

# Wisconsin Association of FFA

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## Program of Activities

2016-2017

### State FFA Officers & Staff:

President: Brenna Bays

Sentinel: Travis Cadman

Vice President: Caleb Green

Parliamentarian: Kari Fischer

Vice President: Ciera Ballmer

Treasurer: Rylee Black

Vice President: Ashley Zimmerman

Reporter: Hannah Taylor

Vice President: Dani Angotti

Wisconsin FFA Executive Director:

Vice President: Sarah VanAsten

Cheryl Zimmerman

Secretary: Laura Munger

Wisconsin FFA Advisor: Jeff

Hicken

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## **Growing Leaders**

### **Wisconsin Association of FFA**

#### **Leadership:**

1. Promote and facilitate leadership conferences for FFA members. The conferences available consist of EDGE, FIRE, 212, 360, Sectional Leadership Workshop, Halftime, and WLC.
  - a. Promote conferences through social media, the Wisconsin FFA website, and Wisconsin FFA Center Updates to advisors.
  - b. At the conferences, students will participate in activities that will enhance their leadership skills and abilities that they will bring back to and implement in their FFA chapter, other activities they are involved in, and their personal lives.
2. Encourage members to attend and be actively involved in the Wisconsin FFA Convention.
  - a. Actively plan, promote and execute the Wisconsin FFA Convention in June of 2017 through social media, the Wisconsin FFA Website, and Wisconsin FFA Center updates to advisors.
  - b. At the Convention, members will be able to attend leadership workshops and listen to keynote speakers. The messages given in these workshops in speeches will enable students to grow personal leadership attributes.
3. State officers conduct chapter visits to all schools within their respective sections.
  - a. State officers plan and execute activities designed to promote FFA and utilize leadership qualities such as teamwork among students.
  - b. Because of these visits, students are aware of FFA and are exposed to leadership training.
4. Chapters that submit a National Chapter Application will be eligible to nominate one student for the Three Star Leader Award.
  - a. The Three Star Leader Award is awarded to students who are proven leaders within their chapter and have been active in activities in the Growing Leaders, Building Communities, and Strengthening Agriculture categories of the National Chapter Award.

#### **Healthy Lifestyles:**

1. Have students and parents sign a Conference Conduct Agreement form for all FFA Conferences.
  - a. This Code of Conduct form ensures students are making healthy lifestyle choices at FFA functions put on by the Wisconsin Association of FFA
2. In order to be a State FFA Officer, all candidates must sign a contract that promotes healthy life choices.
  - a. This contract is an agreement that State FFA Officers will not consume alcoholic beverages, use tobacco products, or illegal drugs. If this contract is violated, the State Officer/s will be dismissed from the team.
  - b. Because of this contract, State FFA Officers are being role models for students through their good life choices.
3. Through activities put on by the Wisconsin Association of FFA, members will have the opportunity to network with students and advisors from all around the state.
  - a. The opportunity to network and make new friends allows students to come away with positive experiences and lifelong friendships. The new friendships and bonds formed through FFA build self-confidence and self-esteem among our members.

## **Career Success:**

1. Farm Forum, Co-ops Yes!, career shows, and workshops highlighting agriculture at State FFA Convention allow students to interact with employees and company representatives in the agricultural industry. These opportunities push students to be college and career ready.
  - a. Through these experiences, students can ask questions and get more detailed information about certain career pathways. For example, a Farm Forum workshop featured a veterinarian and a workshop at State FFA Convention featured a florist.
  - b. Farm Forum, Co-ops Yes!, career fairs, and workshops at FFA events also give students an opportunity to meet with representatives from technical colleges and universities. These interactions allow students to ask questions about potential majors and career paths.
2. Through Leadership Development Events (LDE), students will develop their communication skills.
  - a. Wisconsin FFA will promote Leadership Development Events. At these events, students can participate in three of the seven different Leadership Development Events.
  - b. The skills gained in these events enables students to develop communication skills that will be beneficial in a future career.
3. Career Development Events (CDE) competitions will be held to allow students to test their knowledge and learn about different career fields.
  - a. Students can participate in many different Career Development Events.
  - b. This allows students to explore possible careers in the agricultural industry.
4. My Journey is a resource offered by National FFA.
  - a. This resource is located on FFA.org and allows students to access tools such as a resume builder and showcases possible careers.
  - b. Wisconsin FFA will promote the usage of this tool throughout the year.
5. Agricultural tours will be offered at the Wisconsin FFA Convention.
  - a. These tours will take place in and around the city of Madison.
  - b. Students and advisors can explore possible careers through these tours.
6. Students are encouraged to take advantage of Supervised Agricultural Experiences (SAE's).
  - a. Supervised agricultural experiences give students real life experience working in agriculture.
  - b. Students can apply for proficiency awards for recognition of their SAE.

