

May 8, 2024

To Whom It May Concern:

The Piner High School chapter of Family, Career and Community Leaders of America (FCCLA) is intending to send four students and one advisor to attend the 2024 National Leadership Conference (NLC) in Seattle, Washington, from June 29 to July 3, 2024. NLC is a student leadership conference designed for middle and high school students and their teacher advisors. 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. One of our students, Juan Nunes, will be competing on a national level against other high schools in the Baking and Pastry competition. The other three students will be taking online challenge tests and/or skill demonstration events. One of our students is our chapter president and also vice-president-elect of our region; he will be gathering experience and expertise to lead our chapter and region.

These conferences are designed to instill skills for life through character development, creative and critical thinking, interpersonal communication, practical knowledge, and career preparation. On May 1, 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 Alaska Airlines out of Santa Rosa on June 28 at 7 a.m., arriving in Seattle at 9 a.m. We'll take the Light Rail from the airport to Westlake Station in downtown Seattle, just three blocks from our hotel, the Sheraton Grand Seattle. We'll ask for our bags to be held, then head over to the convention center to register for the conference. Afterward, lunch, then look for a place to purchase a large bin for Juan's baking and pastry equipment, and buy milk and cereal for in-room breakfasts. On Saturday, we'll make sure Juan is ready for his competition in Baking and Pastry at noon.

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 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. The closing session, after awards, will be held in the early evening of Wednesday, July 3, followed by a dance and games for the members.

We will depart Seattle late Wednesday, July 3, after many days crammed with activities, workshops, and new friends. A national winner would be the icing on the cake!

Costs for the conference for four students and one advisor are:

- **FCCLA Registration fee** for 4 students, 1 advisor, \$170 per person - \$850
- **Baking and Pastry fee** (Juan Nunez) - \$55
- **American Culinary Federation certification exam, Certified Foundational Pastry Cook** (Juan Nunez) - \$35
- **Alaska Airlines**, Santa Rosa to Seattle, June 28 to July 3, 5-seat roundtrip - \$2,831
- **Sheraton Grand Seattle**, 3 king rooms, 6 nights June 28 to July 3, 2024, \$245 plus 18% tax or \$1,450 per person - \$4,350
- **Meals**, \$40 to \$50 per day, 5 people - up to \$1,500

The total is \$9,621, paid for with the CTEIG grant. There will also be some public transit costs added to that total, and possible Uber to and from the Santa Rosa Airport.

Sincerely,

Maureen McCabe  
Culinary Teacher, CTE Chair, FCCLA Chapter Advisor

*Attachment: NLC At-a-Glance Schedule, Field Trip Form*