

May 27, 2023

To Whom it May concern:

The Piner High School chapter of Family, Career and Community Leaders of America (FCCLA) is intending to send three students and one advisor to attend the 2023 National Leadership Conference (NLC) in Denver, Colorado, from July 1 to 7, 2023. NLC is a student leadership conference designed for middle and high school students and their teachers. This conference is the largest annual gathering of Family and Consumer Sciences professionals and students in the country.

The conference offers advisers a comprehensive educational experience to enhance classroom instruction through sessions with expert speakers, best-practices workshops and networking opportunities. Two of our students will be competing on a national level against other high schools in Baking and Pastry, and Pastry Arts Technical Decorating Skills competitions. The third student is our chapter president and also treasurer of our region who will be gathering experience and expertise to lead our chapter.

These conferences are designed to instill skills for life through character development, creative and critical thinking, interpersonal communication, practical knowledge, and career preparation. Last month I returned from the FCCLA State Conference in Riverside, California, deeply impressed by the growth in maturity, responsibility and skills that our 11 students exhibited throughout the conference. These opportunities are truly a time for students to grow and mature on every level.

A draft At-a-Glance schedule is attached. We will fly out of San Francisco or Santa Rosa (airline tickets have yet to be finalized) in the morning, arriving in Denver in the afternoon. We'll take the rapid transit from the airport to Union Station in Denver, and from there Uber to our hotel, the Hyatt Convention Center. We will register the next morning at the convention center. Over the next few days, Monday and Tuesday, our two baking students will compete in their categories.

When not competing, students will attend networking events, orientation for voting delegates, charity-bag decorating, and daily youth workshops and mini Red Talks held by other teens, teachers and exhibitors. They will have the opportunity to listen to national candidate speeches, and to vote for their favorite candidates. They will also view the best of the best, the winners and competitors of various competitions highlighted in a showcase.

State meetings of the California delegation will be held several times, usually at the end of the day, followed by our own region and chapter meetings when we will prepare for the next day by scheduling events and activities. Students will wear their formal uniform of red jacket, striped tie or ascot, black skirt or pants, and conservative black shoes, for each general session and formal scheduled events.

There'll be fun, too. A trip to Elych Gardens is planned, as well as an evening of yoga, zumba and DJ dancing in Sculpture Park. A dance is held for teens on the final night at the Hyatt. We will depart Denver Friday morning after a week crammed with activities, workshops and new friends. A national winner will be icing on the cake!

Costs for the trip will be paid using CTE Incentive Grant.

Sincerely,

Maureen McCabe
Culinary Teacher, CTE Chair, FCCLA Chapter Advisor

Attachment: NLC At-a-Glance Schedule