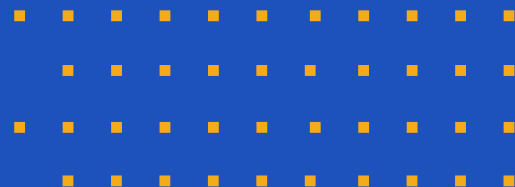
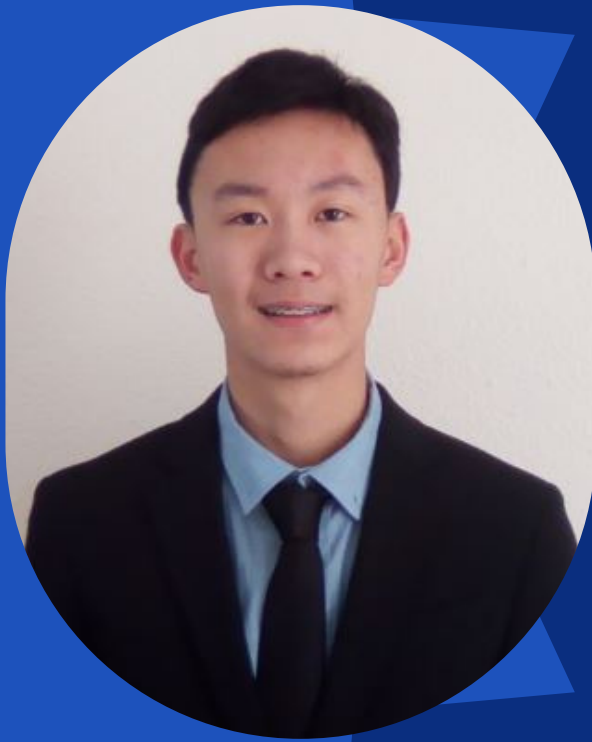




# MEET THE CANDIDATES





# HANSON DU

Grand Forks Central High School  
FBLA State President Candidate

I'M HANSON DU, A JUNIOR AT GRAND FORKS CENTRAL HIGH SCHOOL. CURRENTLY, I SERVE AS THE STATE REGION 1 VICE PRESIDENT, WHERE I HAVE GAINED INVALUABLE EXPERIENCE LEADING FBLA. I WAS ALSO THE RESOURCE DIRECTOR OF THE NATIONAL SECRETARY'S EXECUTIVE COUNCIL, WHICH HAS PROVIDED ME WITH GREAT INSIGHTS INTO THE RESPONSIBILITIES OF STATE OFFICERS AND OUR TASKS IN THE PROGRAM OF WORK. ADDITIONALLY, I HAVE BEEN THE VICE PRESIDENT OF MY CHAPTER FOR THE PAST TWO YEARS. THROUGH THESE LEADERSHIP ROLES, I HAVE A BETTER UNDERSTANDING OF FBLA AND THE EXPECTATIONS OF OFFICERS.

AS AN ACTIVE FBLA MEMBER, I HAVE PARTICIPATED IN EVENTS AT STATE AND NATIONAL CONFERENCES. AT SLCS, I HAVE PLACED 1ST IN INTRODUCTION TO BUSINESS CONCEPTS AND FINANCIAL MATH AND 2ND IN SECURITIES AND INVESTMENTS AND INTRODUCTION TO PUBLIC SPEAKING AND WAS A NATIONAL QUALIFIER IN ALL FOUR EVENTS.

OUTSIDE OF FBLA, I AM A MEMBER OF THE STATE SUPERINTENDENT'S STUDENT CABINET AND THE GRAND FORKS YOUTH COMMISSION, WHERE I AM THE VOICE OF MY PEERS AND SHARE A YOUTH PERSPECTIVE TO BENEFIT THOSE IN MY COMMUNITY. IN ADDITION, AS A STUDENT COUNCIL CLASS REPRESENTATIVE, I'VE ALSO PARTICIPATED IN EVENTS LIKE THE GIVING TREE, WHERE I COLLECTED CHRISTMAS GIFTS FOR NEEDY CHILDREN. I ALSO VOLUNTEER TO TEACH CHILDREN CHESS AT THE PUBLIC LIBRARY.

