

## Minnesota BPA Collaborates with SKT China BPA

On Wednesday, [November 18](#) select Business Professionals of America (BPA) Region 4 Officers and Blaine Chapter Officers were honored speakers at the SKT China BPA Virtual Event. Blaine High School Senior Elena Que and Juniors Carter Anderson, Heba Hussein, and Elijah Johnson shared their personal experience with BPA and how it has shaped them into the students they are today. They gave valuable insight into preparing for competition, as is SKT China's inaugural year. All four students are Blaine Chapter Officers with three-years of BPA experience. Elijah and Elena are Region 4 BPA Officers where Elijah is serving as President and Elena as Secretary.

The conference was attended by close to 30 other Chinese students and advisors from SKT China and was hosted by Grace and Steven who are not only the BPA Vice Presidents of Academics but also part of China's founding BPA team. Last year Grace was a member of a BPA Chapter in Texas where she competed and won many awards. When she went back home, she found the experience she had in BPA was so rewarding she wanted to share it within her school.

After the conference was held Grace said that the conference was "beneficial to all the Chinese students participating in BPA China." Elijah shared his thoughts about his experience with this conference by saying;

"About halfway through the meeting, I was struck by how much I've grown as a person. It was crazy to reflect upon my past experiences and realize that I was giving answers to the same questions that I had all those years ago when I first joined BPA. All in all, it was an incredibly humbling experience, and I look forward to more joint Minnesota-China opportunities! I'm glad that our organization is expanding and affecting more and more people!"

Elena referred to the BPA community by sharing that "through speaking to China BPA, I learned that our community is not limited to those around us. It spans across the world and it is through collaboration with those in our global community that we gain new perspectives and reach our fullest potential."

On [December 2](#), another session was hosted together where Elena and Elijah shared how they would prepare for specific events. This gave the Chinese members insight on how they can prepare for these events without getting overwhelmed. Both chapters are looking forward to continuing this partnership with sessions being focused on Torch Awards and community service. Elena and Elijah are also Region 4 Officers and they have been working with their officer team to create a YouTube channel where they will collaborate with Grace and Steven. This is an exciting time and both chapters are excited and honored to build this connection that foster an international network for its members.

For more information about Blaine BPA you can follow them on [Instagram](#), [Twitter](#) and Tik Tok @blainebpa or go to their chapter website at [blainebpa.org](http://blainebpa.org). You can also reach out to their chapter advisors; Holly Boisjolie, Rachel Bausman and Jenny Birkmeier.