

VAAE November/December Update

Awards & Members in the News

NAAE/ACTE

Andy Seibel was selected as the recipient of the 2015 Virginia Association for Career and Technical Education ACTE Region II Carl D. Perkins Community Service Award and represented us at the ACTE Conference November 17-21 at New Orleans.

The following VAAE members/supporters have won the respective National Association of Agriculture Educators (NAAE) National awards for Region VI and were recognized at the NAAE Convention New Orleans, Louisiana:

- Teacher Turn the Key recipient is Alison Sutphin.
- Outstanding Cooperation recipient is Katie Frazier of the Virginia Agribusiness Council.
- Outstanding Middle/Secondary AG Ed program is Central High School.
- Outstanding Postsecondary/ Adult Ag Ed Program recipient is Dr. Megan Seibel of the VALOR (Virginia Agriculture Leaders Obtaining Results) program.

Award applications are now available for the 2016 VAAE Awards and Dr. Anderson Scholarship. Go to www.vaae.info and click on the awards tab for more information.

Winter In-service

Our 2nd annual Winter In-service was held December 4-5, 2015 at Riverheads High School in Staunton, Virginia. We had over 60 people in attendance and offered a variety of workshops pertaining to the Agriculture, Food and Natural Resources curriculum. The VAAE would like to thank everyone who worked to make this in-service a success!

Middle School Teacher's Conference

The 2016 Virginia Middle School Agriculture Teacher's Conference will be held March 11-12, 2016 in Woodstock, VA. This professional development is designed to meet the specific needs and challenges of Middle School teachers while offering an opportunity for collaboration.

Registration: A non-refundable registration fee of \$25.00 will be billed to each participant - registration includes dinner on Friday and lunch on Saturday. Participants can register online at <http://goo.gl/forms/yOgwTnznea>. Registration closes March 4, 2016. Each participant will receive an invoice via PayPal - payment will be accepted by check, or with credit card through PayPal, for your convenience.

Tentative/working schedule: The following is a working schedule for the conference.

Friday (at Holiday Inn, Woodstock)

WORKSHOP DAY

11:30 - Registration

12:00 - Welcome and Housekeeping

12:15 - 1:15 Dan Swafford - Drones in Agriculture

1:30 - 2:30 Lesson Plan Share Time Please bring lesson ideas, shop projects, or FFA meeting ideas to share!!

2:45 - 3:15 Virginia FFA Update

3:15 - Transition to PMMS Ag. Department

3:30 - 4:15 - Food and Fiber CDE Update with Jimmy Hisghman

4:15 - 4:30 - Break

4:30 - 5:30 - Proposed Changes to Ag Mechanics CDE

5:30 - 6:30 Dinner

6:30 - 8:30 – Ag. Mechanics Hands-On

Saturday

GOOGLE DAY

Schedule to be determined.

Lodging: Hotel reservations can be made at the Holiday Inn Express in Woodstock, Virginia under the "Virginia Middle School Agriculture Teachers Conference" Block. You may contact the hotel at 540-459-5000 or reserve online at www.hiexpress.com/woodstockva and use group code VMC. The rate is \$89 plus tax (\$98.17 total). **The hotel block closes February 11.**

Please note from Holiday Inn Express: Cancellation policy without penalty: 4pm February 27, 2016 (Two weeks prior to arrival)—All reservations will be charged for the entire stay. If paying by school check: the check must be received by the hotel no later than February 27, 2016.

Contact Information: Please contact Derek Ritenour at dbritenour@shenandoah.k12.va.us with any questions or concerns.

Curriculum Review Teams

The following courses are under review and accepting applications. To take a look at the course and competencies currently utilized go to: <http://www.cterresource.org/verso/categories/agriculture-food-and-natural-resources> and select the course you wish to see. If you would be willing to serve on the teacher panel please apply at <https://p1pe.doe.virginia.gov/cteaps> - if you have any problems, call Ashley at 804-225-2052 or email at Ashley.Brown@doe.virginia.gov. Additionally, if you have suggestions for industry panel participants, please contact Carly Woolfolk at Carly.Woolfolk@doe.virginia.gov.

Introduction to Plant Systems – 8007

- o Teacher Panel: March 7 – 22, 2016 – Virtual

Urban Forestry – 8048 – NEED TEACHERS WHO TEACH FORESTRY, LANDSCAPING, TURF OR NATURAL RESOURCES COURSES!

- o Combination Teacher/Business Panel: April 6-20, 2016 – Face to face (April 6th) with Virtual follow-up (April 7 – 20th)

STAR

The Star team has been working hard to develop programs to increase teacher recruitment and retention. We will be receiving an \$8,000 grant to use for our programs for the coming year. Check out the VAAE webpage (www.vaae.info) under the Teach Ag tab for updates.

Announcements

Forestry Camp – June 20-25, 2016 – Holiday Lake, Appomattox, VA

State FFA Convention - June 20-23, 2016 - Virginia Tech

State FFA Camp – July 11-15, 2016 – Graves Mountain Lodge

Work-Based Learning Conference – June 28 -29, 2016 – Richmond, VA

New Teacher Institute – July 11 – 15, 2016 – Richmond, VA

VAAE Professional Development Summer Conference – July 18-21, 2016 – Culpeper, VA (Central Area)

VAAE Upcoming Events:

- i. VACTE Leadership Seminar – January 21-22, 2016; Richmond, VA
- ii. Ag Ed Summit – January 26 – 28, 2016; Indianapolis, IN
- iii. Middle School Ag Teachers’ Conference – March 11-12, 2016; Woodstock, VA
- iv. VAAE Award Applications DUE- March 15 electronically to Mr. Byrd
- v. Region VI Conference and Awards Judging- April 29-30; Trenton, NJ
- iv. 2016 VAAE Conference – July 18-21, 2016; Culpeper, VA - Central Area