

District VIII FCCLA Constitution

October 8, 2008

ARTICLE 1 - NAME AND PURPOSE

Section A. The name of this association will be Montana Association of Family, Career and Community Leaders of America, District VIII. Members are hereinafter referred to as FCCLA members. The letter's FCCLA may be officially used to designate the association, its chapters or members thereof.

Section B. The purposes for which this association will serve are as follows:

1. To provide opportunities for personal development and preparation for adult life.
2. To strengthen the function of the family as a basic unit of society.
3. To encourage democracy through cooperative action in the home and community.
4. To encourage individual and group involvement in helping achieve global cooperation and harmony.
5. To promote greater understanding between youth and adults.
6. To provide opportunities for decision-making and for assuming responsibilities.
7. To prepare for the multiple roles of men and women in today's society.
8. To promote family and consumer sciences and related occupations.

Section C. The creed of this association will be as follows:

We are the Family, Career and Community Leaders of America
We face the future with warm courage and high hope.

For we have the clear consciousness of seeking
Old and precious values.
For we are the builders of homes,
Homes for America's future,
Homes where truth and love and security and faith
Will be realities, not dreams.

We are the Family, Career and Community Leaders of America
We face the future with warm courage and high hope.

Section D. Our objective is: To help individuals improve personal, family and community living.

ARTICLE 11 - ORGANIZATION AND MEMBERSHIP

Section A. The District VIII Association is the district association for pupils studying family and consumer sciences in junior/senior high schools which are affiliated with the state FCCLA as determined by the state advisory board.

Section B. Membership in this association will be open to any member in good standing with the affiliated chapters of this district.

Section C.

Membership in this association will be of two kinds:

1. **Active Membership:** Any school pupil who is currently enrolled in an FCS class in junior/senior high school or has completed one semester of an FCS class is entitled to become an active member of any chartered FCCLA Chapter. Active members will wear the official FCCLA pin with the official guard.

2. **Honorary Membership:** Any individual who has helped to advance the FCS program or has rendered outstanding service to the FCCLA may be elected to honorary membership by a majority vote of the officers present at any official meeting by the executive council. Honorary members will not be eligible to vote or hold office, but they will be entitled to wear the official FCCLA pin with a special guard which will be an H.

3. **Alumni and Associate Membership:** A graduated FCCLA student that pays membership dues to continue support for FCCLA.

ARTICLE III - EMBLEM, FLOWERS AND COLORS

Section A.

The emblem of Montana Association of FCCLA will be a plane, octagonal in shape, across the top of which is the name "Family, Career and Community Leaders of America." Around the lower sides of the plane is the motto of the organization, "Towards New Horizons." The initials –FCCLA– will be placed in the center of the shape. FCCLA chapters place major emphasis on consumer education, community involvement, family life education, technology combined with exploration of jobs and careers. An emphasis is also placed on the multiple roles of family, career and community leaders.

Section B.

The flower of the organization is the red rose. It represents the FCCLA for beauty in everyday living.

Section C.

The colors are red and white. Red, an intense color, suggests strength. White is recognized as the symbol of sincerity.

ARTICLE IV - OFFICERS

Section A.

The officers of the District VIII Montana Association of Family, Career and Community Leaders of America will be: President, First Vice-President, Secretary, and Vice-President of Programs. The duties of these officers will be as follows:

President: To preside at the next District VIII meeting and the preplanning meeting preceding it. Also, to hold and carry out an assigned or elected state office. He or she will appoint all committees and may serve as an ex-officio member of these committees. The district president and advisor will complete and send the financial statement of the district meeting to the state advisor.

First Vice-President: In the event the district president is unable to attend the meetings, the vice-president will assume the president's duties. The vice-president will be responsible for the door-prize drawings at the district convention. A final responsibility is to establish a contact person from each

chapter to communicate with monthly through monthly e-mails on chapter activities. The Vice-president must then combine the information from each chapter representative and create one e-mail to report to the district president. The Vice-president MUST contact the district president each month with the prepared e-mail by assigned date.

Secretary: To keep the minutes of the District VIII preplanning meeting and the next District VIII meeting. The secretary is also responsible for roll call at the district convention. A copy of the district convention minutes is to be sent to the state advisor and each affiliated chapter following the convention.

