



I'm excited to share a fantastic opportunity for you and your chapter to engage in enriching student learning activities and Teacher Professional Development sessions.

On Wednesday, WV FBLA Winners will have the chance to refine their presentations and collaborate with members from the Business & Industry sector on their competitive events. Additionally, they'll join other FBLA members to participate in the Bridging Innovation Week Pitch Competitions. This opportunity is open to all WV FBLA members, regardless of if they qualified for the National Leadership Conference.

The excitement continues on Thursday, April 11th, with Youth Entrepreneurship In Action Day. Here, students will immerse themselves in hands-on learning experiences, while teachers can partake in on-site professional development sessions aimed at earning the Entrepreneurship and Innovation Advanced Credential.

Please take the time to review this email thoroughly, as it includes essential details about the Winner's Circle and a special invitation to Bridging Innovation.

Winner's Circle Information

Event Details:

- Date: April 10th, 2024
- Time: 9:00 am - 3:00 pm EST
- Location: Mountain Health Arena, Huntington, WV
- Registration Link: [Blue Panda \(gobluepanda.com\)](http://gobluepanda.com) - WV FBLA Winner's Circle
- *Tentative Agenda attached*
- *Free to attend - Lunch on your own*
- *Lodging - Scroll down the page to Book Your Room Now for discounted rates [WV Entrepreneurship Ecosystem, Bridging Innovation Week, April 2024 \(wveshipecosystem.org\)](http://wveshipecosystem.org)*

Highlights:

- *Student Presentation Practice Sessions:* Encourage your students to participate in practice sessions structured similarly to those of the State Leadership Conference and National Leadership Conference. These practice opportunities aim to offer extensive experience with presentations and events, allowing Business & Industry members to provide valuable critiques and feedback. Such sessions are instrumental in helping your members prepare effectively for their competitive events at the National Leadership Conference.
- *Bridging Innovation Pitch Competitions and Presentations:* Engage in a dynamic experience by observing students and individuals who have advanced to the final round of various competitions, where they pitch their business ideas. This presents a valuable opportunity for your members to gain insights and strategies from other presentations, enriching their own presentation techniques. Formerly known as the High School Business Plan Competition, SparkWV will be one of the 6-12 Student Competitions and fosters innovation and entrepreneurship among middle and high school students in West Virginia. Key Focus Areas include Big Ideas and Small Business Ventures.

Bridging Innovation Information

We are extending a special invitation to you and your students to participate in Bridging Innovation Week's Entrepreneurship Education Day, scheduled for April 11th, 2024, in Huntington, WV.

Event Details:

- Date: April 11th, 2024
- Time: 9:00 am - 2:00 pm EST
- Location: Mountain Health Arena, Huntington, WV
- Registration Link: [Entrepreneurship Education Day Registration \(microsoft.com\)](#)
- *Agenda attached*
- *Free to attend, boxed lunch provided*
- *Lodging - Scroll down the page to Book Your Room Now for discounted rates* [WV Entrepreneurship Ecosystem, Bridging Innovation Week, April 2024 \(wveshipecosystem.org\)](#)

Highlights:

- *Student-Facing Sessions:* Engage your students in hands-on activities focused on creativity, innovation, and entrepreneurship. These sessions are designed to inspire and equip young minds with the skills necessary for the ever-evolving world of entrepreneurship, in collaboration with the Marshall Advanced Manufacturing Center, WVU Manufacturing Extension Partnership.
- *Teacher Professional Development:* Take part in a robust professional development session tailored for educators in collaboration with the West Virginia Department of Education. This session aims to provide valuable insights, resources, and strategies to enhance your ability to foster entrepreneurial thinking in the classroom, as well as position you for the advanced credential to teach the Entrepreneurship + Innovation Pathway through WVDE's CTE programs.
 - NOTE: If you attend teacher professional development with students, we will have volunteers to oversee your students' participation in workshops.

Questions Regarding Bridging Innovation or Entrepreneurship Day can be answered by Amber Ravenscroft, aravenscroft@edvgroup.org, or Cameron Keefe, ckeefe@edvgroup.org.

This unique opportunity is a collaborative effort to empower both students and educators in the realms of innovation and entrepreneurship at the same time. We believe that by equipping our youth with these essential skills, we contribute to shaping future leaders and innovators.

