

Contact:
Michael Haworth
Advisor
West Leyden FBLA

1000 N. Wolf Rd.
Northlake, IL 60164
WestLeydenFBLA@gmail.com

WEST LEYDEN HIGH SCHOOL
FUTURE BUSINESS LEADERS OF AMERICA

PRESS RELEASE

West Leyden FBLA Announces Partnership with JA of Chicago and Westdale School

Sixty-eight West Leyden FBLA members to teach over five-hundred kindergarten through fifth graders lessons in financial literacy on March 26th from 9:30 am to 12:30 pm at Westdale School in Northlake, Illinois.

Northlake, IL, March 24, 2015: The West Leyden High School chapter of Future Business Leaders of America today announced a partnership with Junior Achievement of Chicago to implement JA's High School Heroes program at Westdale Elementary School in Northlake with students from West Leyden High School in Northlake.

1. The general idea is to allow high school students to be involved in the community and serve as role models to kindergarten through 5th grade students while spending a day teaching different grade-level-appropriate JA programs about business and economics to the elementary grade students.
2. This winter, Yaritza Velasquez, Chapter President of FBLA at West Leyden, met with representatives from Westdale School and Junior Achievement on separate occasions to assess the feasibility and get the process started.
3. Miss Velasquez worked with her West Leyden FBLA adviser, Michael Haworth, Christine Germino of Junior Achievement, and the assistant principal at Westdale School, Robert Junna to arrange a kick-off meeting on January 27th at Westdale School.
4. The high school students have been trained at West Leyden by JA staff during three one-hour training sessions over the last few weeks. Additional follow-up training to reinforce professional dress, teaching strategies, and to go over curriculum were provided by Mr. Haworth on two other days.
5. On **Thursday, March 26th** sixty-eight members of the West Leyden High School chapter of Future Business Leaders of America will travel to **Westdale School** in Northlake to teach lessons in financial literacy to over five-hundred students in twenty-nine different classrooms from **9:30 am to 12:30 pm**.

6. Participating students will be asked to complete a 500-word or less essay reflecting on the most important lessons learned from the High School Hero program. The seniors with the top essays will receive consideration from Junior Achievement for a \$500 to \$1,000 scholarship. Additionally,
 - o all students involved in any JA program who have a "B" average are eligible to apply for a general scholarship of \$1,000 to \$5,000 during their senior year
 - o any student that has participated in a JA high school program is also eligible to apply for the \$20,000 Colonel Henry Crown Scholarship during their senior year if they have a "B" average

Mr. Haworth says, "I am very excited to pursue this opportunity for our students. I am a huge fan of Junior Achievement and FBLA's mission to bring financial literacy, work readiness, and business programs into the classrooms. I see huge potential for this program to continue to grow and make a substantial impact on the lives of our students for years to come."

Future Business Leaders of America - Phi Beta Lambda is a nonprofit 501(c)(3) education association with a quarter million students preparing for careers in business and business-related fields. The association has four divisions:

1. Future Business Leaders of America (FBLA) for high school students;
2. FBLA-Middle Level for junior high, middle, and intermediate school students;
3. Phi Beta Lambda (PBL) for postsecondary students; and
4. Professional Division for businesspeople, FBLA-PBL alumni, educators, and parents who support the goals of the association.

FBLA-PBL is headquartered in Reston, Virginia, and organized on local, state, and national levels. Business teachers, advisers, and advisory councils (including school officials, businesspeople, and community representatives) guide local chapters. State advisers and committee members coordinate chapter activities for the national organization.

Junior Achievement of Chicago is an educational nonprofit bringing financial literacy, work readiness, and entrepreneurship programs into classrooms from kindergarten through high school. JA of Chicago is the largest JA office of more than 120 area offices in the United States and reached an all-time high of 445,460 students during the 2012-2013 school year.

JA gives young people the knowledge and skills they need to own their economic success, plan for their future, and make smart academic and economic choices. Our corporate and community volunteers deliver relevant, hands-on experiences that give students skills in financial literacy, work readiness and entrepreneurship. JA programs empower students to make a connection between what they learn in school and how it can be applied in the real world – enhancing the relevance of their classroom learning and increasing their understanding of the value of staying in school.

Westdale School 99 West Diversey Avenue | Northlake, IL 60164 | 847.455.4060

West Leyden High School 1000 N. Wolf Rd | Northlake, IL 60164 | 847.451.3122