



FCCLA E-Adviser

July 1, 2009

The *E-Adviser* is the official online newsletter for national FCCLA.
Bringing current FCCLA updates to all chapter and state advisers registered for the Chapter Adviser List serv.

The *E-Adviser* is sponsored by VISA, Inc. and Practical Money Skills for Life.

**The next issue of the E-Adviser will be distributed on August 15, 2009.
Have a great summer!**

From the Executive Office

President Obama has announced Brenda Dann-Messier as his nominee to head the Office of Vocational and Adult Education in the U.S. Department of Education. Below is an excerpt about her background from the White House press release.

Brenda Dann-Messier, Nominee for Assistant Secretary for Vocational and Adult Education, Department of Education

Dr. Brenda Dann-Messier is currently the President of Dorcas Place, an Adult and Family Learning Center in Providence, Rhode Island. Prior to coming to Dorcas Place she worked at the Northeast and Islands Regional Educational Laboratory at Brown University. She also previously served the Department of Education as Secretary Richard Riley's Regional Representative for Region I in Boston, Massachusetts. Before going to work for the Clinton Administration, Brenda directed two TRIO programs, the Rhode Island Educational Opportunity Center (1987 - 1993) and the Educational Talent Search Program (1991 - 1993) of the Community College of Rhode Island. Dr. Dann-Messier is a member of the Rhode Island Board of Governors for Higher Education and chairs the Academic and Student Affairs subcommittee for the board. She received her BA and her M.Ed from Rhode Island College and her ED.D. in Educational Leadership from Johnson and Wales University.

The Office of Vocational and Adult Education has the lead responsibility for allocating Perkins funding to the states.

-Michael L. Benjamin, M.P.H., CAE, Executive Director

Membership

2008-2009 Membership Report

This is a tentative membership report as of May 31, 2009. Membership decreased this year by 0.54%, 1184 members, due to a decrease in the middle level affiliation program, and according to a state adviser survey the decreases may continue due to funding, teacher shortage, and students' plans of study requirements. Middle level membership decreased by five chapters and urban membership increased by one. Chapter membership continues to drop, this year we have 6,522 chapters compared to 6,619 last year.

2009-2010 Membership Incentive – Affiliate Before **November 1**

Chapters affiliated before November 1 will be eligible to receive a free publication from national headquarters! To receive the incentive advisers must be affiliated before November 1 and must fill out the form upon affiliating online. For chapters who affiliate with their state, please check with your state adviser for eligibility.

Grants and Scholarships

Green Your School Contest – Deadline: October 9, 2009

The Student Conservation Association's Green Your School Contest is a national competition to stimulate and/or identify conservation service projects designed by high school students that improve, restore, beautify, or conserve their high school environment. To be eligible, projects must have begun after August 1, 2008. Grand Prize is \$5,000 and two runner-up prizes are \$2,500 each. Visit the SCA Web site at <http://www.thesca.org/> for complete program information.

New England : KIDS Consortium Offers Green Mini-Grants for K-12 Schools – Deadline: August 31, 2009

KIDS (Kids Involved Doing Service-Learning) Consortium, a nonprofit organization that serves schools and community groups in Maine and throughout New England, and the State Farm Youth Advisory Board, are offering mini-grants of up to \$750 for green service-learning projects developed by K-12 schools in New England. Funded projects must solve a problem or address a local need related to making schools and neighborhoods healthier and more environmentally sustainable. For complete program guidelines, visit the KIDS Consortium website, <http://www.kidsconsortium.org/>.

Pennsylvania: Highmark Foundation Announces School Challenge Program – Deadline: Rolling

The Highmark Foundation, an affiliate of Highmark that supports initiatives designed to improve community health, has announced that it will award \$1 million in total grants on a rolling basis in 2008 through the Highmark Healthy High 5 School Challenge grant program. Grants will be awarded to public, private, parochial, and charter schools in the 49 Pennsylvania counties served by the foundation. Applications for grants will be accepted all calendar year and will provide funding of programs addressing bullying prevention and self-esteem, in addition to nutrition and physical activity. Schools are invited to apply for School Challenge grants by visiting the Highmark Healthy High 5 website, www.highmarkhealthyhigh5.org/.

Texas: First Choice Power Classroom Energy Innovation Grant Applications Available – Deadline: September 15, 2009

Electricity provider First Choice Power is accepting online applications for its Classroom Energy Innovation Grants. First Choice Power will award grants to inventive teachers across Texas working to stimulate and inspire young minds with innovative classroom projects on energy and energy efficiency.

