at the NCE Conference and a second panel provided the Saturday morning keynote at the Mt. Plains Business Education Association Conference.

Resources shared during these presentations are now available at www.nde.state.ne.us/BMIT/fcc.htm. The last two bulleted items on the Finance Career Cluster Overview link provides a list of new resources for your use that include the FutureForce Finance flyer and the Careers in Banking flyer. A summary of all the Finance online resources is provided at www.nde.state.ne.us/BMIT/pdf/FinanceCareerClusterOnlineResources.pdf.

Special thanks to the following FutureForce Finance panel members for their presentations:

Brian Klausen, Society of Certified Public Accountants, Cornhusker Motor Lines
 Linda Miller, Northeast Community College
 Laura Ilcisin, University of NE-Omaha
 John Schultz, Omaha Public Schools
 Tom Grafton, Grafton & Assc.
 Dena Stevenson, TierOne Bank
 Dennis Pfeffer, Marsh USA Inc.

Course Guides to be Shared at BMIT Workshops

Each of the following curriculum resources developed through the MarkED Consortium will be distributed on a CD to those teachers in attendance at the ESU workshops.

Marketing Principles Course Guide

This two-semester Marketing course guide covers 82 performance indicators identified in the Business, Marketing and Management Career Field Core Knowledge and Skill Statements, Marketing Core, and Professional Selling Pathway.

Introduction to Business, Marketing and Management Course Guide

This one-semester course designed for high school freshmen and sophomores covers 37 performance indicators from the Business, Marketing and Management Career Field Core Knowledge and Skill Statements. There are no prerequisites for enrollment; however, students should have a Microsoft Office skill set. This course develops student understanding and skills in business law, economics, financial analysis, human resources management, information management, marketing, operations and strategic management. Throughout the course, students are presented problem-solving situations for which they must apply academic, critical-thinking and technology skills. This course provides an excellent introduction to the business world and economic principles.

"Never continue in a job you don't enjoy.

.....

If you're happy in what you're doing, you'll like yourself, you'll have inner peace.

.....



.....

And if you have that, along with physical health, you will have had more success than you could possibly have imagined."

.....

- Johnny Carson

Hands-On Classroom Projects

MarkED's hands-on classroom projects utilize project-based learning for content delivery. During these projects, students work individually and in teams to conduct primary and secondary research to obtain the necessary knowledge and skills required to complete the projects and master the incorporated performance indicators. The teacher tips provide a timeframe, mini-lectures referred to as briefings, checkpoints that include deliverables, quizzes, tests, exams and rubrics and planning guide sheets. The ten project titles available are:

-  **The Big Squeeze:** Students learn about factors that affect the business environment by reading national business publications and maintaining a journal of their findings, relating the factors identified in the readings to local businesses. In addition, students conduct secondary and primary research to complete an environmental scan of the local business community. Finally, each team develops a podcast/webcast of its findings and discusses the similarities and differences across the local business community. Target courses include Principles of Business, Advanced Marketing.
-  **China Dynasty:** To kick off the project, students conduct secondary research and develop written reports comparing the production of goods in the U.S. to the production of goods in China. After completing its research, each team of students must determine where it wants to produce a given toy—in China or in the U.S. To make this determination, each team develops a decision matrix. After making its decisions, the team presents an oral report explaining where it chose to produce the toy, what risks are involved in making the toy in the selected location and how the team would deal with these risks. Target courses include Marketing, Business Economics, Introduction to Business, Marketing and Management.
-  **The Good Ol' Days:** This project helps students to develop an understanding of economic policies and measures through a study of present economic indicators and past economic events. Each student individually measures the health of today's U.S. economy, and each team researches economic events that took place during a specific time period in the past 100 years. After conducting extensive research, each team prepares a presentation or skit that explains what it has learned. The team presentations are video recorded and shared with middle school social studies students. Target courses include Business Economics, Advanced Marketing.
-  **Make the Most of It:** Students develop innovation and decision-making skills as they determine the best use for a vacant lot in their community. Teams conduct interviews to learn what community members would like to see done with the vacant lot. Following these interviews, team members identify the three best possible uses for the property and determine the opportunity cost of each choice. Finally, each team gives an oral presentation and submits a written proposal to members of the local Chamber of Commerce to explain its best use for the vacant lot. Target courses include Marketing, Business Economics, Introduction to Business, Marketing and Management.
-  **Mascot Mystery:** Students develop a marketing research plan to solve the dilemma of changing the school's mascot. Each team conducts extensive research and develops a marketing research plan to submit to the school principal and the advisory committee. The principal and business professionals study the marketing research plans, ask the teams questions and then select the best thoughtout plan. Target courses include Marketing, Advanced Marketing.
-  **Photo Hounds:** Students explore the world of celebrities and the paparazzi in order to develop an understanding of key economic concepts such as supply and demand, the functions of prices in markets and incentives. In teams, students record infomercial videos that creatively address these key concepts as well as explain what they theorize celebrities could do to solve the problem of the pesky paparazzi. Target courses include Business Economics, Marketing.
-  **She Sells Cell Phones at the Cell Store:** This project introduces students to a number of marketing concepts in the context of the cellular phone industry. Each team conducts primary and secondary research to learn about an assigned cell phone company and develops a written report that contains detailed information about the company. After all of the team reports are completed, the class works together to develop a cell phone comparison chart for distribution to local parents and students. Target course includes Marketing.
-  **Snapshot:** Teams of students select local retail, wholesale, manufacturing, service and non-profit businesses to study and compare. Students conduct extensive secondary research about their selected businesses, develop business analysis reports and general profiles of the community and write team reports that detail the similarities and differences among the chosen businesses. Each team then delivers an oral presentation of the key findings from its written report. Target course includes Introduction to Business, Marketing and Management.
-  **Tick Tock, Tech Talk:** Teams of students conduct secondary research about marketing technology and an assigned business, visiting the business and interviewing its marketing personnel about the use of technology in each of the marketing functions. Afterwards, each team creates an informal PowerPoint presentation containing photos and explanations of their findings. The class then compares technology across the marketing functions and businesses and discusses possible reasons for similarities and differences. Target course includes Marketing.

C4C: Middle Level Curriculum for Careers

Career development is an ongoing process including awareness, exploration, preparation and application, culminating in life-long career management. Nebraska Career Education (NCE) recommends beginning this process in the elementary grades and continuing it through postsecondary education and onward. After two years of development, Nebraska Career Education launched the *C4C: Curriculum for Careers* during a NCE preconference workshop. Curriculum writers were on hand to train teachers in the use of this newly developed middle level curriculum. If you have not yet been trained in the use of C4C, you will want to spend time exploring the C4C web site (www.nde.state.ne.us/nce/c4c.htm).



What is C4C?

C4C is a career development course that focuses on exploration of all 16 career clusters. This curriculum considers the unique academic, personal and social needs of middle school learners. The goal of C4C is to include engaging opportunities for students to discover career possibilities and how these possibilities align with their personal goals and interests. Students will:

- Learn foundation knowledge and skills through career exploration activities
- Examine entrance requirements for a wide variety of postsecondary options
- Locate and use up-to-date career information that connects curriculum to relevant careers
- Experience extended learning opportunities that bring relevance and real-world context to the curriculum
- Develop Personal Learning Plans which serve as flexible and relevant plans of study for high school

graduation and for seamless transition to postsecondary options

Getting Started

Before using C4C, you will first need to determine your district's logistical plan for implementation. C4C has been designed for semester-length (90-day) implementation, yet it allows for several other workable options:

- Quarter-length (45 day) course, weekly or bi-weekly
- Guidance curriculum for the school counseling program
- Multi-year course throughout middle school
- Lessons divided among teams of teachers
- Introductory curriculum for career academy schools or small learning communities
- Use in Teachers-as-Advisors meetings
- Other delivery methods tailored to your school

What C4C Web Site Has to Offer

- Online free curriculum with instructor information for getting started
- Identified goals and objectives
- Aligned with the Nebraska Career Education model based on 16 career clusters
- Detailed lesson plan guides with a variety of live links to additional resources
- Ready-to-use lesson plans and handouts

This project was funded by the Federal Carl D. Perkins Career and Technical Education Improvement Act of 2006; V048A070027A and was sponsored by the Nebraska Department of Education and FutureForce Nebraska.

