

NATIONAL TEACHER AMBASSADORS FOR FFA

Monthly Update

Monthly Thoughts

This month's Monthly Thoughts come to us from Jason Wetzler, a friend of the Teacher Ambassador Program and the Educational Development and Evaluation Team.

Build Momentum When You Feel Stuck

It's Monday morning and I'm staring at a wide open week, no travel, no commitments, and nothing on the calendar. It's rare and something I should be excited about. Instead, I find it hard to get out of bed when my alarm goes off.

I kick my covers off like a toddler throwing a tantrum and force my legs over the side of the bed. I go through my morning routine, pausing more than I should to watch a reel on Instagram or scroll through emails. I walk into the kitchen with the house to myself. The world is my oyster, but for some reason, when I think about how I should spend my time, I clam up. There are plenty of things I could be doing, but instead I find myself scrolling again.

The longer I stare at my phone, the less motivated I feel. A dull heaviness sets in and the day already feels like it is slipping away. I am tempted to chalk it up as a loss when I hear the dishwasher finish its cycle. I think out loud, "The least I can do is put the dishes away."

As I do, my energy picks up just a little and my attitude about the day shifts. I look at the dogs lying on the couch and think, "They deserve a morning walk." Their excitement as I grab the leashes is contagious, and for the first time that morning, I smile.

In that moment, there was a noticeable shift in my energy and outlook for the day. I felt more motivated, optimistic, and grounded. I knew I had done something, but I wasn't exactly sure what had changed.

After some research, I realized I had inadvertently implemented a number of highly effective principles that create momentum.

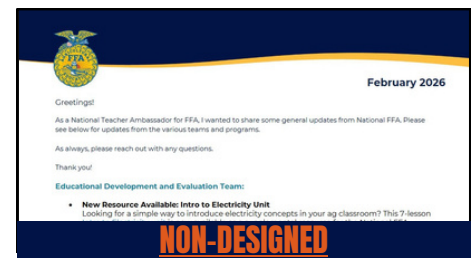
[Read the rest on Jason's site here.](#)

Quick Links

RESOURCE HIGHLIGHT VIDEO



FORWARDABLE EMAIL UPDATES:



Ambassador Updates and Reminders

End of Year Assessment Survey:

As we wrap up the year, be on the lookout for the End of Year Assessment Survey, which will first be emailed to you on May 18th and will be due by June 1st.

Workshop Reminder:

If you haven't already given a workshop, remember to get the scheduled! Giving at least one workshop is a requirement of the ambassador program. To review all requirements of the program, you can check out the [list here](#).

Moving? Update Your Home Address

Are you moving? Let us know! We send notes and packages at various times throughout the year and it's helpful to have your most updated home address. [Fill out this form](#) to update your home address after any move.



AMBASSADOR BOX FOLDER

[CLICK HERE TO ACCESS YOUR AMBASSADOR BOX FOLDER](#)

Teacher Ambassador Spotlight

Our Teacher Ambassador Spotlight this month goes to **Dakota Stroud and Caitlin Tatum** from **Virginia!**

Dakota and Caitlin were recently featured in an FFA in the USA article by Virginia FFA member (and Caitlin's student) McKenzie Wilson.

The [article](#) highlighted Dakota and Caitlin's efforts to support teachers and students in Virginia through the National Teacher Ambassadors for FFA Program.

Keep up the great work Dakota and Caitlin!



DAKOTA STROUD AND CAITLIN TATUM
VIRGINIA



NATIONAL TEACHER AMBASSADORS FOR FFA *Organization Updates*

Educational Development and Evaluation Team

New SAE Video Lesson Plans:

Check out the five [newest SAE videos](#) recorded in Arkansas last fall. These videos showcase a variety of SAEs, including biotechnology, animal systems and food products and processing SAEs. These videos also have [accompanying lesson plans](#) that you can use to further engage your students in SAE learning.

The lesson plans offer guided activities to help students connect the videos to their own SAE interests and ideas.

