



Out of State Travel Request

Description:

Who - Up to twelve members of the Detroit Lakes FFA Chapter who are in 9th - 12th grade. Members must apply and be considered active and in good standing.

What - The annual National FFA Convention and Expo.

When - Leaving the evening of Tuesday, October 20th. Returning in the early morning of Sunday, October 24th.

Where - Indiana Convention Center, Indianapolis, Indiana.

Transportation - Region I FFA organizes group travel through chartered buses with Anderson Coach in Frazee. Between two and four buses travel together depending on the attendance.

Accommodations - Quality Inn, Indianapolis, IN. Students are assigned four to a room and may be grouped with other chapters to consolidate rooms.

Cost - \$480 per student, \$570 per advisor for transportation and lodging through Region I FFA, with an additional \$105 to National FFA for registration. Additional costs include tours, these vary from \$15-\$45 per event.

Supervision - Mrs. Thorsvig will be attending the National Convention for supervision. One benefit of traveling as a region is that truly our students will be chaperoned by all Region I FFA Advisors, as we work together.

DETAILS OF REQUEST

Request permission for out of state travel to: National FFA Convention, Indianapolis, Indiana

Who will be attending: Up to 12 FFA Members and Mrs. Thorsvig

Learning strands offered:

The student learning opportunities and benefits of attending the National FFA Convention are numerous. Witnessing the success of other FFA members is a unique experience, there are sessions highlighting the accomplishments of members in their Supervised Agricultural Experience (work based learning). I believe it is imperative that our members are able to see the advanced opportunities that are available to them in FFA and in Agriculture in general. The members will be able to network with other FFA members who are passionate and active in the FFA organization. Detroit Lakes students will have the opportunity to attend career exploratory and leadership development workshops. In addition, the Expo Center is packed with higher education and industry representatives. Students will also attend sessions with keynote speakers and motivational retiring addresses from the National Officers. We also go on career success tours while traveling to and from the convention, these vary from production/farm tours, to industry such as Caterpillar or Red Brand Fence.

DRAFT

To: FFA National Convention Candidates and Parents
From: Mrs. Thorsvig

National FFA Convention

Tuesday, October 20th - Sunday, October 25th, 2026

Thank you for your interest in the National FFA Convention. The convention gives members the chance to hear motivational speakers, visit numerous career booths and mingle with fellow FFA members from across the country. The National Convention is held in Indianapolis, Indiana! There is a great deal of information provided by the National FFA on their website, <https://convention.ffa.org/>. I highly suggest checking it out!!!

Students must apply for the opportunity to attend the National Convention. It is a quick application, but it is essential in case we have more students interested than spots on the bus. The Detroit Lakes FFA will be traveling to Convention on charter buses with other area FFA Chapters. The convention application, which is included in this packet, will be due on **Wednesday, September 23rd**. [Link to application](#).

This is considered a major trip for our students, the costs incurred to the Chapter are over \$700 per member, which covers lodging, transportation, tours, recreational tickets, tshirts and registration. **However, because of general fundraising, the Chapter is able to charge \$400.** If financial issues are a concern, please contact me. There will be opportunities for additional fundraisers to support the individual cost of the trip, such as concessions or additional Fruit Sales requirements. Please note, if the student does not attend - registration costs are nonrefundable. You will be expected to cover costs if your spot is not filled by another student. Students cannot attend if they are academically ineligible, it is imperative to start the school year off right and stay eligible.

Those who are approved to attend the Convention will be leaving Detroit Lakes in the evening on **Tuesday, October 20th**. Actual time is yet to be determined. Members will be gone from Tuesday evening till the early morning of **Sunday, October 25th**, so members will need to bring an appropriate amount of clothing, and personal spending money. A suggested packing list will be provided at a later time, along with the itinerary.

It is important to note that students will be responsible for meals, so they will need approximately \$100 for meals. Some may also want to plan for gifts and souvenirs.

