

2018
National Association of Agricultural Educators
State Report: Delaware

Delaware Agricultural Education:

Administrative Updates:

Department of Education:

Director, CTE & STEM Workgroup - Luke Rhine :

Delaware is at the forefront of education reform in the United States and is uniquely positioned to be a model for the nation. Delaware has shaped extensive school reform, including the alignment of academic and technical skills within a comprehensive model of Career and Technical Education. The model reflects the needs of our economy and creates a systemic process for career preparation. The Delaware Department of Education (DDOE) has developed twenty (20) state-model Career and Technical Education (CTE) programs of study for Local Education Agency adoption. Each state-model CTE program of study is directly mapped to a demand driven occupation and includes opportunities for students to earn college credit and industry recognized credentials.

In an effort to expand on the statewide Delaware Pathways initiative to prepare all students to excel in key fields that offer good job opportunities in the new economy, more than \$438,000 in public grants were awarded in 2018 to support new high school pathway programs. The competitive grants, awarded from federal Perkins funds, will benefit 16 districts or charter schools for the 2019-20 school year.

Grant funds are used by school districts and charter schools to implement career and technical education programs as part of a larger state effort to connect our public education system, post-secondary institutions, and employers. Students take hundreds of hours of specialized instruction and hands-on training in their pathways, giving them the opportunity to graduate with work experience, college credit, and industry credentials that are relevant to those industries. As a result, students receive a head start on getting a job and earning a degree.

The Governor's Delaware Pathways program currently serves more than 12,000 students enrolled in 20 career pathways programs across 16 comprehensive school districts, three (3) technical school districts, and 10 charter districts, in addition to serving youth at Cleveland White and the Ferris School.

Education Associate, Agriscience - Dr. Bart Gill:

In an effort to expand the statewide Delaware Pathways initiative to prepare all students to excel in key fields that offer good job opportunities in the new economy the Delaware Department of Education (DDOE) and the Delaware Association for Agriscience Educators (DAAE) collaboratively created programs of study in the areas of Plant Science, Animal Science & Management, Natural Resource Management, Agriculture Power & Engineering, and Agriculture Structures & Engineering. The Agriculture Power & Engineering and the Agriculture Structures & Engineering programs will utilize the National Center for Construction Education & Research (NCCER) curriculum and will serve as a pre-apprentice program in the state of Delaware. To support the implementation of these new programs over \$300,000 in grant dollars were awarded in 2017 and 2018. curriculum and will serve as a pre-apprentice program in the state of Delaware. To support the implementation of these new programs over \$100,000 in grant dollars were awarded in 2017 to five school systems

Delaware FFA Executive Secretary Report (Mrs. Amanda Powell):

The Delaware FFA Association had a great showing at the National FFA Convention. We had over 115 members participate, 3 gold teams, 12 top ten individuals, Ten members received their American FFA Degree. We also had a National Officer Candidate and a member in the National Chorus and 2, 3 star national chapter award chapters. We have seen an increase in membership to over 4000 and look forward to many of our middle school programs becoming affiliated in the current school year.

Program Overview:

Student enrollment & Program Numbers

- a.) 25 High School Programs and FFA Chapters (a loss of 2 this year.)
- b.) 14 Middle School Programs and FFA Chapters (increase of 1 this past year)

Total Agriscience student enrollment: 13,085 (decrease from last year)

- a.) High School: 8350
- b.) Middle School: 4735

Program Availability:

*Animal Science & Management; Biotechnology; Environmental Science and Natural Resources
Food Science; Plant Science, Natural Resource Management,
Agriculture Power & Engineering, Agriculture Structures & Engineering, Exploratory Ag Ed (middle schools)*

Approximately 4095 FFA Members

- a.) *Leadership Opportunities for FFA Members:
Chapter Officer Leadership Training
Discovery and High School Leadership Conferences
Washington Leadership Conference Sponsorships*

Post Secondary Programs (no change)

a. DelTech: Expanding production agriculture program to accommodate growth. Begin coursework at new facility in January.

- i. 3 different style high tunnel greenhouses where students will learn various methods of crop production utilizing extended growing seasons;
- ii. a production ag building that includes lab area for students to learn about post-harvest practices,
- iii. 4 acres of field production that will include fruit and vegetable production, fruit trees, and other niche crops.
- iv. Long Term Goal: Offer training opportunities to groups such as veterans and other underserved populations.

b. Delaware State University: Agriculture Education Undergrad is growing proportionately to the fill the need of positions.

c. University of Delaware: Have moved from dropping Ag Ed major to a 4+1 program which is beginning to pick up steam; but just caught wind – they are doing away with the Ag ed Specialist position and will be working on a soft contract – year to year.

Delaware Association of Agriculture Educators

Re-aligned Committee Structure & strategic plans to best suit DE – Ag Ed.

Membership Increase

Career Development and Leadership Development Event Realignment to address National Standards.

Development of Team Ag Ed – Highlighting the joint partnership necessary promote Ag Ed responsibly.

Improved efforts in fostering industry support: “engaging students, supporting advisors and tell our story”

Increased and improved mentoring program for teachers as well as teacher moves concerning curriculum.

