

MAAE Fall Board Meeting
Wednesday, September, 20th, 2016
5:00 pm via Webex

- The meeting was called to order by President Jeremy Daberkow at 5:00pm
- Tim Uhlenkamp gave the invocation
- The following members were present at this meeting: Tom Appel, Lindsey Brockberg, Tim Uhlenkamp, Brian Boomgaarden, Eric Sawatzke, Darrin Erickson, Brad Greiman, Brad Schloesser, Sarah Dornink, Val Aarsvold, Brad Harguth, Luann Schloesser, Amber Siebert, Kristin Kovar, Andrew Steiner, Samantha Selnesss ,Mike Miron, Joel Larson, Nancy Loen, Darcy Dahna, Linnay Schweisthal, AJ Deuer
- There are no Agenda Changes or Additions
- **Secretary's Report-Jessica Daberkow:**
 - The Secretary's minutes were read by Jessica Daberkow from the last meeting, Post board meeting at Summer Conference by Jessica Daberkow. *Minutes were approved as read.*
 - There were two Thank you letters sent and read: One from Tiffany Timm the other from Shantel Koring
- **Membership Secretary Report-Lindsey Brockberg:**
 - Membership in together with ACTE, Overall Membership is Looking good, Review the report attached for numbers. *Membership report was approved as read.*
- **2018 Ag Tech Conference Report-Region 8-Brad Harguth, Jack LaValla:**
 - Chairs are all decided, workshops are in process, Working with the CDE Committee to make sure to implement changes for CDE's in the next year, If there are any ideas for workshops, send them to Brad Harguth
- **2018 Summer Conference Report-Region 4-Mike Miron, Jeff Lindeman:**
 - Region advisors meeting was held today, Groups are working on how to utilize the twin cities area, Tom added that we are at the Marriott Minneapolis NW Rates are \$119, they are suites
- **2019 Summer Conference Preliminary Planning-Leah Bott, Shawn Linder, Ed Uhlenkamp:**
 - Tom discussed, he has sent out proposals and it looking to get room rates at a cheaper price for Breezy Point, Tom proposed a question to the board about a hotel rate, Tom

tossed out \$129 for the rate, what becomes a not reasonable price for a hotel room?
other thoughts for room prices, send to Tom

➤ **Professional Development Coordinator Report-Tom Appel:**

- Briggs and Stratton maxed out and went well, Landscaping had 15 instructors, Bob Marzolf was helpful on that, Electrical went well as well. Briggs and Stratton is booked for 2018, Ideas for workshops that could be 2-3 days in length that cannot be accomplished at a conference, Send Tom an E mail.
- Mike Miron and Paul Aarsvold has been working hard on the new website, a huge THANK YOU to them for working on it. Mike spoke on the website, sponsors can be highlighted on the banners, Some of the forms have been converted to electronic documents, A lot of upgrades to look at, If you have any questions or would like to see something on there, contact Mike or Paul. Question on the best way to post minutes and a discussion will be held to determine the best way with the board

➤ **Treasurer's Report/Approval of Bills-Eric Sawatzke:**

- *Tim moves to pay bills until the next meeting, seconded by Derron, Carried*
- See Board report in the Board Packet. Question was asked about summer workshops and stipends back to teachers. \$100 deposits were kept for a spot and if they attend they get their money back. Briggs Charged \$250 for engines and training at their summer workshop.

➤ **University Reports:**

- University of MN – Twin Cities-Dr. Brad Greiman:
 - Update TIP Program, U of M Invitational- See report in the board packet
- University of MN – Crookston-Lyle Westrom:
 - No Report
- SMSU-Kristan Kovar:
 - See report in the board packet

➤ **FBM/Centers of Agriculture Update-Brad Schloesser/Keith Olander:**

- Report highlighted in Board Packet

➤ **Department of Education-Joel Larsen:**

- Attached in the board packet
- Remind teachers about MYCAERT subscriptions available- Send to Joel Larson
- Extended Day Contract DUE October 11th