THESE EXPERIENCES HAVE ALLOWED ME TO BE AN EFFECTIVE LEADER WORKING WITH A TEAM. MY LEADERSHIP EXPERIENCE AND DEDICATION TO THE SCHOOL AND COMMUNITY MAKE ME A STRONG CANDIDATE FOR STATE PRESIDENT.

# KAIDENCE HASE

Drake- Anamoose High School  
FBLA State President Candidate



MY NAME IS KAIDENCE HASE, AND I AM EXTREMELY DEDICATED TO FBLA AND LOOKING TO IMPACT ND FBLA SIGNIFICANTLY! I HAVE BEEN IN FBLA FOR FIVE YEARS AND AM RUNNING FOR YOUR STATE PRESIDENT!

MY QUALIFICATIONS INCLUDE SERVING AS YOUR 2022-2023 STATE PRESIDENT, THE REGION II VICE PRESIDENT IN THE 2021-2022 SCHOOL YEAR, OUR CHAPTER'S PRESIDENT, SECRETARY, SOCIAL MEDIA COORDINATOR, PUBLIC RELATIONS, AND HISTORIAN. I ALSO SERVED AS MOUNTAIN PLAIN REGION NATIONAL COUNCIL MIDDLE-LEVEL DIRECTOR. I HAVE ALSO BEEN CLASS PRESIDENT MULTIPLE TIMES, STUDENT COUNCIL, AND FFA SECRETARY. I LOVE GIVING SPEECHES AND PRESENTATIONS, ESPECIALLY ABOUT FBLA! I HAVE ATTENDED AND COMPETED AT NUMEROUS STATE, FALL, AND NATIONAL CONFERENCES. I HELPED PLAN AND EXECUTE THIS YEAR'S AND LAST YEAR'S FALL LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE AND RAN WORKSHOPS. I WON NORTH DAKOTA'S YOUNG LEADER AWARD! I HAVE OVER 500 COMMUNITY SERVICE HOURS AND HELPED FUNDRAISE AND EXECUTE TWO FEED MY STARVING CHILDREN MOBILE PACKS. I ALSO HELPED START A FOOD PANTRY IN OUR SCHOOL FOR STUDENTS AND COMMUNITY MEMBERS IN NEED. I HAVE ALSO ORGANIZED MULTIPLE BLOOD DRIVES THAT WERE FBLA FUNDED. WHEN IT COMES TO FBLA, I HAVE INDEED DONE IT ALL, FROM INTRODUCING SPEAKERS AT THE LEARN TO LEAD THE CONFERENCE TO INTERVIEWS WITH NATIONAL OFFICERS; I AM CONFIDENT THAT I AM READY TO SHOW OUR STATE IN THE FOLLOWING YEAR.



# ALORA BERKE

Hatton/Northwood High School  
FBLA Region I VP Candidate

MY NAME IS ALORA BERKE, AND I AM A SOPHOMORE AT NORTHWOOD PUBLIC SCHOOL. I AM RUNNING FOR THE POSITION OF REGION I VICE PRESIDENT. I AM INVOLVED IN MULTIPLE CTSOS, INCLUDING FBLA, FCCLA, AND HOSA. I AM ALSO ACTIVE IN OTHER EXTRA-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES IN MY SCHOOL, SUCH AS GOLF, VOLLEYBALL, TRACK AND FIELD, STUDENT COUNCIL, SPEECH, DRAMA, SMILE, BAND, CHOIR, SOURCES OF STRENGTH, AND THE NATIONAL HONOR SOCIETY. OUTSIDE OF SCHOOL, I ALSO PARTICIPATE IN 4-H, YOUTH GROUP, AND HOCKEY.