FFA official dress is required for all days at convention, members will need an FFA jacket, enough white shirts, black slacks or skirts and black dress shoes for four days, and of course a tie or scarf! If members do not have an FFA jacket they can borrow one from the Chapter, and before going out to buy new clothing ask to see what we have at school. **If you want to order a new jacket and expect it to arrive for convention that order is also due September 23rd, new FFA jackets cost \$50.** Please remember, there are FFA jackets to borrow too! Most 9th grade students borrow one for Nationals!

Like mentioned earlier, an itinerary, packing list, and of course release/permission forms will be available as we get closer to the departure date. **One of the permission forms for out of state travel needs to be notarized.** Katrina at the District Admin Officer is able to do this, or another notary of your choice.

I'm looking forward to a worthwhile trip and an amazing experience!

Amanda Thorsvig
Detroit Lakes Agricultural Education Instructor
& FFA Advisor
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DRAFT

To: FFA National Convention Candidates and Parents

From: Mrs. Thorsvig

Indianapolis here we come! Once again, If you have not had the opportunity to visit <https://convention.ffa.org/>, I highly suggest checking it out! Family at home - there are more options than ever before to keep up with what is happening in Indy, giving everyone at home a chance to hear some of the same great speakers! Stay tuned to social media for live streams!

As you will see on the enclosed itinerary, we will be leaving Detroit Lakes at 7:20 PM on **Tuesday, October 20th**. Members will need to arrive at the school at **6:45 PM** for bag checks and boarding. We are returning in the early morning hours of **Sunday, October 25th**.

A suggested packing list is below. Remember you are responsible for keeping track of and moving any luggage you bring. Pack light, but be prepared!

- o Official Dress
 - o FFA Jacket & Tie/Scarf
 - o 2-3 pair of black pants/appropriate black skirts
 - o 2-3 white collared shirts
 - o black socks & comfortable, closed toed, closed heeled, black shoes
- o Copies of your Medical Release & Code of Conduct Contracts, must be kept on you at all times, Thorsvig will give you these copies to keep before we leave.
- o Zip City Release filled out.
- o Comfortable travel clothes.
- o Pillow & Blanket for travel time.
- o Casual Clothing - Chapter FFA Apparel is appreciated.
- o Toiletries (keep some essentials in your carry on bus bag, luggage that goes underneath will not be accessible until we arrive in Indianapolis)
- o Snacks, resalable containers required! We do not need any spills or messes!
- o Any beverages must be sealed at time of bag checks, and must be in resealable containers.
- o DVD's, PG13 or less, to be played on bus rides.
- o Money for meals.
- o Spending money.
- o Charger and battery bank.

Reminder of Expectations

- o Student's responsibility for the Trip is paid or fundraised for.
- o Refrains from becoming a discipline issue while on trip.
- o Takes and submits (electronically) pictures of our members participating in Convention events.
- o Assists with the creation of a slides presentation on Convention events.
- o Attends the Chapter Meeting after Convention to present the slides and tell their convention story.
- o Attends the November School Board Meeting to present as a group on the Convention.

I'm looking forward to a great trip! If you have any questions please contact me. My cell number is below and it will be with me during convention if you need to reach your student or myself. I hope that you are excited to be a part of this opportunity. I can, without a doubt, say that some of my best high school memories were made during State and National FFA Convention trips.

Amanda Thorsvig

Detroit Lakes Agricultural Education Instructor & FFA Advisor Email: athorsvig@detlakes.k12.mn.us Cell: 218.841.5976

DRAFT

Tuesday 10/20

BUS #1 PICKUP SCHEDULE:

<u>TIME</u>	<u>LOCATION</u>	<u>SCHOOL(S)</u>
5:45pm	TRF (Lincoln High Schools)	TRF (7)
6:30pm	Fosston (Erskine Win-E-Mac Gas Station)	Fosston (15)
7:00 pm	Mahnomen High School	Mahnomen (4)
8:15pm	Rothsay High School	Rothsay (15)

BUS #2 PICKUP SCHEDULE:

<u>TIME</u>	<u>LOCATION</u>	<u>SCHOOL(S)</u>
5:15pm	Ada-Borup West High School	ABW (7)
5:45pm	Norman County East High School	NCE (4)
6:15 pm	Ulen Hiterdal High School	UH (13)
7:00 pm	Lake Park High School	LPA (4)
7:20 pm	Detroit Lakes High School	DL (9)

BUS #3 PICKUP SCHEDULE:

<u>TIME</u>	<u>LOCATION</u>	<u>SCHOOL(S)</u>
6:00pm	Frazee-Vergas High School	Frazee (13) Hawley (11)
7:45pm	Brainerd High School	Brainerd (11)

Wednesday 10/21

6:30 am - Breakfast Peoria, IL. Each bus will be on their own.