➤ **FFA Alumni Report-Jim Burns:**

- Attached in the board packet
- **Team Ag Ed Report -Sarah Dornink:**
 - The group discussed about the presentation of Erica P. (speaker at summer conference) feedback would be great, the FFA foundation is next in line for the meeting
- **FFA Foundation Report-Val Aarsvold:**
 - Live streams the champion awards program at the state fair happened, this is still online if you want to view them. Blue jackets bright futures is being promoted, last year they were able to sponsor 412 jackets. Legacy club grants are out WLC scholarships deadline is Dec 1st. Agribank supporters are not able to maintain funding and star partners are dropping off, how can we keep them and connect with other sponsors. Looking at specialized license plates and MN 4H is looking to partner with us on that program. See board packet for full report.
- **Post-Secondary Report-Eric Hoff:**
 - No Report
- **MAELC Report-Sarah Dornink:**
 - 6 listening session in October will be hosted around the state, encourage regional directors to find 2-3 teachers to attend within your region to one of the conferences
- **Past President Report-Brian Boomgaarden:**
 - Brian and Zach will be working on getting the MNACTE awards sent in and will keep us updated on MAAE awards when they come out
- **President-Elect Report-Tim Uhlenkamp:**
 - NAAE Conference, Nashville, TN.
 - It is Dec 5-9, if you are attending, contact Tim, Information on the state night out will be sent out when it is determined.
- **Vice President's Report-Deron Erickson:**
- **Executive Director Report-Tom Appel:**
 - Scholarship application is revamped- New comers and MAAE Scholarship program \$300 for a workshop or \$300 for 1 credit, \$600 for 2 credits, both applications are posted on the website.
- **Legislative Update-AJ Duerr:**
 - Quiet interm
 - Ag teacher loan forgiveness will be open in April and close about June and with the award shortly following

- Farmers mental health continues to be a rising concern and looking for to find assistance for Ted Matthews
- Legislature passed an Urban Ag program for \$250,000 but left it vague, looking for an ag teacher for the advisory group, looking for recommendations-
- **Ag in Action Editor Report-Leah & Rachel:**
- **Region Reports-Region Directors:**
 - Reports attached in the board packet
 - Region 4-Seenaa Glessing-
 - Rockford has a new teacher and St. Francis, Forest Lake has a brand new facility. Explore FFA was held in Chisago lakes (9th Grade) Challenges-Discussion of the U of M invite helping coordinate or be present at the contests like soils and horse.
- **New Business – Extended Contract Grants, Legislative Breakfast**
 - Legislative Breakfast- Do we want to do it again? February? Looking at 3 potentially discuss at Ag Tech. Tom looked into this a little and suggested the Saturdays in February were well attended at the same locations. Sarah and AJ will discuss more when they meet.
- **President’s Report-Jeremy Daberkow:**
 - Talk with your other fellow teachers and encourage members to pay their dues and fill out the extended contract grant
- **Additional Items**
 - None
- Next Board Meeting is on January 19, 2018 at the Kelly Inn in St. Cloud
- *Lindsey moved adjourn the meeting, seconded by Amber Siebert, carried at 6:44pm*

MAAE Board

Meeting Reports

September 20th, 2017 Webex 5:00pm

Membership Secretary Reports-

Membership Report:

End of last year numbers were as followed:

- 19 Retired
- 12 Associate
- 48 Active FBM
- 3 Administration
- 212 Secondary
- 49 Students

This year:

- 11 Retried
- 7 Associate
- FBM Not currently calculated on its own
- 3 Administration
- 197 Active (FBM/SEC) together
- 12 Life members
- 35 Students

There are a few additional members to add, but close to current.

Reworking some changes on the roster, which is part of the reason things are not finalized.

University of Minnesota- Twin Cities- Dr. Brad Greiman

Teacher Induction Program (TIP)

Eighteen new agricultural education teachers are participating in the TIP during 2017-18. Monthly professional development meetings that have been conducted thus far are: TIP Brunch during the MAAE Summer Conference (July), two-day TIP New Teacher Conference (August), and a WebEx meeting (September). Senior Mentors have been meeting with new teachers and MAAE Regional Mentors have been selected. The TIP Fall Seminar will be held on October 3. We will meet in Ruttan 119 from 10:20-11:40 am during the UM Fall Invitational.