To register or inquire further, please visit <https://forms.microsoft.com/r/Y1wiFiFjpp>. We've also provided the attached resource that provides further information on the day's agenda, sessions, and professional development plan, should you need approval from your school/district.

Thank you for your dedication to entrepreneurship, and we hope to see you at Entrepreneurship Education Day during [Bridging Innovation Week!](#)

BRIDGING INNOVATION ENTREPRENEURSHIP EDUCATION DAY



APRIL 11
9:00 AM to 2:00 PM



MOUNTAIN HEALTH ARENA
One Civic Center Plaza, Huntington, WV 25701

AGENDA

9:00AM

Registration and Welcome
Hall 1

**BREAKOUT
SESSION #1**
9:30-10:15AM

STUDENT BREAKOUTS
**WKSP 1: Continuous Improvement – The Mindset
Entrepreneurs Need**
WVU Manufacturing Extension Partnership, Hall 7

**BREAKOUT
SESSION #2**
10:30-11:15AM

**WKSP 2: Pursuing Your Passions – How to Make
Money from A Hobby**
The EdVenture Group, Hall 9

**BREAKOUT
SESSION #3**
11:30-12:15PM

**WKSP 3: Rapid Prototyping – Unnecessary
Inventions**
Marshall's Advanced Manufacturing Center, Hall 8

9:30-12:15PM

TEACHER PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT
The EdVenture Group + West Virginia Dept. of Education, Hall 2

12:30-1:00PM

Boxed Lunches Available in Lobby

1:00-2:00 PM

Closing Activity: Pitch Perfect
Hall 1

BRIDGING INNOVATION ENTREPRENEURSHIP EDUCATION DAY

STUDENT WORKSHOP DESCRIPTIONS

	<p>Continuous Improvement – The Mindset Entrepreneurs Need: An entrepreneur’s success depends on getting the most out of their time, energy, and money. In this workshop we’ll look at tools to grow a new or existing business and maintain a Continuous Improvement mindset.</p>
	<p>Pursuing Your Passions – How to Make Money from A Hobby: Unlock the potential of your passions and turn your hobbies into a source of income! In this engaging and informative workshop, we will explore the exciting journey of transforming your favorite pastime into a profitable venture. Whether you love crafting, writing, photography, woodwork, or any other pursuit, this workshop is tailored to help you discover the pathways to financial success while doing what you love. Don't just dream it – monetize it!</p>
	<p>Rapid Prototyping – Unnecessary Inventions: Teams of students will be given a prompt for an "unnecessary invention" that they must use 3D printing pens to rapidly prototype a product that would address the problem. Students will learn that rapid prototyping is often the first step for entrepreneurs eager to bring their innovative ideas to life. This hands-on experience teaches students the vital role of prototyping in product development, demonstrating how rapid prototyping can effectively test a product’s functionality before it is mass-produced.</p>
	<p>Closing Session – Pitch Perfect: This dynamic closing activity helps students dive into the art of pitching and presentation skills! Participants will have the unique opportunity to craft and present their own fun and innovative ideas, honing their ability to communicate effectively in a pitch setting. From refining elevator pitches to mastering stage presence, this session promises a lively environment where students not only learn but actively apply key skills.</p>

BRIDGING INNOVATION ENTREPRENEURSHIP EDUCATION DAY

TEACHER PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT AGENDA

9:30-10AM	Why Entrepreneurship Education? We'll explore the effectiveness and impact of entrepreneurship education, introduce WVDE's Entrepreneurship + Innovation Pathway, and discuss effective entrepreneurship education pedagogy.
10:00-10:30AM	Entrepreneurial Mindset We'll explore the components of an entrepreneurial mindset, differentiate it from a managerial and traditional business mindset, and apply our learning through an experiential activity.
11:00-11:30AM	Design for Delight We'll gain introductory knowledge into design thinking and the Design for Delight methodology through a D4D Fun Loop.
11:30-12:30PM	Canvas Our Classroom We'll introduce a foundational entrepreneurial planning tool, the Business Model Canvas, explore its nine segments, and craft our own BMC for a classroom-based idea or improvement.
12:30-1PM	Working Lunch We'll introduce the foundations of business pitching, finish up our BMCs, and craft a compelling pitch for your classroom idea.
1:00PM-2PM	Closing Session - Pitch Perfect You'll join students from across West Virginia for a closing session on pitching ideas, where you'll have the opportunity to gather student input.