MY QUALIFICATIONS FOR THIS POSITION INCLUDE SERVING AS AN FBLA CHAPTER PRESIDENT AND SECRETARY, CLASS PRESIDENT AND SECRETARY, AND CAPTAIN OF MY HOCKEY AND VOLLEYBALL TEAMS. IN ADDITION, I HAVE ATTENDED MULTIPLE STATE AND FALL LEADERSHIP CONFERENCES FOR ALL THREE CSTOS. SOME OF THE SKILLS THAT MAKE ME A GREAT CANDIDATE FOR THIS POSITION ARE THAT I AM ORGANIZED, PUNCTUAL, POSITIVE, EFFICIENT, AND DEDICATED. I ENJOY COMMUNITY SERVICE AND HAVE HOSTED A DRUG PREVENTION WEEK FOR MY COMMUNITY, GOTTEN INVOLVED WITH ACTIVITIES, INCLUDING RESIDENTS AT OUR LOCAL NURSING HOME, AND MANY OTHER SERVICE PROJECTS. FBLA HAS TAUGHT ME MANY NEW THINGS, AND I HOPE THE LEARNING WILL CONTINUE TO HELP ME GROW!



# CLARA ANKENBAUER

Bowbells High School  
FBLA Region II VP Candidate



## QUALIFICATIONS FOR OFFICE

I HAVE HELD LEADERSHIP POSITIONS, INCLUDING CLASS PRESIDENT, CLASS VICE PRESIDENT, AND MY LOCAL FBLA CHAPTER PARLIAMENTARIAN. THESE POSITIONS INVOLVE TAKING THE INITIATIVE AND HELPING MY CLASSMATES. AS A PARLIAMENTARIAN, I CAN SUPPORT MY OFFICER TEAM AND COLLABORATE WITH THEM ON MANY PROJECTS. IN MY TIME OFF, I VOLUNTEER AT CAMPS AND CLUBS WHERE I WORK WITH A GROUP OF TEENAGERS TO TEACH STORIES TO KIDS. I HAVE ALSO WORKED AT CAMPS WHERE I WORK WITH A TEAM OF SERVICE MEMBERS TO KEEP THE CAMP RUNNING SMOOTHLY.



# GENEZIZ RIOS

Divide County High School  
FBLA Region II VP Candidate

HELLO NORTH DAKOTA FBLA! MY NAME IS GENEZIZ RIOS, AND I WANT TO BE YOUR REGION II. VICE PRESIDENT. I STARTED FBLA IN EIGHTH GRADE AND IMMEDIATELY FELL IN LOVE. AS A CURRENT JUNIOR AT DIVIDE COUNTY HIGH SCHOOL, I HAVE DEVELOPED A GREAT PASSION FOR FBLA AND AM GRATEFUL FOR ALL IT OFFERS. DURING MY FOUR YEARS AS A MEMBER, I HAVE ATTENDED AND COMPETED AT NUMEROUS NORTH DAKOTA STATE LEADERSHIP CONFERENCES AND FALL LEADERSHIP CONFERENCES. AS AN ACTIVE MEMBER, I HAVE COMPLETED A BAA LEVEL EVERY YEAR THAT I HAVE BEEN IN FBLA. IN ADDITION, I HAVE ACHIEVED THE CONTRIBUTOR LEVEL AND LEADER LEVEL OF THE NEWEST BAA LEVEL SYSTEM. IN MY FBLA EXPERIENCES, I HAVE GAINED A UNIQUE PERSPECTIVE ON THE IMPORTANCE OF VOLUNTEER EFFORTS IN THE COMMUNITY, WHETHER FOR CHARITABLE ORGANIZATIONS OR FOR LOCAL FAMILIES IN NEED. THIS PERSPECTIVE LED A FELLOW OFFICER AND ME TO ORGANIZE A CLOTHING DRIVE IN OUR COMMUNITY. WORKING WITH THE COMMITTEE WE CREATED FOR THIS COMMUNITY SERVICE PROJECT HAS TAUGHT ME ESSENTIAL SKILLS SUCH AS LEADERSHIP, COMMUNICATION, BUSINESS, AND SOFT SKILLS NECESSARY TO BE A SUCCESSFUL LEADER. OUTSIDE FBLA, I PARTICIPATE IN FFA AND FCCLA. WORKING WITH THESE THREE ORGANIZATIONS HAS CULTIVATED MY ABILITY TO SET UP LARGE PROJECTS REQUIRING COLLABORATION WITH GROUPS THAT MAY ONLY SOMETIMES SEE EYE-TO-EYE.