## **Scholarship:**

1. Washington Leadership Conference Scholarships are offered for members wanting to attend the Washington Leadership Conference (WLC).
  - a. Students can apply for scholarships that will offset a portion of the cost of WLC.
2. State FFA and National FFA Scholarships are offered to Wisconsin FFA members.
  - a. Students can apply for Wisconsin FFA and National FFA scholarships. These scholarships are awarded based on academic achievement and involvement in FFA.
3. State FFA Officers are awarded scholarships for their year of service.
  - a. A \$1,000 scholarship is given to state FFA officers.
  - b. A \$1,250 scholarship is given to the state FFA president.
  - c. The Wisconsin FFA Alumni also awards an additional scholarship to the state FFA officers through the Wisconsin FFA Foundation.

### **Personal Growth:**

1. Promote chapters to hold annual banquets to reward members for their successes.
  - a. Students receive awards and recognition for all that they accomplished throughout the year within their FFA year.
2. Chapters are encouraged to have officer teams.
  - a. Members who serve in these positions will not only take leadership roles, but will grow by developing a sense of responsibility and the ability to work as a team.

## **Building Communities Wisconsin Association of FFA**

### **Economic Development:**

1. Reduce the hunger rate in Wisconsin and around the nation.
  - a. State Officers perform multiple workshops on the Hunger Initiative to inform members about what is happening in their own communities.
  - b. Give members workbooks to create their own activity within their own community to fight hunger.
  - c. At the Wisconsin State FFA Convention, many FFA members participate in the Rally to Fight Hunger and Day of Service to provide service to others.
2. Participate in different clothing drives to help society.
  - a. Participate in Cash for Clothes sponsored by Easter Seals. Through this program, many chapters across the state bring bags of clothes to pick up points to donate their items.

### **Environmental:**

1. Host a Day of Service at the Wisconsin State FFA Convention.
  - a. Members have a chance to participate in the Day of Service at convention. Some activities include planting flowers and trees, overall cleanup around the capitol, lakeshore cleanup, and community park cleanup.
2. State Officers have carpools to reduce the amount of air pollution and use email communication instead of paper as much as they can.
3. Encourage members to participate in proficiency award areas, career development events, and the agriscience fair.
  - a. Members who participate in these events analyze many environmental factors, which could include fertilizers, soils, advancements in science, and many others.

### **Human Resources:**

1. Allow opportunity for the public to learn more about organizations related to FFA.
  - a. To keep an updated version of our FFA website, [www.wisconsinffa.org](http://www.wisconsinffa.org), to allow others to learn about FFA, DPI, Foundation, Alumni, WAAE and all members of Team Ag Ed
2. Elect the Board of Directors every year, which are the advisors of the current state officers. This panel has a say for each section in the state to make important decisions for the future.
  - a. Board of Directors along with State Officers and State Staff meet on a regular basis and monthly as we approach State Convention.

**Citizenship:**

1. Respect the traditions of our country.
  - a. Raise and lower the American flag at our National Leadership Conference for State Officers.
  - b. Give invocations at important meals, banquets, and conferences.
2. We are a student run organization.
  - a. Each chapter is allowed up to two delegates at the state convention and votes in the new state officer from their section in the delegate round.
3. Cooperate with other organizations.
  - a. State Officers attend the CTSO Legislative Day at the state capitol to meet with different legislators to communicate the importance of Career and Technical Student Organizations (CTSO). This allows the State Officers to meet other State Officers from other organizations to share ideas.
4. The State President and another State Officer attend the State President's Conference in Washington, D.C.
5. Run all meetings according to Robert's Rules of Order.
  - a. Open all conferences and meetings with opening ceremonies and end with closing ceremonies.
  - b. Offer a Parliamentary Procedure Contest to members to help them understand how to run a meeting effectively.

