

# Working with Administrators

## FCCLA Advantages for Administrators

Emphasize the ways FCCLA can make administrators' efforts easier and more effective.

- FCCLA provides a ready-to-use framework for implementing educational priorities, including school-to-career efforts, cooperative learning, standards and competencies, authentic assessment, and volunteerism/citizenship requirements.
- Through project activities and publicity efforts, FCCLA reaches into the community to demonstrate how academic lessons are applied.
- FCCLA offers recognition for a diverse population of students, including many who are not otherwise involved in school activities.
- FCCLA is a highly effective way to help students explore careers and prepare for the transition into the work force or higher education.
- Because FCCLA transfers more self-responsibility to students, teachers are often able to build supportive relationships with students, a key factor in reducing disciplinary problems, truancy, and dropout rates.
- National programs involve all Family and Consumer Sciences students, thereby serving youth with a range of ability levels, economic situations, and cultural influences.
- FCCLA excites students about learning and makes them enthusiastic ambassadors for the school.
- FCCLA revitalizes teaching and learning.

## Gaining Administrative Support

Follow these steps to win support for your FCCLA chapter.

Develop a brief presentation of your integrated FCCLA chapter plans, with written back-up materials (see "Administrator Information Packet" on this page). Meet with your administrator to discuss integrated chapter possibilities. If at all possible, involve students in the presentation. The meeting might cover—

- a visit to the FCCLA Web site ([www.fcclainc.org](http://www.fcclainc.org))
- an explanation of FCCLA and its benefits
- an explanation of how FCCLA goals align with state and national standards for Family and Consumer Sciences Education and the school's educational goals
- success stories (including press clippings, if possible) from nearby chapters
- students' comments on why they support FCCLA
- sample lesson plans that illustrate how your curriculum's educational objectives can be met through FCCLA learning activities
- a request for the administrator's support as you and students create an FCCLA chapter
- try to arrange, through your state adviser or an adviser at a nearby school, for another school administrator to write or call your administrator in support of FCCLA
- encourage former FCCLA members and other FCCLA supporters in your school district to contact the administrator in support of starting a chapter
- if your administrator seems hesitant, create local success stories by incorporating FCCLA into your program on a trial basis for a limited time
- invite your administrator to attend and observe a chapter, district/region, or state meeting
- invite your administrator to join you in a meeting with the district/region or state FCCLA adviser.

## Administrator Information Packet

A persuasive presentation to your administrator might include these back-up materials.

- *Why FCCLA?*
- course syllabus incorporating FCCLA
- *FCCLA Information Sheet*
- *FCCLA Basics PowerPoint*
- press clippings from nearby chapters
- recent issues of *The Adviser* newsletter and *Teen Times* magazine.

# FCCLA Advantages for Administrators

Family, Career and Community Leaders of America (FCCLA) is the youth leadership organization for Family and Consumer Sciences Education. It completes the Family and Consumer Sciences Education program by involving students in hands-on, meaningful experiences that reach beyond the classroom and provide authentic and student-directed learning.

## **FCCLA brings classroom lessons to life. Integrating FCCLA into the classroom—**

- enriches student learning and improves self-esteem;
- involves all Family and Consumer Sciences students, thereby serving youth with a range of ability levels, economic situations, and cultural influences;
- provides opportunities to implement and assess student mastery of the Family and Consumer Sciences National Standards;
- revitalizes teaching and learning.

At the heart of FCCLA is student involvement in projects and activities they plan, carry out, and evaluate themselves. Chapter projects and activities stem from and enhance Family and Consumer Sciences programs of study. With FCCLA in the classroom, most of these experiences occur during class time. Some assignments and small-group projects may also occur outside of class.

Through their FCCLA involvement, students sort out thoughts, analyze situations, set goals, interact with others, apply classroom knowledge, and become leaders in today's—and tomorrow's—families, careers, and communities. Many agree that this is exactly what schools and educators need to offer young people.

## **FCCLA offers unique advantages for administrators.**

- FCCLA provides a ready-to-use framework for implementing educational priorities, such as school-to-career efforts, cooperative learning, standards and competencies, and volunteerism/citizenship requirements.
- Through project activities and publicity efforts, FCCLA reaches into the community to demonstrate how academic lessons are applied.
- FCCLA excites students about learning and makes them enthusiastic ambassadors for the school.
- Integrated FCCLA offers recognition for a diverse population of students, including many who are not otherwise involved in school activities.
- District/region, state, and national recognition in FCCLA programs strengthens the public's image of the school.
- FCCLA chapters' service projects build community good will and support.
- Integrated FCCLA is a highly effective way to help students explore careers and prepare for the transition into the work force or higher education.

Your support of FCCLA is a key element of its success. By extending this opportunity to students, you help them build leadership for families, careers, and communities.