

# ND FFA Leadership Conference Highlights Schedule



**ND FFA Leadership Conference**

Updated: 8/28/24



# Conference Descriptions

Brought to you by the ND FFA Association

## 101 CONFERENCE

Grades 7 - 9

This conference is put on by the ND FFA State Officer team for FFA members. It will focus on developing their leadership, etiquette and FFA knowledge.

## BLUE CONFERENCE

Grades 10 - 11

This conference will focus on the basic elements of teamwork. YourNextSpeaker, LLC, based in Oklahoma, will lead the training. These highly trained, professional speakers have spent thousands of hours in front of FFA members and will provide an engaging, interactive, content-focused and meaningful conference experience. The content will be based on the 10 Techniques to Help Your Teams Work curriculum authored by Rhett Laubach, Professional Speaker and Owner of YourNextSpeaker, LLC. This curriculum includes applicable team building lessons that members can use in both their personal and educational experiences.

## GOLD CONFERENCE

Grades 11 - 12

This conference will focus on the advanced elements of teamwork; including specific ideas applicable for any chapter officers attending the conference. YourNextSpeaker, LLC, based in Oklahoma, will lead the training. These highly trained, professional speakers have spent thousands of hours in front of FFA members and will provide an equal mix of small group discussion, lesson processing from lecture moments and hands-on, "Doing to Learn" activities. The teamwork lessons will include advanced techniques for how to both maximize contributions to teams the members are on today and in the future, as well as how to serve and help teammates do the same.

## ASPIRE CONFERENCE

State Officer Candidates - Grade 12

This new conference is designed for seniors that might have an interest in running for state officer at the upcoming State Convention. Students will need to fill out an extra application for as we are going to limit this conference to 40 individuals. This exclusive event will be facilitated by former state officers and will also have the students working as team leaders with the 101 conferences/food packaging event. They will learn about the running process as well as learn employability skills through workshops and facilitation. Those seniors that are not selected from their application will be placed down into the Blue Conference for participation.



**NORTH DAKOTA**  
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# Speakers & Entertainers



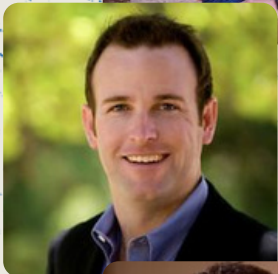
## **Patty Hendrickson** *Blue/Gold Conference Keynote*

Her many titles include – entrepreneur, wife, mother, leader, advisor, mentor, philanthropist and master juggler-of-all-things. Most importantly, she loves to hang out with her son Max & daughter Amelia, cheer for the Green Bay Packers, and eat cookie dough. Leadership Speaker, Patty Hendrickson gets her audiences interacting from start to finish.



## **Rhett Laubach** *Blue/Gold Conference Facilitator*

Drawing from his multitude of profound and powerful lessons learned, Rhett's ability to connect with his audience is second to none.



## **Dustin Galyon** *Blue/Gold Conference Facilitator*

Dustin Galyon is a speaker, photographer, collegiate head men's golf coach, and entrepreneur. With Dustin, you get energy, intensity, and passion.



## **Kelly Barnes** *Blue/Gold Conference Facilitator*

Kelly Barnes is an accomplished leader and inspirational story-teller who is equipped with life experiences and lessons that can truly develop the leader within those around him.



## **2024 - 2025 ND State Officer Team** *101 Conference Facilitators*

Elected in June, this team has hit the ground running. Their passion for FFA is contagious and will be evident in the skit and workshops they have curated for the 101 conference. Get ready to Level Up Leadership with this crew!



**NORTH DAKOTA  
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# Speakers & Entertainers



## **Katelyn Duchscher & Wyatt Kersten – Past State Officers**

***101 Conference Facilitators***

Katelyn and Wyatt's journey in the blue jacket ended when they retired from state office in June of 2023. That hasn't stopped them from staying involved. This dynamic duo is ready to help attendees Level Up Leadership!



## **T-shirt Signing Event**

***Brought to you by ND FFA Alumni***

**Bismarck Event Center – Outside Hall C**

Join the ND FFA State Officers at the evening activities to get their signatures on your conference t-shirt!



## **Neon Dance**

***Music on Wheels by Dude Walker***

**Bismarck Event Center – Hall C**

Dude Walker has been the upper Midwest's mobile DJ leader for over two decades. Students will need to wear their conference t-shirt and their conference wristband to attend. For 2024, the dance will feature blacklights, so students are encouraged to accessorize their conference t-shirt with neon colors to stand out.



## **Game Night**

**Bismarck Event Center – Hall B**

Students not interested in dancing can hang out in the game room. Students are encouraged to bring school appropriate games to play. The following yard games will be provided: ring toss, connect four, and giant jenga. Wristbands and the conference t-shirt are required to attend.