26th Annual UM Fall Invitational

We welcome Ag Ed teachers and their students to the St. Paul campus on October 3 for the Fall Invitational. Six CDEs will be conducted: Dairy, Forestry, General Livestock, Horse, Poultry, and Soils. CFANS faculty, staff, Ag Ed Club, Block & Bridle Club, and Gopher Dairy Club organize the CDEs. Register by September 27 at <http://webapps2.cfans.umn.edu/FFA/Default.aspx>

All teachers are invited to Andrew Boss Lab 125 for the Ag Ed Teacher Update from 9-10:15 am. Coffee, juice, and rolls will be available starting at 8 am.

SMSU- Kristin Kovar

Introduction: Ian Wyffels, SMSU's Assistant Director of Marketing, Recruitment & Outreach for Agriculture, Culinology and Hospitality Management

SMSU School of Agriculture Enrollment

o	Agribusiness Management (AGBU)-----	54
o	Agronomy (AGRO)-----	27
o	Agricultural Education [AGEP] (awaiting AGED admission)-----	18
o	Agricultural Education [AGED] (admitted to licensure program)---	2
o	Agricultural Communication and Leadership (AGCL)-----	4
o	Agricultural Solutions (AGSO)-----	2
o	BAS in Agriculture (AGRI)-----	3
	Total as of 9/8/17 -----	110

SMSU AG Club – Cooperates with SMSU Athletic Dept. and Ralco to help host 11th Annual Ag Bowl on Sept. 16, 2017. Ag Club members present fun family activities for kids of all ages prior to the football game.

SMSU hosts the 5th Annual Ag Career Fair on Sept. 20, 2017 – SMSU students will visit with 30 different business, organizations and cooperatives to discuss opportunities for internships and full time positions.

Farm Bureau Ag Discussion Meet, Sept. 21, 2017 – SMSU students have been invited to compete in Farm Bureau's Ag Discussion Meet. Students are hoping to maintain the success of last year, with Jakob Hicks making it to the Sweet 16!

FBM/Centers of Agriculture Update- Brad Schloesser/Keith Olander

MN State Centers of Excellence – Agriculture

Farm Business Management - Post-Secondary Report and support for High School Ag Education

September, 2017 Report

State FBM Fall Conference: Sixty-two FBM faculty attended the Fall FBM Conference in St. Cloud on September 11 & 12. The agenda was filled with updates on Top Farmer Survey, Farmer Lender Mediation, New Beginning Farmer Tax Law, 2017 Database preparations(to be completed in 2018,) and MAELC program updates including listening sessions. Materials can be found at:

<http://agcentric.org/education-training/farm-business-management/2017-fall-fbm-conference/>

PEP – The Professional Excellence Program(PEP) is led by Ron Dvergsten and new this year we are adding an assistant director which will be filled by Betsy Jensen from Northland Comm & Tech College. The next training will be held in Alexandria on November 1 & 2.

PIM – Post-secondary Instructor Mentorship(PIM) program was established over the past fiscal year. Pete Neigebauer (South Central) and Kari Slinden (Ridgewater) are the co-directors of this program New this year is a “Post Secondary AFNR Summit” to be held in St. Cloud on December 15. The focus of this summit is Student Retention, Student Recruitment, and Student Mental Health to grow our AFNR programs.

FBM Staffing – Current status of changes over this past summer and current openings.
FY 2018 Farm Business Management Changes, as of September 18, 2017

College	Instructor Name	Previous Instructor	Mentor
South Central	Denise Reeser	Ira Beckman	Ira Beckman
Alexandria	Craig Will	Bill Janusewski	Bill Januszewski
MNWest	Brian Boomgaarden	New Position	Dennis Schroeder
MNWest	Laurie Johnson	Mike Caskey	Mike Caskey
Ridgewater	TBD -Open	Doug Lind	TBD

Riverland TBD - Open Dave Marr TBD

Riverland TBD - Open New Position TBD

?? 2 more positions From MAELC funds

Post-Secondary Staffing – Joining the Agribusiness Team at South Central College – T.J. Brown and Kelly Schmidt, replacing Megan Roberts and Denise Reeser on the Faculty Team. Also, at Riverland – newly hired to teach agriculture is

FBM On-line Course-work – The FY18 & FY19 On-line FBM funding came through this past legislative session (\$50K per year). This will accomplish two things: The entire “essentials certificate” will be on-line at the end of this work and we will move to “virtual” FBM with a partnership with Center for Farm Financial Management (CFFM) and the Farmer Veteran Coalition.