IF ELECTED AS YOUR NEXT REGION II VICE PRESIDENT, I WILL CARRY OUT THE VICE PRESIDENT'S DUTIES, SUCH AS ASSISTING THE PRESIDENT, COMMUNICATING WITH THE REGION II CHAPTERS, AND PREPARING A MONTHLY NEWS REPORT. IN ADDITION, I WANT TO SPREAD MY PASSION FOR FBLA THROUGH EDUCATION ABOUT FBLA TO INCREASE MEMBERSHIP IN REGION II. I HOPE TO SEE YOU ALL AT STATE LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE THIS APRIL!

# EMMA BIEBER

Beach High School  
FBLA Region III VP Candidate



I AM A SOPHOMORE AT BEACH HIGH SCHOOL AND AM RUNNING FOR REGION III VICE PRESIDENT. ALONG WITH PARTICIPATING IN FBLA AS A CHAPTER OFFICER, I AM A SOPHOMORE CLASS REPRESENTATIVE IN STUDENT COUNCIL. OTHER ACTIVITIES INCLUDE SPEECH, ONE ACT, VOLLEYBALL, BASKETBALL, BOOK CLUB, BAND, CHOIR, AND GOLF. I AM VERY EXCITED TO CONTRIBUTE TO THE STATE FBLA COMMUNITY AND SERVE THE REGION III MEMBERS OF NORTH DAKOTA. IN MY FREE TIME, I ENJOY PLAYING MY TENOR SAXOPHONE, SINGING, AND READING ANYTHING I CAN GET MY HANDS ON!



# JULIET DAVIS

Carrington High School  
FBLA Region IV VP Candidate

THERE ARE MANY REASONS WHY I AM RUNNING FOR 2023-2024 NORTH DAKOTA FBLA REGION IV VICE PRESIDENT. FUTURE BUSINESS LEADERS OF AMERICA IS A VERY IMPORTANT PART OF MY LIFE. I LEARNED TO GET OUT OF MY COMFORT ZONE BY MEETING NEW PEOPLE AND WORKING HARD ON MY COMPETITIVE EVENTS TO QUALIFY FOR THE NATIONAL FBLA LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE. OVER THE PAST TWO YEARS, I HAVE GAINED A PASSION FOR FBLA. THIS PASSION HAS LED ME TO BRING PEERS FROM MY SCHOOL TO MEETINGS TO LEARN WHAT FBLA IS ABOUT, AND IN TURN, I HOPE THEY FIND THE SAME PASSION THAT I HAVE. FBLA IS AN ORGANIZATION THAT HAS INSPIRED ME TO LEARN AND GROW INTO A YOUNG LEADER. I AM ALSO INVOLVED IN OTHER ACTIVITIES BESIDES FBLA. I AM A REPORTER FOR MY LOCAL 4H CLUB, WHICH HAS BROUGHT ME LEADERSHIP EXPERIENCE AND SKILLS. ANOTHER EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITY I AM INVOLVED IN IS ONE ACT. ONE ACT HAS TAUGHT ME HOW TO EXPRESS MY FEELINGS THROUGH BODY LANGUAGE. IT HAS ALSO HELPED ME WITH PUBLIC SPEAKING, WHICH IS ESSENTIAL FOR COMMUNICATION SKILLS. TO BE A STRONG LEADER, YOU NEED GOOD COMMUNICATION SKILLS AND BE ABILITY TO GO OUT OF YOUR COMFORT ZONE. THESE EXPERIENCES HAVE MADE ME FIT TO ACQUIRE THE POSITION OF NORTH DAKOTA FBLA REGION IV VICE PRESIDENT.



