

HARACO

Glencoe-Silver Lake

"Students are pushed to develop real world, industry based skill sets through agriculture curriculum. I also work to develop skills beyond the agriculture setting, or to develop soft skills that help my students in career and life success."

Overview

- Glencoe-Silver Lake (GSL) Agriculture Program currently serves over 300 students, 73 of which are FFA members.
- GSL offers classes including ag mechanics, robotics, crop and soil science, food chemistry, animal science, and ag communication.
- GSL implements opportunities for programs of study, articulated and college credit, and ag classes counting for science credits.
- Every class begins with a word of the day which encourages students to expand their vocabulary.
- Becky says her classroom is LOUD! She works to make the classroom a place she wants to be: learning collaboratively, pushing boundaries, and having fun!

Experiential Learning

- SAE, FFA, and classroom all play integral roles in the experience at the GSL Agriculture Program.
- Every student in all grades 7-12 complete an Agri-Science Fair project as their SAE.
- Students participate in a farm to school garden program where they are in charge of all aspects of the garden.
- Becky believes inquiry is a powerful tool in teaching students. It meets students at their level, gives them tools to succeed, and allows them to take ownership of their success.

Professional Growth

- Becky has added to her classroom through the CASE institute and with Project Lead the Way curriculum.
- Becky also takes opportunities from her school, MAAE, and obtained her Master of Science in Agricultural Education to make her a better instructor.
- Pursuing her PhD in Agriculture Education at Oregon State University in the fall of 2017.
- Has hosted a MAELC Agriculture Education Intern twice and hosted numerous student teachers.

FFA Highlights

- National Chapter was submitted in 2016 and improved in 2017.
- Have numerous teams qualify for state convention each year.
- Provide leadership activities through officer retreats, lock-ins, and regional and state events.
- Provide agriculture awareness through 5th Grade Safety Day, Children's Barnyard, Urban Ag Day, and Ag Olympics.

Partnerships

- Last year marked the merger of the Agriculture and Industrial Technology Departments to officially become one.
- Becky has revised her curriculum with the help of various stakeholders to help keep up with industry standards.
- GSL began and has grown their Alumni Chapter during Becky's tenure.
- GSL uses all opportunities for grants and sponsorships to update facilities, equipment, and provide learning experiences for each student.

"'Everyone is a genius, but if you judge a fish by its ability to climb a tree, it will live its whole life believing it is stupid' – Albert Einstein. One of my top StrengthsFinder strengths is 'Individuality,' and it is with this strength that I tackle the daily task of a differentiated classroom."

2017MAAE Award Winner

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