

FFA National Convention

When- Oct 28-31

Where - Indianapolis , Indiana

Why- To become better FFA members

Students- 10

Adults- 2

Housing- rented a house

Transportation- rented a van from Enterprise

Funding- Comes out of FFA activity fund, student fundraising and donations

When- The 2025 FFA National Convention is Oct 28-31. The plan is to leave on the 28th at 6am from school. We will be making our way to Fair Oaks Farm where the kids will tour a working hog and dairy farm. They will engage in interactive activities while on the tour. We want to leave on the 28th because if we don't we are rushed to get to the opening ceremony on the 29th. We have to get our badges and tickets before the opening ceremony. Plus that gives us a night together for team building activities at the house.

Where- The convention is located at several spots in Indianapolis. The general sessions will be held in Lucas Oil Stadium, where 58,000 Blue Jacket wearing FFA members will take part in the opening session. When we are not in the sessions we will be at the convention center, a 10 minute walk if that from Lucas Oil.

Why- There are several reasons why to take the kids to the convention. First off any FFA member wishing to earn his or her State FFA degree must attend the National Convention. Secondly the students attend valuable workshops at the convention center. On the 29th and 30th, the kids will be attending 2 to 3 different workshops each day that range on various topics but all revolve around leadership skills, team bonding type of material. It's material they can take with them to their job, next level of school etc.. While at the general sessions there are guest speakers that have amazing messages that the kids can relate to.

Students- Grace McFadden (Chapter President), Abby White(Vice President) Carsyn DeLong (Sec.), Josie Meggison (Treasurer), Alex Trace(Sentinel) , Lauryn Maher and Finley York(Reporter) , and Brayden Richardson, Brinley Kruger and Riley White

Each student has meet our Chapters requirements to be able to go to the National Convention. Those include- at least 10 community service hours, attended Chapter meetings, attended our CDE's and those practices, worked at least 3 basketball games at the bowl and worked the Super sectional game

Adults- Lori Jackson and myself. Lori is a JHS grad who works for the Illinois Farm Bureau and is a great mentor to these young adults. She was approved last year to be able to go, paid the fee and everything. This will be Lori's third year making the trip with us.

Housing- After staying at a hotel our first year, I decided to go with a house from AirBnb. I feel it's a safer environment to have the kids in. The house is about a 10 minute drive from everything we will attend. Has plenty of room and activities to help bring the group closer together. We plan to take food so we can make breakfast at the house each morning and eat as a group.

Transportation- I rented a 15 person passenger Ford Transit from Enterprise for a little over \$1000

Passes for the whole convention is \$95 -\$105 a pass covered by the chapter

We will either be attending the concert they have every year or the rodeo. The artist for the concert hasn't been announced yet. Concert tickets are \$65 each for total of \$780 or the rodeo is \$35 each for a total of \$420

We will go out to eat one night as a group and are planning on going to Top Golf where the kids can enjoy the games and food. Typically this night is paid for by the JHS FFA Alumni . We also plan on going to Beasley's Orchard to enjoy the activities

Funding- The trip is paid out of the FFA Activity fund. To put money towards the activity fund we worked the boys basketball games at the bowl, we have our annual flower sale. We get a \$1000 dollar donation from Ag Play Day golf outing which will be used for the van cost. The alumni typically gives \$1000 for the trip. The kids also do a calendar fundraiser that helps pay for things.

This is a life changing event for the FFA kids and a trip they look forward to each year

Thank you
Mark Dyer