# SOFIA WATTERUD

Williston High School  
FBLA Secretary Candidate



HELLO! MY NAME IS SOFIA WATTERUD. I AM A 16-YEAR-OLD SOPHOMORE ATTENDING WILLISTON HIGH SCHOOL. I HAVE BEEN A 4.0 GPA HONOR ROLL STUDENT FROM THE 7TH GRADE THROUGH THE CURRENT SCHOOL YEAR. I LOVE CHALLENGING MYSELF WITH HONORS AND AP CLASSES AND TAKING DUAL CREDIT COURSES. I HAVE BEEN THE PRESIDENT OF THE NATIONAL JUNIOR HONORS SOCIETY, WILLISTON MIDDLE SCHOOL SECRETARY, AND REPRESENTATIVE OF THE STUDENT COUNCIL. I HAVE BEEN ONE OF THE FEW SELECTED TO BE A STUDENT MENTOR TO NEW STUDENTS TO ACCLIMATE THEM TO WILLISTON HIGH SCHOOL. I AM VERY INVOLVED WITH MY CHURCH AND LOVE TO TEACH SUNDAY SCHOOL AND BIBLE SCHOOL IN THE SUMMERTIME. I AM PASSIONATE ABOUT MY RELIGION AND FOLLOW GOD'S WORD THROUGH ALL THAT I DO. I AM INVOLVED IN MANY ATHLETICS AND HAVE BEEN ON THE VARSITY CROSS COUNTRY AND TRACK TEAMS SINCE THE SEVENTH GRADE.

THIS PAST YEAR I WAS INVOLVED IN THE MISS NORTH DAKOTA OUTSTANDING TEEN ORGANIZATION, SPEAKING TO ELEMENTARY STUDENTS ABOUT MY PLATFORM, "BE THE BEST YOU THAT YOU CAN BE"; BUILDING A POSITIVE SELF IMAGE THROUGH PHYSICAL ACTIVITY. I HAVE HOSTED A VARIETY OF CAMPS, INCLUDING DANCE, RUNNING, YOGA, & ATHLETIC CLASSES TO GIVE KIDS A CHANCE TO BUILD SELF-CONFIDENCE THROUGH PHYSICAL ACTIVITIES. I PLACED FOURTH RUNNER UP TO MISS NORTH DAKOTA'S OUTSTANDING TEEN 2022. I AM CURRENTLY MISS WEST FARGO'S OUTSTANDING TEEN CONTINUING TO PROMOTE MY PLATFORM TO SPREAD POSITIVITY TO STUDENTS ACROSS OUR STATE. I CHALLENGE MYSELF BY STEPPING OUT OF MY COMFORT ZONE AND GETTING INVOLVED IN MY COMMUNITY. I AM A MATURE, COMPETENT YOUNG WOMAN WHO KNOWS HOW TO ENGAGE IN SOCIAL INTERACTIONS, COMMUNICATE AND BE PROFESSIONAL. I AM SKILLED AT TYPING, ACTIVE LISTENING, AND KEEPING ACCURATE RECORDS OF EVENTS. ALL OF THESE EXPERIENCES & CHARACTERISTICS WOULD MAKE ME A GOOD CHOICE FOR STATE FBLA SECRETARY & SERVING THE ORGANIZATION.