**Stakeholder Engagement:**

1. Use funds from the Foundation and sponsors accordingly.
  - a. Sponsors donate to the Wisconsin Association of FFA through the Wisconsin FFA Foundation. These funds are used to enhance the FFA members' experience.
  - b. Foundation and sponsors are thanked at State Convention at the third general session and through the Sponsors and Award Winners Dinner.
2. Support all forms of education.
  - a. State Officers and State Staff work directly with the Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction.
  - b. Support school districts that involve CTE programs. We thank the administrators of the school State Officers are from by recognizing them on stage at state convention.
  - c. The Wisconsin Superintendent of Public Instruction is invited to speak to the attendees of the Wisconsin FFA Convention.
3. Work hand in hand with our State Alumni.
  - a. Attend State Alumni Convention and help out with the auction to raise money for the Alumni Organization. These funds also supports members around our state to attend conferences like the Washington Leadership Conference.

## **Strengthening Agriculture**

### **Wisconsin Association of FFA**

#### **Chapter Recruitment:**

1. Reach a total of 22,000 Wisconsin FFA Members in the school year of 2016-2017.
  - a. State Officers reach out to local FFA Advisors to ensure a great outcome in membership.
  - b. Attend National FFA Week activities within the State Officer's area to promote FFA to students and members.
  - c. Encourage advisors to fill out the membership rosters and submit them on time to the Wisconsin Association of FFA.
  - d. Encourage advisors to make timely payments of membership dues in order that membership can be forwarded to National FFA.
2. Allow FFA members to be involved with State FFA Officer travels and activities.
  - a. Keep active accounts on Facebook
    - i. Wisconsin Association of FFA
    - ii. Sectional Facebook Page
  - b. Posts snap stories on Sectional Snap chats
  - c. Keep timely blogs on the State FFA Officer Travel Blog.
3. Get members involved with FFA right at the beginning of the school year.
  - a. State Officers put on ten Sectional Leadership Workshops across the state to prepare FFA members for their year to come.
  - b. Every State Officer spends one day at each school in their section to promote FFA to students within their section.
4. Reward chapters who have increased in membership over the year at the annual State FFA Convention in June.
  - a. Chapters are recognized for membership increases with the P.R.I.D.E award, overall membership increase awards in their section and overall membership increase in the state.

#### **Agricultural Literacy:**

1. Communicate basic information about agriculture with students.
  - a. Post facts about the agricultural industry when appropriate on FFA Facebook pages.
  - b. Food for America program to educate elementary students about agriculture.
2. Communicate basic information about agriculture with consumers and the public.
  - a. State Officers work the Veggie Races at the Wisconsin State Fair to help children get know their vegetables and get excited!
  - b. State Officers help with the Discovery Barnyard at the Wisconsin State Fair to educate the public about where their food comes from and how it gets from the farm to your fork.
3. Help out at local events to educate the public about advancements in agriculture.
  - a. State Officers conduct farm tours at the Wisconsin Farm Technology Days. These tours give a little bit of background of the family and farm and explain the advanced technology located on the farm.

- b. Attend different farm shows across the state, where the State Officers are there to educate the public about FFA and to help out wherever they are needed to help the show run efficiently.

**Agricultural Safety:**

1. Conduct contests to ensure farm safety.
  - a. Host an annual Safe Tractor Operator contest to give members opportunities to represent their Section as the top safe tractor operator. Members have to correctly back up equipment and go through many tests during the competition.
2. An adult observes Supervised Agricultural Experience projects put on by members.
  - a. The teacher/advisor, boss, or parent makes sure the member is performing tasks correctly while on the job to ensure safety at all times.

**Agricultural Advocacy:**

1. Perform public interviews (radio, television, etc.) and put articles in local newspapers as much as possible to promote FFA and agriculture.
  - a. During National FFA Week, all State Officers are required to have at least one interview of some kind.
2. Promote and support Agricultural Education and FFA
  - a. Have a booth set up at different events such as Farm Technology Days, Wisconsin State Fair, Annual Farm Bureau Meeting, Halftime Conference, Farm Forum and various Farm Shows.
  - b. Have pamphlets about Agricultural Education to put out on our booth at events.
  - c. Produce an annual report in cooperation with the Wisconsin FFA Foundation to highlight donors and programs.

**Support Group:**

1. Maintain a healthy relationship with our State FFA Alumni, State FFA Foundation, Team AgEd, and WAAE.
  - a. Attend the State FFA Alumni Convention to assist as needed in conducting workshops and reflections as well as helping out wherever needed.
  - b. State Officers serving on the Partners' Committee attend the State FFA Foundation meetings.
  - c. The State Officer Team attends the annual Wisconsin Association of Agriculture Educators Professional Development Conference. This allows us to know what is going on with Team AgEd and prepares us for the year to come.