MnState Centers of Excellence in Agriculture - AgCentric & Southern MN Center of Agriculture Update:

Agriculture Exchange – Job Portal in partnership with MN AgriGrowth - Regional Workforce Strategies Workshops - - we have completed 3 around the state over the summer with the final one being at the St Paul U of M campus on September 27. An analysis of impact will be conducted and next steps will be determined by late fall. For a connection to the web resource Job Portal – both Centers of Excellence in Agriculture for MN State have the link on their websites. It would be encouraged that any student seeking an internship or request for job postings in AFNR be placed on this portal.

<http://www.centerofagriculture.org/agrigrowth-job-exchange> or

<http://agcentric.org/ag-careers/job-exchange/>

Both Centers participated in a series of public engagement activities with MN FFA at the State Fair. Discussion is on-going about plans for 2018 state fair and beyond.

AgCentric launched a post-secondary on-line class specific to “Introduction to Agriculture”. This course is open to anyone but will serve as a platform for assisting agency employees to become agriculture terms and literacy. The origin of this course comes as a result of industry input as they continue to hire people who need to be

literate in agriculture to perform their jobs. Lack of candidates with this knowledge is growing in number. The course is offered through Northland Comm. & Tech College with ADawn Nelson serving as faculty member.

Minnesota CASE Institutes – South Central College will be submitting for a bid to host the AFNR Intro Course in June and possibly offering a second course in July to support one of the pathways. CLC is bidding on an application for the Natural Resources and Ecology (NRE) CASE Institute for summer 2018. After the submission of all Host Sites are accumulated in early October, the National CASE Team will announce the variety of possible CASE Institutes across the nation at the National FFA Convention. We will work to share what offerings will be available in Minnesota as soon as decisions are revealed.

Southern MN Center of Agriculture is providing CASE Incentive Grants – Tracy Drash for details and access to funds (amount = \$ 1,000) per certified CASE Teacher that can support CASE student certifications and your program. Tracy.drash@southcentral.edu or phone at 507-389-7435

Veterans to Agriculture - building the Program, recruiting and ready to invite partner colleges for MN State to support efforts and work to bring Veterans into agriculture industry. South Central College hosted a Defense Fellow from Washington, D.C. in August and representatives from Congressman Walz Staff to discuss further support for military veterans in agriculture.

Southern MN Center of Agriculture – Addition to the Team – achieving the “mission of aligning the academic resources with the industry partner resources to meet workforce needs in agriculture.” The Southern Center of Excellence – Agriculture is pleased to announce the addition of a Full-Time Staff position that will complete Outreach/Recruitment Coordination for partner institutions, high schools and industry partners. Jade Kampsen Joins the Center of Agriculture as Outreach & Recruitment Coordinator. An Agricultural Education Major from SDSU, most recent experience as a Regional Sales Agronomist in Southern MN, providing crop and product knowledge. She has worked to increase sustainable growing practices, using precision technology,

variable rate seed and nutrient recommendations. Jade has developed leadership skills in the agriculture and biotechnology industry as a student leader during her academic formation. She has been recognized as a Royal American Scholar and American FFA Degree recipient. She has experiences as an ambassador for career opportunities in agriculture, food and natural resources. Jade will work to amplify the career pathways in ag, food and natural resources for our College and Partner Institutions of the Southern MN Center of Agriculture. Also, she will assist in outreach efforts to diversify and expand the student and employee workforce in southern Minnesota." We are pleased to have Jade joining the Team on Monday, September 25th, 2017!

Four important events for MN Ag Ed to keep in mind: 1. Ag Tax Seminar – hosted at South Central College on October 17th – link for details and registration

<http://www.centerofagriculture.org/events/ag-tax-seminar>

2. The MN Centers of Excellence in Agriculture will be present at the National FFA Convention in Indy – booth # 3103 – please visit our Team of Minnesota, Students, Advisors and Guests are all anticipated to share conversations and networking. We will make your stop a rewarding one! See you in Indy.

3. November 2, 2018 is the CTE Works Conference -

<https://www.cteworksminnesota.org/>

4. AgriGrowth Annual Meeting on November 9, 2018. The Centers would have space potentially at this event if someone from Ag Ed wanted to join. Contact us if interested.