# TYLER MECKLE

Drake-Anamoose High School  
FBLA Treasurer Candidate

WHY SHOULD I BE ELECTED THE STATE TREASURER? I HAVE SERVED AS TREASURER FOR THE YOUTH GOVERNMENT AND MY LOCAL 4H CLUB. I HAVE ALSO SERVED AS THE STATE PARLIAMENTARIAN THIS PAST YEAR. I HAVE ALSO GIVEN OVER 200 HOURS OF COMMUNITY SERVICE WHICH INCLUDES PICKING DITCHES, VOLUNTEERING TO BE THE SANTA CLAUSE AT THE LOCAL CHRISTMAS DAYS IN ANAMOOSE, ALONG WITH TIME IN THE COFFEE SHOP AND THE CONCESSION STAND THAT THE CHAPTER DOES, AND MAKING THE COLOR FOR THE COLOR RUN THAT THE CHAPTER DID, RAKING LEAVES IN THE COMMUNITY THIS PAST FALL.



# ZALIANAH LOWES

Grenora High School  
FBLA Historian Candidate



I AM WORKING TO SERVE AS NORTH DAKOTA FBLA'S VERY OWN STATE HISTORIAN. I AM A SOPHOMORE AT GRENORA PUBLIC SCHOOLS WITH AN ONGOING 4.0 GPA WHO HAS WORKED AS OUR FBLA CHAPTER SECRETARY/TREASURER FOR TWO YEARS. OUTSIDE OF FBLA, I PARTICIPATE IN ACADEMIC OLYMPICS, STUDENT COUNCIL, VOLLEYBALL, AND LOCAL VOLUNTEERING. I AM A GOAL-ORIENTED STUDENT WITH EXCELLENT ORGANIZATIONAL SKILLS AND A PASSION FOR WRITING AND READING. THIS YEAR, I AM EXCITED TO GET A CHANCE TO WORK WITH MANY WONDERFUL PEOPLE AND REACH LEVELS OF SUCCESS THROUGHOUT THE DOCUMENTATION OF OUR HISTORY!



# KAYEL MILLER

Burke Central High School  
FBLA Historian Candidate

MY NAME IS KAYEL MILLER, AND I'M A SOPHOMORE AT BURKE CENTRAL HIGH SCHOOL IN LIGNITE, NORTH DAKOTA. I'M RUNNING FOR THE STATE HISTORIAN OFFICER POSITION. SOME OF MY QUALIFICATIONS FOR HISTORIAN ARE: I CAN SPEAK IN FRONT OF LARGE CROWDS, I HAVE DONE SEVERAL PHOTO SHOOTS FOR MISS RODEO NORTH DAKOTA 2023, I'M GOOD AT COMMUNICATING, I HAVE GOOD ORGANIZATIONAL SKILLS, MY ABILITY TO GET ALONG WITH A VARIETY OF STUDENTS, AND MY WILL-DO ATTITUDE. I LOOK FORWARD TO MEETING ALL OF YOU!

# PAYDEN PATTERSON

Bowbells High School  
FBLA Historian Candidate



SOME THINGS I WOULD LIKE TO ACCOMPLISH WOULD BE MAKING SURE THE CONFERENCE FLASHBACK IS PUT TOGETHER AND PROFESSIONAL. I WOULD ALSO LIKE TO MAKE SURE WHEN I WORK WITH THE SOCIAL MEDIA COORDINATOR THAT, WE ARE USING PROFESSIONAL MATERIAL. ONE LAST THING I WANT TO ACCOMPLISH IS MAKING FRIENDS AND BEING PROFESSIONAL!

I AM QUALIFIED FOR OFFICE BECAUSE I'M CURRENTLY A HISTORIAN FOR OUR LOCAL CHAPTER, SO I KNOW WHAT I AM SUPPOSED TO DO. I'M VERY GOOD AT KEEPING TRACK OF THINGS AND ORGANIZING. ONE THING I AM GREAT AT IS MAKING PRESENTATIONS AND FINDING INFORMATION. I ALSO LIKE WORKING WITH OTHERS, WHICH IS A GREAT SOCIAL SKILL.



