

THE GEHRKE GAZETTE



2024-2025 WISCONSIN FFA
STATE OFFICER TEAM

February 2025
Volume III

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WISCONSIN ASSOCIATION OF FFA
TURN IT UP

2024-2025
STATE THEME!!

CONNECT!!



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Wisconsin FFA - Section 4



[wi_ffa_section4](https://www.instagram.com/wi_ffa_section4)



[wisconsin_ffa](https://www.snapchat.com/add/wisconsin_ffa)

Update from National Association of Agriculture Educators

HUMBLE LEADERS

energized by the responsibility of
shaping the future one student at a time.



**NAAE #TeachAg Ambassadors
want to connect with you about
becoming an agricultural educator.**

- The 2024-25 class of #TeachAg Ambassadors are passionate about agricultural education and want to encourage others to consider a career in ag ed.
- They have received training and lessons to use at local, university, and state levels.
- You can connect with them on a one-on-one basis or schedule them for a #TeachAg recruitment event.

Find a current
Ambassador by
clicking on the
#TeachAg link at
the top of
www.naae.org.



Career Development Events Updates from Wisconsin FFA

WI FFA CDE UPDATES

REGIONAL CDE DATES

Janesville- March 12
Mid-State Tech- March 18
UW-Platteville- March 20
Fox Valley Tech- March 28
UW-River Falls- April 5

STATE CDE DAY 1: APRIL 11 MADISON COLLEGE AREA

Ag Communications
Ag Mechanics - Q
Ag Sales
Environmental Science
Food Science
Horse Evaluation - Q
Middle School

Q= Team must Qualify at a
Regional Contest

STATE CDE DAY 2: APRIL 25 UW-MADISON AREA

Agronomy-Q
Dairy Handlers
Forestry -Q
Meats - Q
Vet Science - Q
Milk Products - Q
Farm Business Management - Q
Nursery Landscape
Dairy Cattle -Q
Floriculture - Q
Livestock - Q
Poultry - Q
Wildlife - Q

MIDDLE SCHOOL STATE CDE

There will be a Middle School CDE hosted at State CDEs on Friday, April 11. This is open to 7th and 8th grade members.

Be sure to check the Middle School CDEs webpage often for updates as CDE season approaches.

<https://wisconsinaged.org/ms-cde>

NEW
NEW
NEW
NEW

AUCTIONEER CDE

Registration for the Auctioneer CDE is now open! This is an individual event held on Monday, January 27 in Marshfield. Registration is limited to the first 15 contestants.

Further information on the event can be found at:

<https://wisconsinaged.org/auctioneer>

MEATS TEAM REGISTRATION INCREASE

As you plan your budgets for the year, please note that the cost of the State Meats Contest will be \$150 per team. This is due to the increasing cost of resources required to host the contest.



2025 STATE FOOD SCIENCE MATERIALS NOW AVAILABLE

Information on the 2025 State Food Science CDE is now available on the CDE Website. This year's superintendent, Kerry Ingredients, has selected a really fun team activity scenario: Create a NEW Savory On The Go Menu Item for Starbucks. This could be a great activity to implement into a Food Science course to help generate interest in the contest! Check out the website for further details on the contest.

<https://wisconsinaged.org/fst>

Update from your State Officer

Hello Section 4!

Can you believe we are only four months out from convention?!? The last eight months have flown by and I am so excited to soak in the last four! Over the winter, the team has completed our Checkpoint #2 training, Halftime Conference Worddays, Halftime Conference with all of you, the Corn, Soy, and Pork Expo, LDEs, Alumni Convention, Farm Forum, and last but certainly not least, FFA Week!



In the winter, I have completed all my chapter visits! Thank you so much Section 4 for all the enjoyment I had in your classes! One of my favorite parts of the year was getting to meet all of you at your schools! As the spring approaches, warmer weather is right around the corner, and it is almost time for the most exciting time of the year in FFA, Career Development Event Season! I loved CDEs when I was in high school and I am so excited to see the success Section 4 has this spring! It is time to get practicing to make it to State! If you are not participating in a Career Development Event, sign up for one today! Step out of your comfort zone and try something new in FFA! It is also a great time of the year for all those competing at Sectionals for LDEs. Good Luck!!!