Brad J. Schloesser

Dean of Agriculture

Southern MN Center of Agriculture

South Central College

1920 Lee Blvd.

North Mankato, MN 56003

Email: brad.schloesser@southcentral.edu

Phone: 507-389-7263

Keith Olander

Dean of Agricultural Studies

Director of AgCentric

Central Lakes College

1830 Airport Road

Staples, MN 56479

KOlander@clcmn.edu

218-894-516

Department of Education- Joel Larson

Minnesota Department of Education Report

1. Ag Ed By the numbers
 - a. Programs
 - i. 194 Secondary Agriculture Programs (+3)
 - ii. Multi-Teacher Programs – 50 (37 two-teacher departments, 13 three-teacher departments)
 - iii. Less than full time programs - 12
 - iv. Curriculum Use
 - 81% (55 responses) MyCAERT
 - 63% (41 responses) AET
 - 34% (23 responses) CASE
 - b. Teachers
 - i. 259 Secondary Agriculture, Food & Natural Resource Teachers (+7 FTEs)
 - 253 Individual staff positions
 - Represents nearly 50 teachers increase the last 5 years
 - ii. 140 male, 113 Female
 - iii. 6 teachers are teaching as community experts, 7 are teaching on a variance. (-2)
 - iv. 2017 Staffing changes
 - 28 programs have changes in staffing for 2017 representing 27.40 FTEs
 - 8 programs added staff – 8.0 FTE'
 - 2 new Programs – Rothsay – St. Francis All Saints Academy
 - 2.7 FTEs staff reduction
 - 2017 Net Gain: 5.3 FTEs
 - a. 2016 – Net Gain 6.0 FTE's
 - b. 2015 – Net Gain 12.5 FTEs
 - c. 2014 – Net Gain 10.5 FTEs
 - c. Students
 - i. 21,087 Grades 9-12 (+919)
 - 63.2% Male, 36.7% Female
 - 87% White
 - 39.3% Economically Disadvantaged
 - 34.5% Non-Traditional
 - 17.3% Individuals with Disability
 - ii. 10,611 FFA members (-197)
 - iii. 10,2019 Concentrators (+ 416)
 - Concentrator graduation rate is 91.5% (9.6% higher than state average)
 - d. Pathways

- i. Power Structure & Technical Systems – 8,071
 - ii. Animal Systems – 6,084
 - iii. Plant Systems – 4,029
 - iv. Natural Resources & Environmental Service Systems – 4,432
 - v. Agribusiness Systems – 6,141
 - vi. Biotechnology, Food Products & Processing – 1,029
 - vii. Science credit delivered via agriscience – 3,127
2. Extended Day Contracts – Experiential Learning – MDE Grant applications are due October 11th
- a. A large number of grant applications are anticipated.
 - b. School superintendents received information in an email over the summer. (Linked in weekly emails).
 - c. Grant is a match – schools must provide extended time to qualify. Can be new or existing.
3. MDE School Finance Division –
- a. UFARS Chapter 14 – Student Organization funds
 - i. School Finance Division is recommending that student org. funds (FFA Chapter funds) cannot be used for individual scholarships, contributions to charity (Camp Courage), or for individuals who have graduated (American Degrees, CDE team members at National Convention).
4. Curriculum Availability and Support
- a. MyCAERT
 - i. In 2017 MyCAERT subscriptions are not universal to all MN teachers, but teachers can still request some of the available subscriptions.
 - b. AFNR Curriculum Frameworks on these websites:
 - i. Minnesota Department of Education – Career & College Success – Career Technical Education
 - ii. U of MN Ag Ed Website
5. National FFA Convention
- a. October 25-28
 - b. You can find MN FFA students or partners onstage in every single session:
 - i. Wednesday – Opening Session (3:30 or 6:45 pm) – Band & Chorus Intro
 - ii. Thursday –
 - Opening Session (8 am) – Band & Chorus Intro
 - Session 2 (2 pm)– Presentation of State Flags, National Chapter Awards, Valerie