Better efforts in fostering business & industry support

Agriscience Job Opportunities

This year alone, we’ve added 6 new teachers to the Delaware Ag Ed family. In the past few years we have shown continuous growth in Agriscience programs, student enrollment numbers as well as teacher / educator positions. Districts around the state have bought into the value of agriculture education and are seeking to add more positions in the future due to the “work based learning” component of our new DOE model.

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Concerns/ Focuses

Amongst all the change in Delaware Ag Education we are in a decent spot however, there are always concerns lurking:

- Communication from Delaware Department of Education (DOE) to DAAE is improving – continued concern but improving
 - We have addressed the lack of unity top address current needs of CTE programming and are working together now on pathway changes.
 - There is now pathway collaboration between DOE and current DAAE members
- Communication from National FFA through DOE to DAAE; breakdown in chain of communication
- Educational Budgeting issues.
- Encompassing the “full” Ag Ed model as a means of instruction.
- Teacher burnout and retention
- Pathway & Curriculum Collaboration to address certification of students.

Delaware Summer Conference Review: June 26-29, 2017

Day	Morning	Lunch	Afternoon
<p><u>Monday June 26th</u> <i>Smyrna Middle School</i> <i>Multipurpose room, next to the side parking lot</i></p>	<p>Check In / Light Breakfast 8:00am-8:45am</p> <p>DAAE Annual Meeting 9am-12pm</p>	<p>12-1</p>	<p>1pm-4pm Program of Study / Pathway Outline Discussion</p>
<p><u>Tuesday June 27th</u> <i>Smyrna Middle School</i> <i>Multipurpose room, next to the side parking lot</i></p>	<p>8:30am – 10:00am MyCaert Workshop; Kathy Novotney - MyCaert</p> <p>10:15am – 11:00am LPS Updates / FFA.org Dr. Karen Hutchison–National FFA</p> <p>11:15am – 12:00pm Schoolology Holly Schnittger – McKean HS</p>	<p>12-12:45</p>	<p>12:45 – 1:30 Educational Technology Workshop Stacey Pounsberry - DTCC</p> <p>1:45 – EOB Agriculture Education Tracker Program Management National Chapter Applications Meeting Manager Tim Murphey - AET</p>
<p><u>Wednesday June 28th</u> <i>Smyrna High School</i></p>	<p>9am-11am Rm. 171 Supervised Agriscience Experience Incorporation & Teacher Program of Activities’</p> <p><u>CDE Training Workshops:</u></p> <p>11am-12pm Ag Communications Becca Sheahan/Ashley Legg</p>	<p>12-12:45</p>	<p><u>Career Development Event Trainings</u></p> <p>12:45 -1:45 Milk Quality Rm. 171 Julie Emerson</p> <p>2:00 - 3:00 Nursery Landscape Rm. 172 Kellie Michaud / Tracey Wooten</p> <p>3:00 – 4:00 Food Science Rm. 170 Brynn Bailey / Debbie Kirk</p>
<p><u>Thursday June 29th</u> Pick Up Locations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Delaware State Fairgrounds</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Smyrna Rest Stop</i> • <i>William Penn High School</i> 	<p>Penn Farms: Tour the facilities of a working farm and school relationship. While learning new methods of incorporating hands on learning.</p> <p>PMA presentation.</p> <p>Port of Wilmington: Touring global facilities at the Port of Wilmington and meeting with personnel who will educate our group on the workings of the Port and the industry needs in the global market sector of agriculture logistics.</p>	<p>You will be responsible for your own lunch today. You can pack or purchase lunch as we will be stopping to grab a quick bite during travel after Penn Farms.</p>	<p>Produce Marketing Association:</p> <p>This tour will give us the opportunity to look more into the logistical, global trade, leadership and food service aspects of the Agriculture Industry. This will give us an idea of how we can educate our students on the needs of career areas outside of traditional Agriculture.</p>

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2016-2017 Officers

President: Holly Hufford; Smyrna Middle School - Holly.Hufford@smyrna.k12.de.us

President Elect: Rebecca Sheahan, McKean High School- Rebecca.sheahan@redclay.k12.de.us

Past President: Jeffrey Billings; Middletown High School- Jeffrey.billings@appo.k12.de.us

Secretary: Kelly Oldis; Newark High School - Kelly.Oldis@Christina.K12.de.us

Treasurer: Sarah Bell; Smyrna High School- sarah.bell@smyrna.k12.de.us

New Castle County Rep.: Karen Ferrucci; William Penn High School- Karen.ferrucci@colonial.k12.de.us

Kent County Rep.: Caitlin Walton; Milford High School- cwalton@msd.k2.de.us

Sussex County Rep.: Kara Kochis; Sussex Central High School- kara.kochis@irsd.k12.de.us

DAAE Foundation Representative: Brynn Bailey; Middletown High School – Brynn.Bailey@appo.k12.de.us

DE FFA Alumni Representative: Cheryl Vest; Middletown High School-cheryl.vest@appo.k12.de.us