Lets also make sure to take advantage of all the recognition and opportunities at State Convention! State Degrees are due in just one week!!! We are also rolling into the best sport season, the spring! Baseball games are getting underway! And while it will be weird not playing anymore, I cannot wait to sit back and enjoy some ball!

We have made it this far Section 4! Let's finish the year out strong! If there is any questions, please do not hesitate to reach out! Whether it is a question, concern, or an event you want me to attend, feel free to let me know anytime! Thank you for everything Section 4, and I look forward to reconnecting with you at upcoming events!

Tyson Gehrke

Section 4 State Treasurer

winter wrap-up



Checkpoint #2

In December the team spent a great week at Checkpoint #2! We met again with our Base Camp facilitator, Kenzie, and enhanced our facilitation skills, speech writing, and speech development! We also enjoyed plenty of time to bond as a team!

Halftime Workdays

Halftime Workdays were very productive! We developed our workshops, practiced our skit and reflections program for Halftime Conference. We also had a lot of fun organizing for FFA Week!



Halftime Conference

Halftime Conference was LEGENDARY. The team had so much fun in our workshops and interacting with all of the students. Definitely a highlight of the year!

Corn, Soy, and Pork Expo

In February the team went to the Corn, Soy, and Pork Expo in the Dells to help with registration for the event and help with the auction! We were also invited to the Porkapalooza event, and had the BEST bacon I have ever had!



Alumni Convention

Alumni Convention was a blast! The team helped out with the auction, presented workshops to alumni members, and received lifetime membership to the alumni! It was also great to see past Section 4 State Officers Parker and Jeremiah!

Farm Forum

A fun day was spent at Farm Forum! The team enjoyed the day interacting with members, participating in workshops, and facilitating the early morning riser!



Day on the Hill

Day on the Hill was definitely a highlight of the year! We spent the day advocating for FFA and agriculture education in the capitol building! We also listened to some amazing performances by the band and choir in the rotunda!



National
FFA Week
2025



Events Coming Soon



Confirmed Chapter Banquets

March 11 - Mineral Point

March 23 - Lancaster

April 2 - Belmont

April 6 - Dodgeville

April 9 - Fennimore

April 21 - Boscobel

April 30 - Wauzeka

May 4 - Pecatonica

May 7 - Riverdale

***If you do not have your banquet scheduled with me and would like to please reach out!**



Upcoming Due Dates

Mar 3rd - State Degree Application

Mar 3rd - Final Supplemental Membership Rosters Due

Mar 3rd - State Honorary Degree and Distinguished Service Nominations

Mar 14th - WI FFA Foundation Scholarship

Mar 15th - NextGen Agricultural Education Conference Student Application

Apr 15th - WLC Travel Assistance Grants

Apr 16th - Middle School Essays

Apr 22nd - National Chapter Applications

Apr 22nd - Three Star Leader Applications

Apr 22nd - State FFA Talent Applications

Apr 25th - STATE OFFICER APPLICATIONS!

May 1st - Food For America Applications

May 1st - Public Relations Team Applications

May 9th - Agriscience Fair Written Application

May 15th - Courtesy Corps Applications

May 15th - NextGen Environmental Science & Natural Resources Application



Events Coming Soon



F.I.R.E. Conference

Join us for F.I.R.E. Conference in Fennimore at SWTC! Offered two different days, members in 5th through 9th grade will learn about FFA, Agriculture, and how they fit in!

FEBRUARY							2025
S	M	T	W	T	F	S	
						1	
2	3	4	5	6	7	8	
9	10	11	12	13	14	15	
16	17	18	19	20	21	22	
23	24	25	26	27	28		

Reminder!!