Earley Retiring Address

- Session 3 (7:30 pm) – Stars over America Pageant (Joe Arnold LQPV)
 - iii. Friday –
 - Session 4 (8 am) – Honorary American Degree & VIP Recognition.
 - Session 5 (12 pm) – Introduction of National Officer Candidates, Agriscience Fair Recognition.
 - Session 6 (3 pm) – Proficiency Awards
 - Session 7 (7 pm) – Speaking CDE results. Lots of Band and Chorus performances.
 - iv. Saturday –
 - Session 8 (7:45am) – American Degrees (Doors will open by 6:30 am for students to find their seats among the recipients on the stadium floor).
 - Session 9 (1:30 pm) – CDE Winners, Past National Officer Recognition, Nominating Committee Recognition, Election of new National Officer Team.
 - c. American FFA Degree – 90 recipients (107 in 2016)
 - d. American Star Finalists – Star Farmer (Joe Arnold Lac qui Parle Valley)
 - e. Proficiency Finalists – 11 Minnesota FFA Members
 - f. Agriscience Finalists – 8 projects (teams or individuals).
 - g. 26 CDE teams and Individuals
 - h. Honorary American Degree –
 - i. Senator Gary Dahms, Sarah Dornink, Christa Williamson, Mary Hoffmann, Leah Addington, Keith Olander, Rebecca Hoeft
 - i. VIP Award – Tony Small
 - j. National Officer Candidate – Rebekka Paskewitz
 - k. State Photo: Currently – Friday 8:15 a.m. – stay tune for change
6. Award Applications 2017: No students or chapters are eligible to participate in events or submit award applications until their preliminary roster has been submitted with payment to the State Office. After the November 1st deadline, staff will develop a list of eligible participants and share it with regions for application judging.
- a. Roster System –
 - b. Proficiency Awards
 - c. American Degree
 - d. Minnesota FFA Degree
 - e. National Chapter Award (Note - it has changed for 2016-17)
 - f. Available via AET or www.ffa.org
 - g. Training Dates – If your region would like a training session or to host a session, contact state staff

7. Minnesota CTE Works Conference – Crowne Plaza AiRE, Bloomington – November 2

8. Minnesota FFA Leadership and Student Programming –
 - a. Chapter visits 2017 - Region 2 & Region 4
 - b. POWER II – November 17, location TBD
 - c. H2O – November 18, Dassel Cokato HS (Cost TBA)
 - d. APEX – Dates TBD
 - i. Tentative price point is \$85/student for two nights and 6 meals.
 - e. FFA Day at the Capitol – Date TBD.
 - f. Summer Conferences 2018 – Tentative
 - i. SGLC – June 11-15
 - ii. POWER – week of June 18 or June 17-19/18-20
 - iii. SLCCCL – June 24-26, 27-29
 - g. WLC – 40 spots available for a trip tentatively scheduled for JULY 16-21, 2018.
 - i. Cost in 2017 was \$1250 – expect an increase due to registration cost.
 - ii. Scholarships (MN FFA Foundation & Alumni) due December 2017.
 - h. In Progress: inTENse – a traveling, agricultural career experience generally targeting students entering or exiting the 10th grade.
 - i. Dates and itinerary being developed.
 - ii. Tentative price point for 5 days and 4 nights - \$175

FFA Alumni Report- Jim Burns

The Minnesota FFA Alumni is wrapping up a very busy summer. At the State Fair, we recognized Greg Gosen as our 2017 Day-Frederick Award Recipient. The Day-Frederick Award goes to an individual who has given a lifetime of service to the FFA in Minnesota. Greg has been involved in the FFA and FFA Alumni at the local, state, and national levels. He served as President of the State FFA Alumni, and has been very active in his local affiliate with coaching teams. Thank you Greg for your service to the FFA!

We also held our summer Executive Team planning meeting in Winsted MN, and also held our State Fair Board Meeting. These are important meetings for us because it gives our board an opportunity to get together in-person and develop our Program of Activities for the year. We have many exciting events coming up this year.

We also have some exciting events coming up this Winter. Our next President's Circle Leadership Training is on December 1st and 2nd. I would encourage each of you to reflect on who are your biggest community supporters, and nominate those individuals to participate in the President's Circle. The President's Circle has made a positive impact on many of our local FFA Affiliates and FFA Chapters, we hope that you can encourage some local alumni members to attend. More details about the President's Circle, and the nomination form are available on our website: www.mnffaalumni.org.