Vice-President of Programs: To encourage and promote national programs. At the district level within local chapters, the Vice-president of programs will choose one national program to inform members on at the district meeting at state convention. Guidelines will be given. They will plan a snack for district convention and an activity.

ARTICLE V - MEETINGS

Section A. The District VIII Meeting of the Montana State Association of FCCLA will be held annually, except in cases of an extreme emergency, when it may be canceled by the State Advisor of FCCLA and the Executive Board.

Section B. The district meeting should be rotated among the chapters alphabetically and a list of chapters and their titles should be officially compiled and sent to each of the chapters. A chapter may decline the right to host the meeting only in situations of emergency or 1st year advisor.
The rotation will be:

Possibly add:

Glasgow
Nashua
Plentywood
Poplar
Scobey
Wolf Point

Brockton

Section C. The preplanning meeting is to plan the District VIII Meeting and will be held in the town of the district president. District Officers, from each chapter, may attend. Local president and one delegate are also allowed to attend.

Section D. The District VIII Secretary, after checking with the District VIII President for accuracy, should type the minutes of the preplanning meeting and District VIII Meeting and send a copy of each to affiliated chapters in the district. He or she will also send a copy of the District VIII Constitution or a revised copy if revisions have been made.

Section E. Each chapter will send two voting delegates to the District VIII Meeting to vote

on matters of business. The counting of the votes will be done by the advisors of the District VIII President and vice-president, and also a hostess chapter parent. The District VIII President will keep a record of the number of votes each candidate received. With the exception of the president, if an officer cannot fulfill his/her duties, the person receiving the next highest number of votes will assume the duties of that office.

Section F. We recommend that the dates for the preplanning meeting and the district convention be discussed at the district meeting at state convention for the following year.

ARTICLE VI - AMENDMENTS

Section A. Proposed amendments or bylaws to the District VIII constitution of the Montana Association of the FCCLA may be submitted to the District VIII Officers at the annual preplanning meeting and may be added to this constitution at the annual District VIII Meeting by 2/3 vote of the voting delegates at the District VIII Meeting.

Section B. Standing rules may be adopted or deleted by a majority vote at the meeting.

DISTRICT VIII STANDING RULES

1. Any profit exceeding \$10.00 from the district meeting operation will be given to the state scholarship fund.
2. Convention fees will be decided on by each host chapter at least two weeks prior to the district convention.
3. Each chapter in the district will donate \$100.00-toward the expenses of each district president attending the national meeting. This fee is payable at the district meeting. If the vice-president is allowed to attend, the donations will be divided between the two delegates.
4. No more than two officers may be from the same chapter. If three are elected, the lowest ranking officer will give up their office. (If no one else is running or didn't pass the test the third person would be allowed to take the office).
5. Balloting for district officers will be by two voting delegates, with five points for first choice, three points for second choice, and one point for third. The order of the ballot should be as follows: President, First Vice-President, Secretary, and Vice-President of Programs.
6. Each chapter should submit itemized bills with receipts for district expenses encountered before the district meeting and an estimate of additional expenses. These should be presented at the district meeting each year. Items to be considered as district expenses will be as follows:
 - phone calls concerning district business
 - postage for any district business
 - coke or cocoa hour costs
 - noon luncheon
 - cost of main program (speaker, his/her meal, transportation, film)
 - installation flowers and candles
 - Preplanning meeting expenses
 - prizes for name tag contest

7. When electing the next year's officers the present District VIII Officers will not be allowed to vote individually. In case of a tie between candidates, the current president will break the tie.
8. In the event that an office, except that of the president, is vacated permanently, the office will be filled by the next eligible person with the highest number of ballots.
9. The host chapter will handle all monies and report such transactions on the official financial record form. This form will be completed as soon as possible after the convention, and copies of it sent to the district president.
10. The various duties for the District VIII Meeting will be handled by the chapters as decided at the preplanning meeting.
11. Each chapter will submit a name tag for competition at the district convention. Advisors of the president, vice-president, and one adult from the host chapter will judge.
12. Door prizes for the district convention will be assigned at the preplanning meeting. These door prizes can be purchased or donated. The district vice-president will be responsible for the door prize drawings.