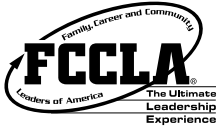


Tips for FCCLA Advising



Provided by Kim Jenkins, Boise City High, Okla.

- Publicize the success of students and the chapter.
- Make membership convenient for the students.
- Infect everyone with your enthusiasm.
- Recruit new members constantly.
- Make chapter members and officers responsible for the chapter.
- Listen to the students, and use their ideas.
- Unique and nontraditional activities generate interest and publicity.
- Be organized (or pretend to be!)
- Be human.
- Push students to try new things.
- Just do it—try new things; learn from mistakes.
- Be a constant role model.
- Never be afraid to ask questions or use someone else's ideas—just give them the credit (see next item).
- Thank those who help you.
- Plan and carry out interesting community service projects.
- Incorporate FCCLA national programs into the classroom.
- Have fun!



Working with FCCLA Members

The FCCLA Guide
to Preparing
**Future
Advisers**

Enthusiasm, genuine concern for young people, and familiarity with FCCLA resources and opportunities are keys to adviser effectiveness. Patience, a sense of humor, and flexibility help too! Here are some ways to strengthen members' FCCLA experiences:

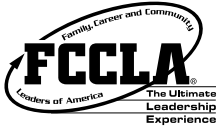
- **Encourage youth-centered leadership so all members have the opportunity to participate.** Students may need to be convinced they want to participate in youth-centered leadership. It's easier for them to let the adviser do everything for them. An effective chapter adviser helps students by guiding instead of prescribing, suggesting rather than dictating, and encouraging not demanding.
- **Help students feel comfortable assuming leadership roles.** Students' leadership abilities and interests will vary, but each FCCLA member can gain experience that strengthens his or her leadership for families, careers, and communities. Advisers can help students see chapter projects and activities as part of a larger process of learning.
- **Put members in charge so they truly feel responsible for the project or activity.** Using the FCCLA Planning Process gives youth the opportunity to identify their own concerns and establish their own goals. Some students may be skeptical about being given the responsibility for the planning, but if the adviser establishes a feeling of trust, chapter leaders will feel comfortable asking for adult advice.
- **Help students understand themselves and learn from their experiences, including successes and failures.** Incorporate evaluation and reflection throughout project development and implementation. Allow students full responsibility for their efforts, even if that means they are not completely successful.

- **Keep the organization visible within the school and community.** This helps students identify with FCCLA and garners support for the chapter and the Family and Consumer Sciences education program. The adviser can help members feel a part of FCCLA by staying informed about the organization and sharing the information with members. It also helps to use FCCLA-branded materials.
- **Identify and encourage outstanding members to run for district/region, state, and national offices.**
- **Affiliate all members at the district/region, state, and national levels as early as possible in the school year.** Full service to the chapter begins when dues are processed by the national organization.

Communication Is the Key

To be effective as a chapter adviser, it is essential to establish a personal level of communication with chapter members and to build a public relations link with the community. You can help make this happen by:

- Showing your enthusiasm for FCCLA activities and projects
- Dressing, acting, and feeling successful—it rubs off on those who come in contact with you
- Learning students' names and interests
- Informing parents when a member has done something that deserves recognition
- Letting school administrators know every time a member receives recognition at the district/region, state, or national level
- Establishing a good relationship with school counselors and encouraging them to promote FCCLA participation
- Expanding chapter connections by networking with professional and community organizations.



FCCLA Chapter Roles

As illustrated here, FCCLA members initiate, plan, and evaluate action, while advisers serve as facilitators and guides.

MEMBERS

- Set and enforce chapter expectations
- Identify concerns and project ideas
- Choose projects
- Develop plans
- Assume leadership roles (run meetings, gain administrative approval, research information, contact speakers, fill out forms, serve as group/team leaders)
- Carry out plans and use resources
- Publicize results
- Evaluate experiences throughout projects

ADVISERS

- Mediate enforcement of expectations
- Handle disciplinary action if necessary
- Encourage all students' input
- Ensure suggestions relate to Family and Consumer Sciences Education
- Ask questions that guide students to evaluate pros and cons of each option
- Introduce the FCCLA Planning Process
- Guide students to consider all phases of planning
- Encourage student leaders
- Model appropriate leadership behavior
- Suggest leadership resources/training
- Guide leaders to coordinate member participation
- Suggest programmatic resources
- Redirect inappropriate efforts
- Recognize supporters and participants
- Suggest public relations resources
- Ask leading questions
- Encourage input from all students
- Encourage openness and honesty