

Plan

LINK TO OFFICIAL FBLA PROJECT INFO:

https://greektrack-fbla-public.s3.amazonaws.com/files/1/High%20School%20Competitive%20Events%20Resources/Individual%20Guidelines/Presentation%20Events/Introduction-to-Programming.pdf?X-Amz-Content-Sha256=UNSIGNED-PAYLOAD&X-Amz-Algorithm=AWS4-HMAC-SHA256&X-Amz-Credential=AKIAWVAJYMX2IFDGHQE3%2F20251128%2Fus-east-1%2Fs3%2Faws4_request&X-Amz-Date=20251128T185131Z&X-Amz-SignedHeaders=host&X-Amz-Expires=300&X-Amz-Signature=90e97a293bc8b94d8dd85e0b0dc7d25f7335cba3ca5f0335afb6838055a94d46

General Event Info

Details

Event Name	Introduction to Programming (2025–2026 topic: Build a Virtual Pet)
Who Can Compete	High-school 9th & 10th graders only (you're a sophomore → perfect)
Team Size	1, 2, or 3 members (you're competing solo)
Your School & State	Downingtown STEM Academy, Pennsylvania FBLA
Goal	Create a virtual pet that users can name, feed, play with, etc. + add a "cost of care" money system to teach financial responsibility
Required Features	• Pet customization (name, type, appearance) • Care actions (feed, play, clean, rest, health check) • Pet reacts (happy/sad/sick) • Tracks expenses & has a budget • Input validation
Extra Credit Features (almost every top-3 has these)	• Pet saves when you close the program (data persistence) • Earn money through chores/mini-games • Pet evolves or learns tricks over time

Pennsylvania Timeline (2025–2026)	Date	What Happens
Submission Deadline	December 19, 2025 (11:59 p.m.) – your adviser wants everything by Dec 16 to be safe	Upload code + documentation via BluePanda (PA FBLA website)
State Qualifying Round (“Prelims”)	January 28, 2026	13-minute Zoom presentation (3 min setup + 7 min talk/demo + 3 min Q&A)
State Finals (top 4 only)	April 13–15, 2026	In-person at Hershey Lodge – same format but with projector
National Leadership Conference	June 29 – July 2, 2026	San Antonio, Texas – top 4 from PA go automatically

What You Must Submit by Dec 19 (via BluePanda – your adviser uploads)	File Name Example	Contents
Code Zip	YourName_IntroToProgramming_Code.zip	All program files + images/sounds so judges can run it on their computer before January 28
Documentation Zip	YourName_IntroToProgramming_Docs.zip	• README.txt (how to run it, what keys to press) • Credits.txt (where you got images/sounds) • Screenshots (optional but nice)
Optional One-Page Summary	YourName_IntroToProgramming_Summary.pdf	Title, bullet list of features, QR code to GitHub (if you make one)

**Your 7-Minute Presentation
Plan (January 28 Zoom &
later at Hershey/NLC)**

	Time	What You Do / Say
Greeting & Hook	0:00–0:30	“Hi judges! I’m [Your Name] from Downingtown STEM Academy presenting PawBudget – a virtual pet that teaches money smarts.” (Yes, say your school!!)
Create & Customize Pet (ask judges a quick question)	0:30–2:00	Let judges pick the pet type → show name, appearance choices
Daily Care & Reactions	2:00–4:00	Feed, play, clean → show pet getting happy/sad/sick
Money System (the big differentiator)	4:00–5:30	Every action costs money → vet bills → run out of cash → pet gets taken away
Earn Money + Extras	5:30–6:00	Do chores/mini-games to earn coins → buy toys → pet evolves
Show the Code (open your editor)	6:00–6:45	“Here’s my Pet class, input validation, and JSON save file” – zoom in on comments & functions
Closing	6:45–7:00	“PawBudget combines fun with real financial lessons. Questions?”

How to Get Top 3 (or 1st) – Checklist

Must Have for 120+ points (out of 130)

Pet saves & loads (data persistence)	JSON or text file
Classes/objects (Pet class, Wallet class)	Shows clean, modular code
Input validation on every entry	Try/except loops, keeps program from crashing
Money earning system (chores/mini-game)	Almost every 1st-place project has this
Detailed comments & good function names	Judges love readable code
Full documentation (README + credits)	Worth 20 points alone
Confident delivery + eye contact	Practice 20+ times on Zoom

Visuals

Visual Item	What It Is	How to Use It in Your 7 Minutes	Device Used
Main Laptop	Running your actual program (the live pet)	Full-screen demo of creating pet, caring, spending money, earning coins, pet evolving	Device 1
Tablet or Second Laptop	8–10 clean, beautiful slides (big text, screenshots, icons)	Hold it up or share screen in Zoom → flip through during talking points (see slide list below)	Device 2
Phone (optional)	Backup timer + one-page handout PDF ready to screen-share if needed	Only if you need a third device (most solos just use 2)	Device 3 (rare)
Printed One-Page Handout	8.5×11 color sheet (allowed as “physical material”)	Show it at the start: “Here’s a quick overview for you” → place on desk (judges love this)	Physical prop

Slide #	Title / Content	What You Say While Showing It
1	PixelPaw (huge logo) + Your Name + Downtown STEM Academy	Greeting + hook
2	The 2025–2026 Topic (quote the 4 required bullets + cost-of-care)	“Here’s exactly what FBLA asked for...”
3	Feature Overview (6 big icons: Customize → Feed → Play → Shop → Chores → Evolve)	Quick overview before live demo
4	Live Pet Demo (big screenshot of your pet smiling)	Transition to laptop: “Now let me show you live...”
5	Money System (screenshot of expense log + current balance)	“Every action costs money — watch what happens when I skip feeding”
6	Code Highlights (4 zoomed-in screenshots: Pet class, input validation, JSON save, comments)	Open code on laptop + point to these on tablet
7	Documentation (photo of your folder with README, credits, etc.)	“Everything judges need is in here”

8 Thank You + QR code to GitHub (optional) + Closing
“Questions?”

SCRIPT

BACKUP PLAN