Full-time Texas K-12 teachers and pre-K teachers with an early childhood license in communities served by First Choice Power are eligible to apply. For complete program information, visit the First Choice Power website, www.firstchoicepower.com/.

National Leadership Conference (NLC)

Career Exploration Update

Career Explorations give FCCLA members and advisers the opportunity to expand their knowledge of careers and the workplace through tours and presentations by businesses. This year at the National Leadership Conference we are pleased to offer career explorations on a limited basis on Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday. Visit the FCCLA national website for a complete list of options available and sign up for a Career Exploration.

Exercise Program – FCCLA Boot Camp

Start your day off with a supercharged workout with SGT Ken! Regardless of your fitness ability this program is sure to have you ready for the day. To participate, you must pre-register and complete a waiver form (located on the FCCLA national website). Signed waivers will be collected onsite.

National Cluster Meeting

National Cluster Meeting Brochures will be mailed to all chapter advisers in September. Meeting registration and housing will open on August 1. Visit the FCCLA national website frequently for updates on the National Cluster Meetings.

Program Updates

Career Guidebooks still available for 2009–2010 school year!

LIFE, Inc.: The Ultimate Career Guide for Young People includes a student journal, teacher's guide, companion website, and other valuable tools to help middle and high school students begin thinking about possible careers. The Deloitte Foundation and Neale Godfrey teamed up to make these resources free for all FCCLA advisers and students! Register at www.deloitteinsiders.com to receive electronic materials, or email ndipasquale@fcclainc.org to request hardcopies for your classroom. Include mailing address and number of students. Visit <http://www.fcclainc.org/content/life-inc/> for more information.

Register ONLINE for Ultimate State Officer Academy (USA) Phase II

USA Phase II online registration is now open! Register online at <http://www.fcclainc.org/USOALeadership> or from the Phase II webpage <http://www.fcclainc.org/content/usa-phase-ii/>. Phase II will be held in Washington, D.C. September 30 - October 3, 2009 at the Grand Hyatt Washington.

Phase II is composed of four days of intensive training, meetings, planning, and exercises designed to launch the ultimate leadership experience for chapter and state officers. Chapter and state officers will have the opportunity to participate in public policy development and advocacy training, team development, the *Student Leadership Practices Inventory* by Barry Z. Posner and James M. Kouzes, as well as tour our nation's capital. Officers will also have the opportunity to meet with their Congressional representatives of the Federal government to discuss current issues and concerns.

The leadership development theme of Phase II concentrates on the critical career skills students need in order to deliver the ultimate leadership experience. Through Family and Consumer Sciences education and USA student leaders will learn the critical training needed to provide exceptional customer service that encourages quality participation and growth of FCCLA membership.

Share Your Home, Change the World - Host a YFU Exchange Student

Youth For Understanding USA (YFU USA) is seeking families to host foreign exchange high school students for the 2009–2010 academic year. YFU is a leader in student exchange with more than 240,000 students participating in international exchange programs since 1951. YFU USA administers the FCCLA Japanese Exchange scholarship, given out to 14 students annually. YFU USA is part of a global exchange network of over 60 partner organizations around the world and with nearly 1,400 YFU volunteers in communities across the United States.

Share your home with new family member this summer and help him/her adapt to the U.S. lifestyle and culture. Hosting is a wonderful opportunity to learn about other traditions and languages without leaving home. Our host families are as diverse as our students. They are couples with or without children, empty nesters, single adults, and also come from all cultural and economic backgrounds.

Visit www.yfu-usa.org to learn about hosting an exchange student, and to access the online host family application. If you would like to speak with a YFU USA representative, please contact your local District office at (866) 493-8872.

Stop Bullying Now! Guide available for 2009–2010 school year!

Stop Bullying Now!, a campaign designed to prevent and reduce bullying, is still offering FCCLA advisers the *Stop Bullying Now! Activities Guide*, a handbook of ideas for putting the Stop Bullying Now! campaign to work in your community. From high school and middle school youth activists, to community organizations and after-school programs, the *Stop Bullying Now! Activities Guide* has something for everyone. For more information, visit www.stopbullyingnow.hrsa.gov. For a free copy of the *Stop Bullying Now! Activities Guide*, please email Nicolle Grayson at Nicolle.Grayson@widmeyer.com.

Miscellaneous



Visa, Inc. and Practical Money Skills for Life Teacher Newsletter

Get the best lesson plans, games, articles, and updates from Visa's Practical Money Skills financial education program delivered direct to your inbox for free. Visit www.practicalmoneyskills.com/newsletter to sign up.