Our Winter Regional Leadership Training Events (aka Barn Building Workshops) will be taking place in a region near you on January 13th and January 27th. This year's theme is Strategic Planning. More details will follow on location, timing, and specific topics. These events are targeted at any FFA Alumni members, and will give them an opportunity to develop their individual leadership skills. These events are targeted at any FFA Alumni members. Each region will host one event to make it easier for your local members to attend.

Looking ahead, our Annual Conference is coming up on March 3rd at Dakota County Technical College in Rosemount. We will continue our Strategic Planning theme with additional leadership development opportunities, and wrap up the day with lunch and our annual business meeting.

One final note, we will be hosting our "Take Your Administrator to State Convention" this year again at State Convention. This workshop is intended for anyone in your local administration, including Superintendents, Principals, Counselors, and School Board Members. This program will be held on Monday of Convention and will kick off the day

with a Workshop for the Administrators led by the FFA Alumni and several of our President's Circle members. The workshop will help the Administrators learn more about the value of Agricultural Education and the FFA. It will also give them an opportunity to network with other administrators from around the State. After the workshop, there will be a break for lunch with an opportunity for the Administrators to interact with your students at the convention. Then the Administrators are welcome to attend the Foundation's FFA Experience at Mariucci. They will hear more about the impact that the FFA has on it's members and the community. Finally, the Administrators can attend the Monday afternoon and evening sessions of Convention.

FFA Foundation Report- Val Aarsvold

Minnesota FFA Foundation Report, September 20, 2017

Thank you to Zach Rada for serving on our board this past year as well as Tim Uhlenkamp who joined us in August and we welcome Brian Boomgaarden as he represents MAAE.

The Foundation live streamed the Minnesota FFA's Supreme Champions & Awards Program at the state fair. That recorded program is located on YouTube on the Minnesota FFA channel.

Currently promoting the Blue Jacket-Bright Futures program. With just shy of a month yet to apply, we have already received 72 applications.

Legacy Club grants offered this fall.

Washington Leadership Conference scholarship application deadline has moved to December 1st to align with the new registration process.

Need help growing our donors, specifically Star Partners.

- Challenges to the agricultural economy
- Davis Family Dairies -reduced their support, taking them out of the Star Partner program
- Wakefield Pork-indicated they are not renewing

If you know of business and organizations that we should connect with, please share those contacts with us as we work to grow our supporters.

Specialized agricultural license plate effort continues. 4-H is willing to partner with FFA. Minnesota Farmers Union already has language supporting an agricultural license plate. I introduced a resolution at my county Farm Bureau organization requesting their support. As this moves forward ask for MAAE's support.

MAELC Report- Sarah Dornik

MAELC is hosting six Agricultural Education Listening Sessions across Minnesota in October. The information gathered at these meetings, along with small group committee work will help develop a Blueprint for Minnesota Agriculture, Food & Natural Resource (AFNR) Education through 2025.

Dates & Locations:

Tuesday, October 10 - South Central College

Wednesday, October 11 - University of Minnesota-Twin Cities

Thursday, October 12 - Southwest Minnesota State University

Tuesday, October 17 - Ridgewater College

Wednesday, October 18 - University of Minnesota-Crookston

Thursday, October 19 - Central Lakes College

Each will be held from 10:00 am - 2:00 pm, with lunch provided. Sessions will focus on Agricultural Literacy, School-Based Agricultural Education/FFA, Post-Secondary Education, Teacher Preparation, and Farm Business Management.

MAELC sent all AFNR programs a 'Thank You' letter and Teach Ag poster for their classroom to celebrate National Teach Ag Day. In addition, a request for a Governor's Proclamation was made. MAELC has secured funding from AgriBank for the 2018 AgEd Internship program (applications due November 6, 2017). This fall, gifts will be sent to student teachers and their cooperating teachers.

FBM Challenge Grants, Additional Instructor and Mentor Program grant applications were submitted in early September. MAELC Strategic Initiatives and Common Fund (2nd Round) grants will be due November 15, 2017. The Graduate Agricultural Education Licensure and Diversity Fellowship scholarship applications are due November 1, 2017. Freshman and Continuing Undergraduate Agricultural Education scholarship applications will be due December 1, 2017 (NOTE earlier deadline).

Sarah Dornik will be receiving the Honorary American FFA Degree along with fellow MAELC board members, Senator Gary Dahms and Becca Hoeft, and former member, Mary Hoffmann.

