

19 students headed to State FBLA

Written by Holyoke Enterprise

Nineteen Holyoke FBLA members qualified for the State Leadership Conference after competing at the district level last Wednesday, Feb. 8.

Over 500 students from 11 schools competed at the District IV Leadership Conference at NJC in Sterling. The theme for the conference was “Pathway to Success—Gateway to Greatness,” and that’s exactly what the Holyoke students did by showing they are walking through the Gateway to Greatness!

Students participated in both competitive events and workshops.

State qualifiers include the top three placers in individual events, which is down from the top five who qualified for state in previous years. The top two in team competitions also qualified for state.



Holyoke FBLA members who attended the District IV Leadership Conference Wednesday, Feb. 8 are pictured from left, front row, Gaby Quintana, Kaylee Ham, Brooke Parker, Jacinda Krueger, Alyssa Cordova, Berenice Juarez, Payin Becerra and Brittney Prottsman; second row, Carolina Herмосillo, Alex McCallum, Whitney Redman, Shaylee Krueger, Ben Martinez, AJ Brandt, Teanna Clark, José Jaquez, Antonine Bidaud and Lea Hafliger; and back row, Jesus Herмосillo, KrisAnna Ham, Molly Brandt, Caleb Kafka, Matt Golden, Brett Cumming, Alex Quintana, Maddie King, Meg Strauss, Renan Barrueco and Henri Tuokko. Not pictured is Leo Ochoa, Chris Pell, Audi Peña, Troy Brown, Mark Edmonds, Margarita Fierro, Tia Huffman, Cierra Prella, Astolfo Rojo and Ryan Stark.

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Holyoke members headed to state include:

First place—Payin Becerra and Alex Quintana, Management Information Systems; and Whitney Redman, Who's Who.

Second place—Brett Cumming, Computer Problem Solving A+; Carolina Hermosillo, Networking Concepts; Shaylee Krueger and Meg Strauss, Business Plan; Alex McCallum, Electronic Career Portfolio; José Jaquez, Carolina Hermosillo and Gaby Quintana, Management Information Systems; and Leo Ochoa, Digital Design and Promotion.

Third place—AJ Brandt, Introduction to Technology Concept; and Chris Pell, Economics.

Other chapter projects that will compete at the state level include Partnership with Business, Brooke Parker and Alex Quintana; Local Chapter Annual Business Report, Kris- Anna Ham, Kaylee Ham and Molly Brandt; and American Enterprise, Teanna Clark and Brittney Prottzman.

Receiving one of three District IV Leadership Conference Scholarships was Whitney Redman.

Amanda Kerker from NJC conducted the SIFE business knowledge bowl last Wednesday. Two Holyoke teams competed against seven other teams, showing their extensive business knowledge.

The first-place senior team included Molly Brandt, Brooke Parker, Ben Martinez and Alyssa Cordova.

Junior team members were Audi Peña, Jacinda Krueger, Brittney Prottzman and AJ Brandt.

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Students were impressed with Governor John Hickenlooper as he gave his message “Great Words of Wisdom.” Hickenlooper related to students his struggles as a young person and that he learned to never give up.

He exalted being an entrepreneur and never overlooking all the people who surround oneself. He told students it takes a team to make events happen and that he started as a young person with a group of kids removing snow. From there, he learned the importance of hard work and that through teamwork, great things can happen.



Governor John Hickenlooper, guest speaker at FBLA’s district conference, is welcomed by HHS senior Whitney Redman, FBLA state executive vice president and national vice president.

Wednesday’s keynote speaker was Yahya Bakker. Through his experience and education as a teen speaker, relationship coach and strategic interventionist, Bakker empowers individuals to establish an open line of communication based on respect, appreciation and understanding.

Combining humor, reality and a call to action, Make the Change is a message about taking ownership for one’s life regardless of circumstances. Bakker provided personal examples of why he chose to blame himself as well as others, what he did to stop the blame and how teens and adults alike can make a significant difference in the world.

In addition to the state qualifiers and knowledge bowl members, other district competitors from the Holyoke chapter included Renan Barrueco, Antonine Bidaud, Troy Brown, Mark Edmonds,

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Margarita Fierro, Matt Golden, Lea Hafliger, Jesus Hermosillo, Tia Huffman, Berenice Juarez, Caleb Kafka, Maddie King, Cierra Prella, Astolfo Rojo, Ryan Stark and Henri Tuokko.

Also attending the district conference were chaperones Ravon Krueger and Misti Redman. Adviser Kristie Ham was selected to help run the Information Management event.

Holyoke Enterprise February 16, 2012