

Pierz Chapter FFA meeting  
Ag Room 6:30 p.m.  
October 12, 2023  
Officers present: KK, ES and numerous members

Kaden opened the meeting and brought up: Blue Jackets, Bright Futures, There is a link on Google Classroom. The application closes on Oct 15 and this is a great opportunity to get a free blue corduroy FFA jacket--it's not a guarantee but we usually fill about 70% of requests. So apply and email Mrs. Tax with questions. We do have about a dozen extra jackets and extra white shirts for Official Dress but grab them and wash them before you need them. All clothing is stored in the closet in the IT room.

CDEs and LDEs: Please look at the calendar. The deadline to register for a contest is a hard deadline. Contests will use a scantron. Once you qualify for state in a CDE or LDE, you cannot be on a varsity team in that area again. For example, every member can qualify for one CDE and LDE so since four members of General Livestock qualified for state, they can only try for JV teams of CDEs the rest of the year. LDEs are the speaking type contests including Conduct of Chapter, Parliamentary Procedure, Debate and Employment Skills. Please use the mnffa.org and look under Participation tab and Career Development for specific resources on each contest. These are completely voluntary.

Next Gen conferences in Texas--that is on Ag Communications in March, Minnesota is Foods in late June. The most these will cost a member is \$100 and that will be waived with two experiences on the wall behind Mrs. Tax. These conferences are so great to expose students to different careers and opportunities in that field. You can apply for as many conferences as you like. Note: each one will require you to get two letters of recommendation as well as a resume. Please don't wait until the last minute to ask for a letter of recommendation. Texas application closes on Oct 15--that's probably out of reach if you haven't started but we will announce when the MN application opens. These conferences are open to any FFA member and they give you the red carpet treatment and give you opportunities that are not available to the public. We have attended three of these conferences--Plants in St Louis; Power and Structural in Raleigh and Animals in Denver. Please see Mrs. Tax for students that have went that you can talk to about their experiences if you are interested.

SAE Grant due November 15th. These are \$1000 and are free money to get your SAE project off the ground. This is a very intensive application but please do not submit without Mrs. Tax looking it over and adding suggestions.

Mrs Tax explained the FFA Jackets and the pins and how they are placed on the jacket Degrees: Green Hand degree, Chapter Degree, State Degree and American Degree. Look on Google Classroom for application requirements and forms are available.  
Fruit order forms coming next week before MEA break--Member benefit of selling fruit- you get 10% put into your account and it's easy to sell.

Talked about all the opportunities during nationals.

Mrs. Tax talked about the money she got to help with mental health to spruce up and stock the bathrooms.

Veterans day program- looking for a volunteer to speak.

Clothing order form will go live next week. Members should not order a shirt that is being handled by the chapter separately. Becker Screen Printing is handling the orders and they will be all online. Please respect the deadline because it is a hard deadline.