The next MAELC board meeting will be held on Friday, September 22 at the Buffalo High School.

Regional Reports

Region 1 Report- Trescha Mitchell

Personnel Changes *

Amy Moran New to Rothsay and Craig Swanson is starting in Red Lake

Highlights *

Thief River Falls: We are attending the state FFA shoot in Marshall, which we haven't done in 6 years.

Started my first college in the high school course this fall - Animal science through NCTC

The Fischer FFA Chapter volunteer for the Crookston Rodeo and helped out with the Free Clinic working with UMC students and staff.

The Pine to Prairie Welding Simulation Trailers that are in Fisher currently.

Lakes Country Service Coop Welding Trailers will be in Detroit Lakes and making their rounds starting the end of September along with the other Machining Trailers in December.

Region I Fall Rally will be hosted at Maple Lag at September 27 just north of Detroit Lakes 20 miles

First round of CDE: Soils, Forestry and Poultry will be hosted in Fertile on October 11.

Ethan Walz and Rachel Bolar Region I Officer (Detroit Lakes Officer) Worked with the MN and ND FFA Foundations at Big Iron Promoting Agriculture and FFA!

Region I Students are excited about upcoming events and contests.

FBM News: Farmers are busy in the fields and instructors are hoping for good yields to help guide their farmers through the year. Rising operating cost New Technology and advancements brings new adventures in the agriculture business. Adawn Nelson Represented Northern MN very well in Ag Weekly News

Challenges *

Administration Complaining about number of days being gone from school

Busing Issues. FFA loosing their busing to athletics because they have 1st dibis.

Support!

Class Size.... Is there a Magic Formula out there for the number of students in a class or shop area based on square footage?

Advancements and Keeping up

Region 2 Report- Robert Skwira

Personnel Changes *

It is a busy time of year, I asked in our region but didn't receive many responses. The only change that comes to mind is Kerry Lindgren in Staples is now down to a single person department due to budget cuts.

Highlights *

Many great things happening in Region 2 just like the other fine regions in the state. In Upsala Gretchen shared that they completed a large landscaping project with an outdoor classroom. Looks great! Also this weekend the state officers are going to be training the region 2 and 4 officers at Royalton Highschool from 9:00-1:30

Challenges *

Keeping up and meeting the growing needs/demands from our students, schools communities and our Families. Trying to find balance.

Region 3 Report- Andrew Steiner

Personnel Changes *

Changes from over the summer: Amy Zimmerman went from Battle Lake to Albany, Traci Block and Bill Klaers are at Battle Lake, Erin Biron is at Morris, Rachel Moe is at Osakis and Eric Sawatzke is at WCA

Highlights *

Paynesville is offering a new Food Science course for Chemistry credit

WCA has two teachers, is moving to program affiliation and is working to revitalize the entire aged program

Our regional Shooting Sports day is on Wednesday

The region officers have been preparing for COLT and Fall Rally on 9/25

Lots of new faces among the advisors means new ideas and energy

Challenges *

Young group of teachers - about half of the teachers have been teaching less than 5 years, with several not much over that and several moving into the region

Region 5 Report- Nancy Loen

Personnel Changes *

None to my knowledge

Highlights *

Wes Anderson finalist at NAAE

Challenges *

time & commitment

Region 6 Report- Darcy Dahna

Personnel Changes *

Heidi Brandt- Pipestone, Tiffany Carpenter- St. James, T.J.Brown-part time SCC

Highlights *

All positions in the region have been filled.

Challenges *

A large turnover in Ag instructors

Region 7 Report- Amber Siefert

Personnel Changes *

South Central College has added TJ Brown and Craig Smith, Pat Pehrson is at Norwood Young-America, Tyson Cooley is at Waterville Elysian Morrystown, Lea Zuern at Maple River

Highlights *

We are looking forward to our greenhand day on October 13!

Challenges *

We are currently looking at completely re-doing our CDE calendar for next year. Should be an interesting change.

Region 8 Report- Linnay Schweisthal

- Student teacher at Triton for Fall Semester and Triton is also practicing hard with their National bound team.
- Region bought a scantron machine for contest. First used yesterday at a Livestock invitational and all went well. Will help speed up scoring for many contests.
- Region 8 had Fall Leadership Day on Sept. 15th. Well attended and the day was great.