# IAN CONARD

Stanley High School  
FBLA Social Media Coordinator Candidate

HELLO! I AM IAN CONARD, AND I HOPE TO BE YOUR NEXT STATE SOCIAL MEDIA COORDINATOR. FBLA HAS BEEN A PASSION OF MINE SINCE I STARTED HIGH SCHOOL. AS MY CHAPTER'S VICE PRESIDENT, I HELPED PLAN THIS YEAR'S COMMUNITY SERVICE PROJECT AND AMERICAN ENTERPRISE DAY ACTIVITIES WHICH WERE BRAND NEW TO MY CHAPTER IN STANLEY. I HAVE PLACED IN THE TOP 10 TWICE AT THE STATE LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE IN THE PAST TWO YEARS, 5TH PLACE IN POLITICAL SCIENCE MY FIRST YEAR AND 2ND PLACE IN PARLIAMENTARY PROCEDURE MY SOPHOMORE YEAR. I ATTENDED LAST YEAR'S NATIONALS IN CHICAGO, ILLINOIS, WHICH WAS THE HIGHLIGHT OF MY SUMMER. I ENJOYED CONNECTING WITH MANY MEMBERS FROM DIFFERENT STATES AND MADE LASTING BONDS WITH THE STUDENTS FROM MY CHAPTER. IN NOVEMBER, I WAS NAMED REGION II'S MEMBER OF THE MONTH FOR NORTH DAKOTA FBLA. I AM MY JUNIOR CLASS PRESIDENT AND HAVE CO-MANAGED MY SCHOOL'S JOURNALISM INSTAGRAM PAGE SINCE THE START OF THE SCHOOL YEAR. I AM VERY EXCITED ABOUT THIS YEAR'S STATE CONFERENCE AND LOOK FORWARD TO SHARING MY CAMPAIGN PLATFORM AND CREATING NEW CONNECTIONS WITH ALL OF YOU.

# BRITA OPPEGAARD

Divide County High School  
FBLA Parliamentarian Candidate



HI, MY NAME IS BRITA OPPEGAARD, AND I AM RUNNING TO SERVE AS YOUR NORTH DAKOTA STATE FBLA PARLIAMENTARIAN. I AM CURRENTLY SERVING AS DIVIDE COUNTY'S LOCAL FBLA CHAPTER REPORTER. IN ADDITION, I HAVE PREVIOUSLY SERVED AS A SOPHOMORE CLASS REPRESENTATIVE. I HAVE SERVED IN OTHER LEADERSHIP POSITIONS, INCLUDING ON THE STUDENT COUNCIL AS CLASS PRESIDENT SINCE EIGHTH GRADE. AS YOUR STATE PARLIAMENTARIAN, I WILL ENSURE THAT PROPER ORDER AND PARLIAMENTARY PROCEDURES ARE MAINTAINED DURING ALL MEETINGS. I WILL ALSO MAKE SURE TO MAINTAIN FORMAL COMMUNICATION AT ALL MEETINGS.





# RYLAN WAMSTAD

Hatton/Northwood High School  
FBLA Parliamentarian Candidate

MY NAME IS RYLAN WAMSTAD, AND I AM A FRESHMAN AT HATTON EIELSON PUBLIC SCHOOL. I HAVE BEEN A MEMBER OF THE HATTON/NORTHWOOD FBLA FOR ONE YEAR, AND I AM EXCITED TO RUN FOR PARLIAMENTARIAN FOR 2023-2024. I AM EAGER TO BE RUNNING FOR A STATE OFFICE IN NORTH DAKOTA. I HAVE BEEN INVOLVED IN BASEBALL, FBLA, CHRISTIAN YOUTH ORGANIZATION (CYO), SMILE, WORKING FOR THE FAMILY BUSINESS, INVESTING IN THE STOCK MARKET, AND RUNNING MY LAWN AND SNOW REMOVAL BUSINESS.