

## **Speaking To Your School Board**

- Contact your school district office
- Request a schedule of the upcoming school board meetings
- Ask to give a short presentation at an upcoming school board meeting
- Request to meet with one or two board members outside of a regularly scheduled meeting

## **Build a Relationship**

- Attend School Board Meetings
- Invite them to attend upcoming FCCLA Events both at your local area and at state events
  - It can be good public relations for you and them.
  - Board members can gain community support by attending your events and building a relationship with you.
  - It will also help your chapter gain community support.
- Send members information about your chapter's success
- Ask members to evaluate your project or be volunteer speakers

## **Forming a Presentation Plan**

Set a goal:

- When creating the presentation, it is important to decide what your goal is. It is always good to visit with your school board simply to keep them in the loop of your chapter's happenings. If you are making a difference in your community and they are aware of that, you have a greater opportunity to gain their support.
- If you are looking to gain support to attend a meeting or host a community project, it is important to show them the benefits that would come from your attendance at the meeting or involvement in the community project.

Deciding who should go:

- You should think of who, from your chapter, should go to talk to the school. It could be any active chapter member, your public relations officer, your chapter president, or even your entire chapter officer team.

Practicing what you would like to say:

- It is important to have in mind what you would like to say before you present in front of the school board. This preparation will help you showcase a professional presentation and feel confident and prepared. If it appears as though you put prior effort into giving the presentation, they will know you valued their time.

Be prepared to ask for any questions and to answer any that may arise

- Offering the ability for the school board to ask you any questions may help them dig deeper into your chapter's program of work and help you build a better relationship with them.
- The more invested they are in your organization, the better opportunity you have to gain their support for future endeavors

## **Follow Up**

- Communicate with them throughout the school year in order to build a lasting relationship
- Present again to them if you are seeking support for chapter projects or seeking help to attend meetings
- Don't forget to thank them for their support, whether it was offering their time, a financial donation, simply allowing you to host a community event, or attend a meeting. Show them what you did, what you learned, and how it helped to change you and/or others in a positive way.