2026 National FFA Week

We surveyed FFA advisors about the activities FFA members hosted and participated in during 2026 National FFA Week. We compiled this [report](#), highlighting examples of FFA Week activities, the National FFA Officer team's travels, Give FFA Day, and resources available for planning an engaging National FFA Week experience. This is a great resource for your own National FFA Week planning and for sharing with other teachers and administrators to learn more.

Name: _____

Pepper Processing

Aligned to the following standards:
FFA: 10000, 10001, 10002, 10003, 10004, 10005, 10006, 10007, 10008, 10009, 10010, 10011, 10012, 10013, 10014, 10015, 10016, 10017, 10018, 10019, 10020, 10021, 10022, 10023, 10024, 10025, 10026, 10027, 10028, 10029, 10030, 10031, 10032, 10033, 10034, 10035, 10036, 10037, 10038, 10039, 10040, 10041, 10042, 10043, 10044, 10045, 10046, 10047, 10048, 10049, 10050, 10051, 10052, 10053, 10054, 10055, 10056, 10057, 10058, 10059, 10060, 10061, 10062, 10063, 10064, 10065, 10066, 10067, 10068, 10069, 10070, 10071, 10072, 10073, 10074, 10075, 10076, 10077, 10078, 10079, 10080, 10081, 10082, 10083, 10084, 10085, 10086, 10087, 10088, 10089, 10090, 10091, 10092, 10093, 10094, 10095, 10096, 10097, 10098, 10099, 10100, 10101, 10102, 10103, 10104, 10105, 10106, 10107, 10108, 10109, 10110, 10111, 10112, 10113, 10114, 10115, 10116, 10117, 10118, 10119, 10120, 10121, 10122, 10123, 10124, 10125, 10126, 10127, 10128, 10129, 10130, 10131, 10132, 10133, 10134, 10135, 10136, 10137, 10138, 10139, 10140, 10141, 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Grants, Scholarship and Service

Student Engagement and Travel Assistance Grants – Apply Now!

Grants are now available for students attending Next Gen Animal Science Conference. To learn more about these grants and apply by the May 31 deadline, visit [here](#).

Yearlong Living to Serve Grant Now Available:

Could your chapter use up to \$3,000 to implement a service-learning project in your community? Click [here](#) to apply by June 17, 2026.



Alumni and Supporters

Regional Development Conference in Utah

The registration deadline to attend a free Regional Development Conference in South Jordan, Utah, is May 17. On May 29-30, teachers, alumni, and supporters can join a networking event and workshops on how volunteers can better support students and teachers. For more information on this and other alumni and supporter events, visit [here](#).

Alumni and Supporters Grants

The next National FFA Alumni and Supporters grant application deadline is June 1. Chapters can apply for funding to create or improve alumni and supporters chapters, partner adults and students on special projects, or provide plant-science-based projects. For more information, visit [here](#).



Belonging and Engagement



2026-27 Chapter Connect Selection Process Update

Applications are no longer being accepted and are now being reviewed by National FFA staff. Selected chapters will be notified by May 15, 2026.

Awards and Recognition

Agriscience Fair Resources

Does Agriscience Fair manuscript writing have you in a panic? We've got you! Check out these [National FFA Agriscience Fair manuscript examples](#) and have your students write with confidence.

Judging Season Is Fast Approaching!

We're looking for volunteers to help continue providing life-changing opportunities for our members. Serving as a judge is a meaningful way for teachers to gain exposure to high-quality projects and applications, all while making an impact on FFA members around the country. [Create a profile on our volunteer site](#) today so you don't miss the many opportunities available this year.

Does your chapter or school have local supporters who would make great judges? Invite them to make a [profile](#)! It truly takes many hands to deliver our mission, and we're always excited to grow our volunteer community.



Membership and Merchandise

2026-2027 Annual Tee

It's here! The [2026-2027 Annual FFA Tee](#) is available now. Get yours today!

Graduation Gear

Celebrate the Class of 2026 with [FFA graduation gear](#).

Get your FFA Banquet Supplies

Get ready for the end of the year with [FFA banquet supplies](#) and enjoy free engraving every day on [FFA awards](#).

