

BARRINGTON HIGH SCHOOL FBLA WINTER NEWSLETTER



Some of our officers sitting in front of a poster promoting March of Dimes at the Holiday Fair.

MEETINGS

At our biweekly meetings, the members participate in numerous activities to help further develop our business skills. Some which include sales presentations, and mock client service situations. These presentations allow us to further our public speaking skills, marketing skills, collaboration skills, communication skills, and numerous other important qualities of a successful business man or woman. In November, Neil Sharpe, the executive director of market development for March of Dimes in RI, came to one of our meetings. He told us more about March of Dimes, and his role in the organization. Mrs. Correia, a math teacher at our high school, came to the meeting as well and talked about how March of Dimes helped her during her premature birth.

MARCH OF DIMES

In 2016, approximately one in ten babies were born prematurely, something which the organization March of Dimes is helping to fight. The month of November is National Prematurity Awareness Month, where our chapter brought awareness to the issue. For one week, we encouraged members of our school to donate to the organization by holding fundraisers at each lunch. The official Prematurity awareness day is on November 17th, where we encouraged the school to all wear purple to show their support.

RI FBLA-PBL policy states that "student membership is open to all full-time secondary and post-secondary students in business/business-related programs regardless of race, creed, color, gender, sexual orientation, national origin, or disability."

INVOLVEMENT IN THE COMMUNITY

This school year, our chapter has been quite active in our community. In mid october, we volunteered to unload pumpkins for our local pumpkin patch. Later that month, some of our members volunteered at October-fest at Sowams Elementary School. In December, our members put together a community event to help collect toys for Toys for Tots, to allow for children in need to get gifts for christmas. For the event, we sold gingerbread houses, and those who donated a toy received a discount on the houses. In total we sold 37 gingerbread houses, and received 3 toys for Toys for Tots. We'll also had arts and crafts stations, were families can create things such as holiday cards, and christmas tree ornaments.



Barrington FBLA alumni making gingerbread houses at the Holiday Fair.

CONFERENCES

The national FBLA conference this summer was held in Anaheim, California. Ten of our members attended and competed. Two of our members, Ari Dulchinos and Kevin Zhu, even competed in the finals for website design. The State Fall Leadership Conference was held on November 29th, 25 of our members attended. The conference consisted of informative workshops, focused on how to be successful in the near future for members. Officers attended officer training, where we participated in activities, and brainstormed fundraising for both our chapters and the state. The keynote speaker was Mr. Randall Sacilotto, the Vice President of Community Development at Navigant Credit Union. The Rhode Island state spring leadership conference is February 28th, where our members will be competing in a variety of business related topics, ranging from test, projects, to presentations.



Our members who attended the national conference in Anaheim, California, with the 2016-2017 national president, Neil Patel.