

IMPROMPTU SPEAKING

The ability to express one's thoughts without prior preparation is a valuable asset, as are poise, self-confidence, and organization of facts. This event recognizes PBL members who develop qualities of business leadership by combining quick and clear thinking with conversational speaking.

Eligibility

Chapters may submit individual who are members from active local chapters, on record in the national center as having paid membership dues by SBLC of the current school year.

Overview

Participants will be given a topic related to one or more of the following: FBLA-PBL Goals, FBLA-PBL activities, FBLA-PBL current national programs, current events, and/or relevant business topics. The goals include:

- Develop competent, aggressive business leadership
- Strengthen the confidence of students in themselves and their work
- Create more interest in and understanding of the American business enterprise
- Encourage members in the development of individual projects that contribute to the improvement of home, business, and community
- Develop character, prepare for useful citizenship, and foster patriotism
- Encourage and practice efficient money management
- Encourage scholarship and promote school loyalty
- Assist students in the establishment of occupational goals
- Facilitate the transition from school to work

Performance Guidelines

- A maximum of ten (10) finalists—or an equal number of participants from each group—will advance to the final round.
- Participants will be given the topic and have ten (10) minutes to prepare their speeches prior to appearing before the judges.
- Two (2) 4" x 6" note cards will be given to each participant and may be used during the preparation and performance. Information may be written on both sides of the note card. Note cards will be collected following the presentation.
- No reference materials, visual aids, or electronic devices may be brought to or used during the preparation or presentation.
- Each speech should be four (4) minutes in length.
- A timekeeper will stand at three (3) minutes and again at four (4) minutes. When the speaker is finished, the time used by the participant will be recorded, noting a deduction of five (5) points for time under 3:31 or over 4:29 minutes.

Performance Competencies

- demonstrate good verbal communication skills
- demonstrate ability to make a businesslike presentation
- explain content logically and systematically
- display self-confidence through knowledge of content and articulation of ideas

REFERENCE: Impromptu Speaking—Performance RATING SHEET-27