Calendars

The Nebraska Department of Education supports several online calendars that will help you plan for upcoming events. A current calendar and list of conferences and workshops related to Business, Marketing and Management as well as Information Technology can be accessed on the BMIT web page. Visit the career student organization web sites at www.nedeca.org and www.nebraskafbla.org or link to them through the BMIT web site. The NCE Calendar at www.nde.state.ne.us/nce/Calendar.htm will provide a broad range of Perkins and NCE-related events and deadlines.



You have a unique opportunity to involve your FBLA or DECA students in an exciting statewide event called Money Smart Week. Start planning today how you can promote financial education in your school or community.

What is Nebraska Money Smart Week?



Money Smart Week is a public awareness campaign designed to help consumers better manage their personal finances. This is achieved through the collaboration and coordinated effort of organizations across the state and Midwest including businesses, financial institutions, schools, libraries, not-for-profits, government agencies and the media. These groups come together once a year to stress the importance of financial literacy, inform consumers where they can get help, and provide free educational seminars and activities throughout the week. Programming is offered to all demographics and income levels and covers all facets of personal finance from establishing a budget to first time home buying to estate planning.

When is Nebraska Money Smart Week?

Money Smart Week is November 10-16, 2008.

How Did It All Get Started?

The idea of this week originated in Chicago and has also been undertaken in the Kearney area. This first Nebraska Money Smart Week effort is coordinated by the Nebraska Financial Education Coalition, a diverse group of more than 50 Nebraska organizations working together to promote personal financial literacy. The Coalition officially formed in 2007 to help organizations interested in financial education share resources, network and increase awareness of the importance of financial literacy in Nebraska. The goal of the coalition is to help all Nebraskans – no matter the age – to become better educated on how to successfully manage their personal finances.

How Can My Organization Get Involved in Money Smart Week?

To get involved with Money Smart week, please go to www.moneysmartnebraska.org and click on “Money Smart Week” for more information.

What is a Money Smart Partner?

A Money Smart partner is an organization that actively participates during Money Smart Week with the approval of the Nebraska Financial Education Coalition. Organizations are considered partners upon agreeing to one or more of the following:

- Provide educational materials, instructors or a seminar for consumers
- Provide facilities to host events, sponsor events or promotional materials
- Leverage resources to publicly support or endorse Money Smart Week

Partners are expected to provide leadership, communicate internally and externally, possess or acquire general financial literacy knowledge and be committed to the Money Smart Week program. Current partners include businesses, financial institutions, schools, libraries, not-for-profits, government agencies and the media. Partners are able to post their events for free to an online database of events, and have information published in a printed calendar of events. In addition, partners receive access to standard materials to help promote their events.

Money Smart Partner Responsibilities

Money Smart partners are expected to adhere to the following guidelines:

- All workshops, seminars and activities must be educational in nature and relate to improving knowledge of personal finances, from basic savings tips to advanced money management strategies. Sales pitches and/or commercial marketing are strictly prohibited.
- Most workshops, seminars and activities should be free and open to the public. Private events will be included for appropriate audiences such as students, employees and professional groups, but in turn might not be publicized as part of the public event calendar.
- Implement, as able, additional marketing and/or promotional strategies for their individual events to secure attendance numbers. Promotional packages will be given to partners to help with media efforts.
- Appoint a representative to manage your own Money Smart Week activities and to attend any planning meetings leading up to the event.

Continued on page 9...

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- Provide vision, leadership and general direction to third-party sponsors/presenters.
- Submit Money Smart Week event information via the on-line database before or on the given deadline.
- Complete and return measurement package including attendance numbers for all events, partner surveys, participant surveys, photos, media clips and samples of any other promotional materials used during the campaign. How to Sponsor an Event
- Identify target audience(s) (i.e. seniors, women, unbanked, youth)
- Select a topic and secure a venue
- Select a presenter/speaker.
- Utilize member partnerships where applicable.
- Act as liaison between third-party participants and the partners.
- Promote event using various forms of media (radio, TV, print), websites, signage, mailings, etc. to ensure maximum attendance.
- Gather digital photos, media clips (print and television) and radio broadcast information.
- Provide for the timely completion of all tasks leading up to and through Money Smart Week including submission of event information via the on-line database and measurement package.