# Ag Literacy Packathon

Leadership Conference Service Project

## Join the Ag Literacy Packathon!

Get ready to roll up your sleeves at the 2024 ND FFA Leadership Conference and dive into the Ag Literacy Packathon! Help create awesome Ag Literacy Kits for kids across North Dakota. These kits are packed with fun activities to teach elementary students about growing plants and exploring agriculture. Your hard work will inspire young minds to grow their own food and learn about farming. Be part of the team assembling kits for over 500 students, and even get some for your own community. Let's make learning about agriculture exciting and hands-on!



Ag  
Stem Kit  
Created by the  
ND FFA Association

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 28TH  
7:30 pm  
BISMARCK EVENT CENTER - HALL B

ND FFA Leadership Conference

# [ NORTH DAKOTA FFA

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 28TH  
7:30 pm  
BISMARCK EVENT CENTER - HALL B

# Ag Literacy Packathon

Leadership Conference Service Project

This kit was generously provided through a Living to Serve Grant from the National FFA Organization, with additional support from the Department of Agriculture, the North Dakota Soybean Council, Derek & Rodney Rusch Farm, and the North Dakota FFA Foundation. We're thrilled to be part of your educational journey and excited to see where your curiosity leads you!

### Inside, you'll find:

- A lesson guide and lab sheet
- All necessary lab materials
- Facilitator's guide
- Safety glasses
- Magnifying glass
- Tweezers
- Lego spotlight on our featured scientist, Barney Geddes
- Three Ag Mags (Soybeans, Livestock, & Ag Conservation)
- How Did That Get in My Lunchbox? book
- Matching food cards game
- Future FFA Member sticker
- What is FFA? postcard
- Color sheet and an activity book with crayons





# Teachers Lounge

## Lounge Hours

**Saturday, September 28th from 11:30 - 5:00 pm**

**Sunday, September 29th from 9:30 - Noon**

Located in the Bismarck Event Center - Upper Lobby  
*All teachers are welcome!*

## Lounge Layout

The teachers' lounge is a place for informal sharing of ideas and the opportunity to see other ag teachers that you don't always see. The ND FFA Teachers' Lounge, located in the upper lobby of the Bismarck Event Center, will be the perfect place to hang out and network while students are in their conferences. The teachers' lounge will have places to charge your computer, tables to work and network with other advisors, optional teacher programming, wifi, a water station and much more!





# Teachers Lounge

## Lounge PD

Saturday, September 28th



### EARLY CAREER TEACHER COLLABORATION TIME

*Dr. Brooke Thiel*

**Saturday 12:00 – 1:00 pm**

*Bismarck Event Center – Upper Lobby*

You've survived the first month of the school year! Come hang out to celebrate your successes and give/receive support to/from your peers and Brooke.



### POA HELP SESSION

*William Fritz & Amanda Huettl*

**Saturday 1:00 – 2:00 pm**

*Bismarck Event Center – Upper Lobby*

The Program of Activities is a staple document in every North Dakota Chapter. This session is an informal session to ask questions or get help completing your Chapter's POA.



### PONDERING QUESTION HELP SESSION

*JoDee Free & Fellow Wise Owls*

**Saturday 2:00 – 3:00 pm**

*Bismarck Event Center – Upper Lobby*

No question left behind. Random questions – we have random answers on education and agricultural education.



### EARLY CAREER TEACHER WORK TIME

*Dr. Brooke Thiel*

**Saturday 3:00 – 4:00 pm**

*Bismarck Event Center – Upper Lobby*

Bring your to-do list to this session. Whether you need to work on your POA, course outlines, or lesson plans for the next week, use this time with peers to check some things off your to-do list.





# Teachers Lounge

## Lounge PD

Sunday, September 29th



### SAE Q & A

*Brandon Quam, Alan Geiger, Marty Campbell, & Carissa Spelhaug*

**Sunday 10:00 - 11:00 am**

*Bismarck Event Center - Upper Lobby*

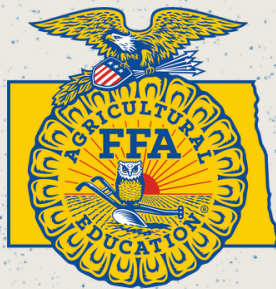
Come get answers to all your burning questions about SAE's.



# Conference Sponsors

Bismarck/Mandan CVB  
FOE # 2237 Bismarck Eagles  
Bank of ND  
MDU Resources Foundation  
ND FFA Alumni & Supporters  
Thomas & Francis Leach Foundation

*Thank you for supporting our mission to grow leaders, build communities, and strengthen agriculture in North Dakota!*



**NORTH DAKOTA  
FFA FOUNDATION**

## ND FFA Store

Brought to you by the ND FFA Foundation

### FFA Store Hours

**SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 28TH**  
8:00pm - 10:30 pm

**SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 29TH**  
11:00 am - 1:00 pm

Store accepts cash,  
credit, and check!



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