# Agriculture Department - Updates

Board Meeting 11/17/25

### **Agriculture Department Advisors**



#### Mrs. Rhonda Knapp

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#### Mrs. Kristina Puntney

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#### Mrs. Gina Trower

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#### **Section 1**

# What Are Our Students Learning?

Waunakee Agriculture Department Middle & High School



# Increased Student Enrollment

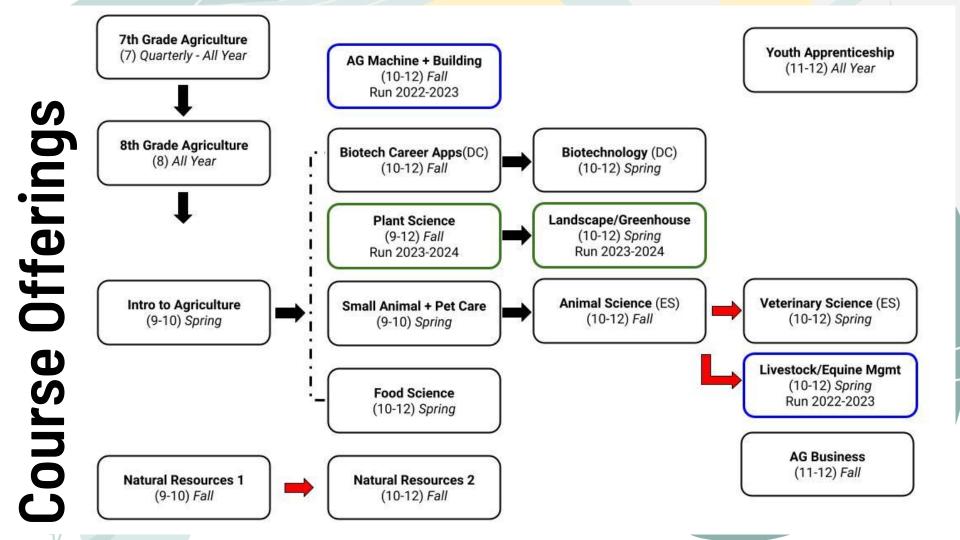
212 High School - 130% increase since 2015 455 Middle School\*

# 7 Youth Apprenticeships

Agriculture & Veterinary Technician Apprenticeships

100%

Of students have an SAE Program (8th-12th)



# 18 Agriculture Industries

SAE projects in these areas from intro to advanced!

# 9 Student Projects

Directly connected to other CTSOs/Clubs

# 45 Hours

Average community service hours completed by students

Student SAE Projects

Every 8th-12th grade agriculture student has a SAE project. This year-long project has 5 focus areas:

- Career Exploration and Planning
- Personal Financial Planning and Management
- Workplace Safety
- Career and Employability SKills
- Agriculture Literacy



# **SAEs = Student Led Projects**

- → Milk Machine commons
- → Egg Incubator
  - ◆ Class & Student-led SAE projects
- → Hydroponic Herb Gardens + Towers
  - Fork Farms & Aerogardens



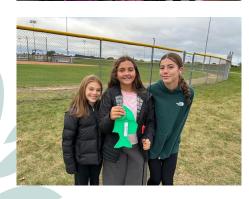


# Student Course Connections



# Middle School Hands On Learning









## Middle School Guest Speakers 2025 Quarter 1

- Amy & Rebecca: AgrAbility of Wisconsin
- Rylee: Zen Dogs Center of Waunakee
- Heidi: Insight FS
- 8th Grade Ag Class: Madison College Field Trip









# **Community Greenhouse**

#### <u>Greenhouse Report</u>:

- → Greenhouse Managers: 6-8 students
  - Care for greenhouse sale plants, student experiments and community donations
  - Apply for position earn up to 10% plant sale profits
  - ◆ Starts Dec thru sale in May
- → # Plants Grown: 5,200+
- → Connected Organizations: Plants are grown and donated to organizations to be used for food, landscaping or education!





# **Community Test Plot**

#### Test Plot Report:

- → **Field:** ~24.5 acres
  - ◆ Woodland Drive & Peaceful Valley Parkway
- → Purpose:
  - Students gain hands-on experiences to learn the inputs required to grow a field crop.
  - Crop production, soil health, financial management, and business partnerships.
- → **2025 Crop Grown:** Corn
- → Partnership: FFA Alumni, FS

Cooperative & Local Agronomists



#### Section 2

# **How Are Our Students Growing?**

Waunakee FFA Chapter - CTSO Middle & High School

# Waunakee FFA 2025–2026 Officer Team

Alena W Leaf L
Abby A Maya P
Brenna L Sadie N
Celeste F Payton S
Henry K Liam G



## Waunakee FFA - High School

- → Same club/organization as the Middle School
- → Offered to all students in agriculture course or with an active SAE Project
- → Monthly meetings, chapter activities, community projects, leaderships events & contests
- → State & National FFA opportunities to active members



Membership: 92 (as of 1st sem)

#### Waunakee FFA - Middle School

- → Same club/organization as the High School
- → Offered to all students (7th) & membership in course (8th)
- → Hold meetings, chapter activities, leaderships events & contests

Membership: 39





#### Waunakee FFA - CTSO Opportunities

- → Leadership Development Events
- → Career Development Events
- → Scholarships
- → Community Service
- → Middle School Member Connections
- → Agriculture Outreach + Education
- → FFA Alumni Connections + Support



#### **Community Connection:**

#### **Zoetis Support Program**

Rebate program from Zoetis.
Lodi Veterinary Service & Waunakee

Veterinary Service (Large Animal).

#### **Sweet Pea Floral**

Host Floral Design Workshop for FFA members & in our Plant Science Classes.

#### Culver's

Host "Scoops of Thanks" -Corporate Scoopie Night- Ag Education & FFA Promotion Event





#### **Community Connection:**

#### **FFA Alumni**

#### Membership: 119

Anyone who is interested in supporting and promoting agriculture, agricultural education and the FFA at the local, state and national level.

FFA advisors and members all across the country rely on volunteers to help support their chapters through the gifts of time, talent and resources in order to gain community support and give teachers more time and freedom to do what they do best – teach students.



#### Waunakee FFA

# **Social Media**

Check out our students passions & achievements!

- @waunakeehsffa
- (a) @waunakeeffa
- waunakeeffa.org



#### **Section 3**

# Where Are We Going Next?

Waunakee Agriculture Department Waunakee FFA Chapter - CTSO Middle & High School

# Agriculture Course Advancements

Middle School Agriculture

Required 7th - Elective 8th

**Increased Exposure** 

Increased enrollment, classes/numbers, content rigor to standards Youth Apprenticeships Career Pathways Advanced Course Offerings Student Experience

#### **Agriculture Department: Goals**

- → Continuity with curriculum 7th grade through 12th grade
- → Increase Agriculture Youth Apprenticeship enrollment (SAEs to YA)
- → Increase Biotechnology enrollment
  - Dual credit + Youth Apprenticeship opportunities
- → Increase certification opportunities for students DWD currently discussion more AG
- → Update facilities & equipment to meet current pathways standards
  - New: Incubator (96 egg capacity)
  - ◆ Freeze-dryer Ag Business & Food Sci Courses
- → Quality CTE framework improve metrics for community partnerships

## **MS Facilities Update**











#### **Agriculture Department**

# **THANK YOU!**

Have any questions?

Please ask or contact us!