How to Become a Money Smart Partner



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“Tomorrow is the most important thing in life. Comes into us at midnight very clean. It's perfect when it arrives and it puts itself in our hands. It hopes we've learned something from yesterday.”

~ John Wayne

Career Student Organization News

Nebraska DECA

Nebraska DECA has had a busy spring and summer! Our state delegation had a successful trip to Atlanta, Georgia for nationals, taking home seven Top 10 finishes including two 2nd place winners and two national scholarship winners. After nationals, our State Officer Action Team met other student leadership in Crete for the State Officer Leadership Academy, during which they decided on their theme for next year; “Sail to Success”, and made an action plan for the upcoming year. The officers also made business/industry visits to Omaha business such as NRG Media, PayPal, The Gallup Organization, Creighton Univer-

sity and Union Pacific, just to name a few. The last of our summer events was the First Annual Mike Logan Legacy Golf Tournament. Teams came out to Tara Hills Golf Course for a fun-filled day of golf to remember a great golfer, DECA Advisor and great person—Mike Logan. The Logan family has been very generous to donate all proceeds from the event to the newly established DECA Foundation.

In other news, the Board made many changes to the DECA program of work for the year, one of which was moving our Fall Leadership Conference from Kearney to Omaha. We're very excited

about this new opportunity to involve our business partners in that conference. We'd also like to welcome two new advisors to our DECA family this year; Mary Michalak will be the new DECA Advisor at Papillion-LaVista High School and Dustin “Bubba” Peñas is the new advisor at Papillion-LaVista South. We wish both of them the very best for a successful first year! For more news and information about DECA, please visit us on the web, www.nedeca.org.



Nebraska FBLA Gets the Edge



FBLA: Get the Edge, the theme for the 2008-2009 FBLA year, set the stage for the Nebraska FBLA State Officer team at the 2008 State Officer Leadership Academy held in June at Doane College. The team planned the year by setting state goals and preparing for the state fall conferences and national conference. State officer team members are Justin Schultis, President, Fairbury; Allie Skidmore, Vice President, Fairbury; Jessica O'Connor, Secretary, Lyons-Decatur Northeast; Amber Kutnink, Treasurer, Cambridge; Kathryn Vampola, Reporter, Arlington and Abbie Davis, Parliamentarian, Wood River.

Nebraska FBLA members gained the edge with a successful National Leadership Conference in Atlanta by winning 25 top 10 awards. Nebraska FBLA State President Justin Schultis, Fairbury, accomplished his dream by being elected the 2008-2009 Mountain Plains Vice President! Justin's advisers are Teresa Hansmire and Wade Miller of Fairbury High School.

Top awards included second place for both Clint Kroeker from Heartland in Accounting II and Tori Bittinger from Heartland in Word Processing I. Third place award winners were Brianna Rader from Heartland in Accounting II; Brian Brazeal from Bellevue West in Introduction to Technology Concepts; Trent Shrader, Marcus Winter and Jon Luetchens from Elmwood-Murdock in Partnership with Business and Ben Versaw from Grand Island Northwest in Technology Concepts. Nebraska top 10 award winners received \$1,700 from competitive event sponsors!

Trent Shrader, Elmwood-Murdock, received a \$1,000 Distinguished Business Leader Scholarship, and Sherry Marks, Wilber-Clatonia was recognized as Nebraska's Outstanding Local Adviser.

As the school year unfolds, Nebraska FBLA invites your high school to "get the edge" by starting a FBLA chapter or your middle school starting a Middle Level chapter. Help your students join the over 5,200 members across the state who gain the edge in leadership development, community service, networking opportunities and business connections. If you would like to charter a chapter, please contact Bev Newton at bev.newton@nebraska.gov.

Bev Newton

NCE Career Field Specialist and Nebraska FBLA State Adviser



It is the policy of the Nebraska Department of Education not to discriminate on the basis of sex, disability, race, color, religion, marital status, age, or national origin in its education programs, admission policies, employment, or other agency programs.

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