8:15 – Tour at Fair Oaks Farms

- **Lunch** at fast food on the way to Indianapolis. Each bus will be on their own..

8:00am - 6:00pm National FFA Shopping Mall

Afternoon - Arrival at hotel for check in. If buses arrive early they can go downtown first for registration..

Noon to 5:00pm National FFA Expo

3:30pm - Opening Session 1A at Lucas Oil Stadium. No schools are attending this session so we can go to the hotel.

- **Supper** on their own around the hotel.

6:30pm – Rodeo (Indiana Farmers Coliseum) **We will need a shuttle to this event and back to the hotel when it is done at 8:30. (Hawley)**

Thursday 10/22

6:30AM – Continental **Breakfast** offered by the hotel.

Bus 1-3 **TBD** - Load buses for Downtown. Please refer to your Advisor Planning Guide for other activities going on. **No bus shuttling needed the rest of the day.**

8:00am - 6:00pm National FFA Shopping Mall

8:00am- Opening Session 1B (Lucas Oil Stadium)

8:00am to 5:00pm National FFA Expo

- **Lunch** on your own in downtown Indy..

2:00pm - Second Convention Session (Lucas Oil Stadium)

- **Supper** on your own in downtown Indy..

6:30pm – Rodeo (Indiana Farmers Coliseum) **We may need a shuttle to this event and back to the hotel when it is done at 8:30. (ADA Borup West)**

7:00 pm- Third Convention session (Lucas Oil Stadium) **Load bus to return to hotel when this session is done. Usually around 9:00**

Friday 10/23

AM – Continental **Breakfast** offered by the hotel.

Bus 1-3 **TBD** - Load buses for Downtown. Please refer to your Advisor Planning Guide for other activities going on.

8:00am - 6:00pm National FFA Shopping Mall

8:00am- Opening Session 1B (Lucas Oil Stadium)

8:00am to 5:00pm National FFA Expo

TBD- Informal **Minnesota Delegation Picture**

The group will meet on the main steps across from the corner of West South St and South Capitol Ave

- **Lunch** on your own in downtown Indy..

12:30: Rodeo Shuttle: (Frazee-Vergas) (Indiana Farmers Coliseum)

2:00pm - Second Convention Session (Lucas Oil Stadium)

- **Supper** on your own in downtown Indy..

5:30 - 7:00 pm - National Talent Semi Finals followed by National FFA Band & Choir Concert (Lucas Oil Stadium)

6:30pm – Rodeo (Indiana Farmers Coliseum) **We may need a shuttle to this event and back to the hotel when it is done at 8:30.**
(Fosston, TRF, Rothsay)

7:00 pm- Third Convention session (Lucas Oil Stadium) **Load bus to return to hotel when this session is done. Usually around 9:00**

Saturday 10/24

AM - Continental **breakfast** provided by the hotel and **check out**.

TBD – Load bus with students and advisors interested in attending American Degree ceremonies.

7:30am – American Degree Ceremony, Lucas Oil Stadium (Frazee-Vergas, Hawley, Brainerd)

8:00am - 6:00pm National FFA Shopping Mall

TBD - Load bus for tour of the Indianapolis Speedway Tour or Zoo Experience (11:00am).

-**Lunch** on their own on the way home.

12:00pm - Seventh Session (Lucas Oil Stadium) We usually do not stay for this session

TBD - Depart for home with **supper** stop on the way. Drops are usually in reverse order of pickups. First drop should be about 12 hours after departure.

Hotel: Quality Inn Castleton Indy,
8380 Kelly Lane,
Indianapolis, IN 46250-1665