Mary Hoffmann
Sleepy Eye Public Schools

“You will never know everything, but caring about students, taking interest in the lives, setting expectations high, being a positive role model and showing passion for this career is the best advice I can give.”

Overview

- Mary Hoffmann teaches in a 3 person department that serves 250 students in grades 7-12 a year, 95% of the student body.
- Courses include Plant and Crop Science, Food Chemistry, Natural Resources, Exploring Ag and Welding to Construction
- Several courses are articulated with South Central Service Cooperative for Minnesota College Credit

Experiential Learning

- Students complete at Ag Experience (AE) project and track their hours and a way to implement SAE for All
- Conduct 50 summer visits to help maintain records
- Helped FFA members earn 49 American Degrees, 149 State Degrees, 89 Top 3 Proficiency Awards and 35 State Winners

Professional Growth

- Mary has served on number committees and held many positions such as: National Ag Education Council, NAAE Region III Vice President, MAAE President, MAELC Grant Selection Committee, NAAE Member Services Committee, NAAE Region III Secretary, MAAE Vice President, plus many others
- Presented numerous workshops at MAAE Conferences and has attended professional development opportunities

Student Organizations

- Has helped FFA members on 134 teams qualify for state as well as each state winning titles for 13 State CDE Teams
- Over 60 members conduct safety programs each year including Farmfest, Safety Carnival and elementary safety programs
- Some local programs include: Ag in the Classroom, Kiddy Barn, Adopt-a-Senior, Wee Deliver, PALS and Leadership camps.

Partnerships

- Community funds helped fund a 3rd teacher in the program
- Received over $88,000 for ag program grants through Compeer, MAELC and competitive State Grants
- Partnerships with local farm supply cooperative and farmers that assist the FFA in a variety of ways through the year.

“Mrs. Hoffmann has demonstrated enthusiasm and vitality in several ways, she is very knowledgeable about the content of courses she teaches and fosters a very engaging and interactive classroom.”

- Shane Laffen—High School Principal

2021 MAAE Award Winner