



Outstanding
Ag. Ed.
Teacher

Tiffany Jirum

Leroy-Ostrander

"It is my hope that through their coursework and FFA involvement that the young men and women that leave my classroom are well-rounded citizens that will influence America with the leadership and problem solving skills they acquire."

Overview

- Tiffany has been teaching for 19 years and started at Leroy-Ostrander in 2003.
- The FFA chapter has grown to over 75 members.
- All freshmen enrolled in ag. education classes are required to begin and complete an SAE project. All FFA members have an SAE project and Tiffany makes it a priority to visit them all.

Experiential Learning

- Tiffany is a strong advocate for hands-on learning.
- Knowledge gained in agriculture courses can be applied to learning in other educational facets and to their everyday life.
- Emphasizes the utilization of new technology and concepts when they can.

Professional Growth

- Tiffany served as the cooperating teacher/ mentor instructor for four teacher candidates.
- Sees membership in MAAE and attendance in the conferences it hosts as a key to stay current.
- Selected as the Minnesota Farm Bureau FFA Advisor of the Year in 2010.

Student Organizations

- Over half of the FFA members take part in chapter events and activities.
- Members must log 15 hours of preparation time in for state Career and Leadership Development events.
- Partnered in beginning the Ag in Motion Class in 2009. This program takes students to an area in the Midwest that has different types of agriculture than in southern Minnesota. Students can get a half credit for the course.

Partnerships

- Established and maintains a strong FFA Alumni and Friends Organization. It helps with award sponsorship, serving as chaperones or judges for different events, and helps make the connection between the program and community.

"I have three quotes that have influenced me both as an individual and as an educator: 1) 'Of all the things you wear, your expression is the most important'; 2) 'Success comes to those who make it happen, not those who let it happen'; 3) 'Hard work is the yeast that raises the dough'."

2017 MAAE Award Winner

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