**Section 4 LDE
Fennimore**

MARCH							2025
S	M	T	W	T	F	S	
						1	
2	3	4	5	6	7	8	
9	10	11	12	13	14	15	
16	17	18	19	20	21	22	
23	24	25	26	27	28	29	
30	31						

EDGE/Connect

Join us for EDGE/Connect Conference in Green Bay! For members in 6th - 10th grades, come learn how to become better leaders in your chapters and community!



District 10 LDE Results

Creed Speaking:

1st: Alyssa Olson - Ithaca

2nd: Riley Banker - Richland Center

Parli Pro:

1st: Prairie Du Chien

2nd: Ithaca

Employment Skills:

1st: Carter Simmons - Prairie Du
Chien

2nd: Annabeth Sprecher - Ithaca

Quiz Bowl:

1st: Wauzeka-Steuben

2nd: Ithaca

Extemporaneous Speaking:

1st: Ava Forde - Prairie Du Chien

2nd: Olivia Miess - Riverdale

Discussion Meet:

1st: Lucy Spahn - River Valley

2nd: Brooke Mitchell - Wauzeka-
Steuben

Prepared Speaking:

1st: Annabeth Sprecher - Ithaca

2nd: Ava Forde - Prairie Du Chien

3rd: Aaron Fredrick - River Valley

**North Crawford
High School**

**Fennimore High
School**

District 11 LDE Results

Creed Speaking:

1st: Reid Stalsberg - Fennimore
2nd: Kenzy Everson - Fennimore

Parli Pro:

1st: Platteville
2nd: Fennimore

Employment Skills:

1st: Matthew Winch - Fennimore
2nd: Trinity Ihm - Lancaster

Quiz Bowl:

1st: Fennimore
2nd: Iowa Grant

**Lancaster
High School**

Extemporaneous Speaking:

1st: Libby Vogt - River Ridge
2nd: Matthew Winch - Fennimore

Discussion Meet:

1st: Lillian Linscheid - Iowa-Grant
2nd: Colton Moris - River Ridge

**Fennimore High
School**



District 12 LDE Results

Creed Speaking:

1st: Sophia Jentz - Belmont
2nd: McKinley Russell - Shullsburg

Parli Pro:

1st: Darlington
2nd: Black Hawk

Employment Skills:

1st: Ellie Robinson - Mineral Point
2nd: Annie Robinson - Mineral Point

Quiz Bowl:

1st: Mineral Point
2nd: Darlington

Extemporaneous Speaking:

1st: Kameryn Corley - Shullsburg
2nd: Taylor Stegall - Black Hawk

Discussion Meet:

1st: Ashley McDonald - Belmont
2nd: Trevor Doescher - Pecatonica

Prepared Speaking:

1st: Annie Robinson - Mineral Point
2nd: Taylor Russell - Shullsburg
3rd: Makenna Martin - Darlington



**Dodgeville
High School**

**Fennimore High
School**

Promote Section Four!!



Service Project Saturday

Know of an outstanding service project being done by an FFA chapter?! Nominate them to be posed on Wisconsin FFA social media pages for Service Project Saturday! Scan the QR code below to nominate an a chapter!



Teacher Appreciation

Know of an outstanding agriculture teacher and advisor?! Nominate them to be posed on Wisconsin FFA social media pages for teacher appreciation! Scan the QR code below to nominate an advisor!



Section 4 Member of the Month



December Member of the Month



Iris Adams
Cassville FFA

January Member of the Month



Dallas Havens
Pecatonica FFA

February Member of the Month



Eden Richter
Fennimore FFA

Know of an outstanding member in your chapter?! Nominate them for the Section 4 member of the month! Nominations can occur at any time and nominee is announced on the 25th of every month. Scan the QR code below to nominate a member!



2024 - 2025 State Officer Directory

Section 1

Emma Johnson
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Amery FFA
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Section 2

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WISCONSIN ASSOCIATION OF FFA



Big thank you to our

Leadership Partners



Wisconsin FFA Foundation

for everything that they do

FFA Leadership Partners

Gold



Silver

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Bronze

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Elkhorn FFA Alumni