

2019- 2020 School Store Managers

As another year wraps up, I wanted to thank this year's school store managers; seniors Jasmine Adam, Furkan Addow, and Kaitlyn Kratsch. They were a part of the Business Internship program where they not only held jobs outside of school but also ran the day to day operations of the school store. They took on several tasks including adding a new Instagram account for the school store, they worked alongside their classmates to sell products at the middle schools during Homecoming week, and they created promotions to reach out to families about the store. On top of this, they took it upon themselves to add fresh baked chocolate chip cookies to be sold in the school store during lunches. They also connected with store managers at Coon Rapids High School and Anoka High Schools to see what we could improve at BHS. While managing the school store they also helped run the community service projects through Business Professionals of America (BPA) where they received Region, State, and National recognition.

Jasmine, Furkan, and Kaitlyn are all second-year BPA members who were excited to be able to attend the National BPA Leadership Conference for the first time. This year it was going to be held at the National Harbor in Maryland May 5-10 but unfortunately it was cancelled due to Covid-19. I am extremely proud that Kaitlyn qualified to compete in Advanced Interview Skills as well as Prepared Speech while Furkan and Jasmine were representing Blaine BPA in the BPA Cares Awards Program and as conference interns. If that is not impressive enough, all three of them earned the National BPA Ambassador Torch Award which is the highest achievement in the Torch Award system.

Jasmine, Furkan, and Kaitlyn did a wonderful job working together as a team. They were flexible and understanding with each other while keeping the store and their customers in mind. I am excited to see where their future takes them, and I cannot thank them enough for all of their hard work. To learn more about each of their manager experience, [click here](#) for a little Q&A section. Thank you for all of your hard work this year!



Q&A with Your Store Managers

Why did you want to become a school store manager?

Furkan: During the interview with Mrs. B, she asked everyone if they wanted to be a manager. At first, I didn't know what that entailed, so I just said yes. It was an impulsive decision but I 100% do not regret it.

Jasmine: I wanted to become a store manager because I like telling people what to do and running a mini shop seemed really cool to me. I also was always interesting in managing so it was a perfect fit for me.

Kaitlyn: I wanted to become a school store manager because I love to take initiative and lead others. I knew that it would help me gain skills that I could apply to the real world, and this opportunity also helped me gain scholarships for my upcoming school year in college.

What did you learn as a manager?

Furkan: We learned how to open and close the school store, putting money in the tills and cashing out as well. We also learned how to oversee the operation of the store as well as customer service.

Jasmine: I learned a lot about patience and hard work. I didn't expect it to be as hard, but I made a lot of good friends and learned tons of experience. I also learned about customer service and managing my time and effort.

Kaitlyn: I learned many things as a manager. I learned basic things such as how to work a pos system, how to market, and safety guidelines. But aside from that, I learned to be patient while working with others, because everyone works at a different pace. I learned the importance of respect to customers, but also how to stand up for what I believe in. I also learned the importance of integrity and sacrifice.

What was your favorite product of the year?

Furkan: It's hard to choose because there's so many good things. But I really liked the reusable straws. They are very practical and portable, overall, they're pretty cool.

Jasmine: My favorite product of the year was the cookies! It was so fun to make them and sell them.

Kaitlyn: Hands down without a doubt my favorite product of the year was the cookies!! Such a big hit, and who doesn't love warm cookies!

How will this experience help you in the future?

Furkan: Being a manager has pushed me out of my comfort zone. It has allowed me to think outside of the box as well as becoming more comfortable in a leadership role.

Jasmine: Although I don't plan on going into managing for school, I still got tons of work experience and new skills that I will definitely implant in the workforce.

Kaitlyn: This was a great learning experience for me. It will help me by allowing me to take other leadership roles. I was nervous at first, because being a manager was a lot of work, more than our other classmates in the internship, but I had a very good mentor Mrs. Boisjolie that helped us when we struggled. I think it was a good experience to get a glimpse of what the real world is like.

What are your plans after graduation?

Furkan: I will be attending the University of Minnesota Twin Cities in the Liberal Arts program. I'm excited for the new opportunities and to see where the future will take me!

Jasmine: I plan to attend the University of St. Thomas. I'm double majoring in International Relations and Public Policy Economics. I plan on doing Law, or some sort of future in policy making or public health.

Kaitlyn: My plans after graduation are to attend North Dakota State University to study biological sciences. I hope to get into med-school after that to become a pediatric oncologist!

