

## Stephanie Moon's Young Ag Teacher of the Year Application

a. Overview – brief description of the agricultural education program and the community in which the program exists.

- I am the Agricultural Education teacher at Alamogordo High School. I have been working at Alamogordo High School (AHS) for the last 3 years. Alamogordo is a very interesting community, in terms of the students that I serve. In Alamogordo, we have a wide variety of traditional and non traditional students. I also have students from all around the world who are stationed at Holloman Airforce Base. AHS is the only public high school in Alamogordo. There is a private Christian school and two other high schools in Otero County. I have a traditional program offering an animal science pathway, Sustainable Agriculture pathway, CASE Business and Introduction to Agriculture. I have an FFA chapter with 24 members and an Alumni group. This number reflects growth of two times the membership even with the Covid impact on schools and activities. I work closely with the welding teacher and the auto shop teacher because many of the students are the same.

b. Teaching Philosophy – a brief reflective statement of the personal teaching philosophy.

- I believe that my teaching philosophy is ever changing, as I gain new experiences and get to work with and learn from experienced teachers. In my class, I strive to build meaningful relationships with all of my students! I use these relationships to teach students about agriculture in a way that works best for them. I strive to make my classroom and program a safe place for students to learn, grow, and find their passions in life. One way that I do this is by implementing experiential learning and hands-on activities/ labs for all units of study. I have a number of students with IEP's, I understand the needs and I am successful at developing and modifying lessons for them. This is an important part of my teaching philosophy to help kids to be successful even if their success looks different from traditional classroom success.

c. Instruction – examples of your effective classroom and laboratory instruction including curricula that is used or has been developed.

- I am a CASE certified teacher in CASE Agriculture Food and Natural Resources (AFNR) which I teach to all of my introduction students as the beginning of their pathway. I am also certified in CASE Agriculture Business Fundamentals (ABF) . I teach this to all of my senior level students. For my other classes, I utilize curriculum from both ICEV and Cornell Vet science. I use a combination of both to best teach my students. I am currently working on implementing certifications into my program, this year I am using ICEV certifications. I spend a lot of time modifying the ICEV and Cornell Vet Science to meet the needs of my bilingual and IEP students. These modifications include students working as partners, oral review of directions and information to reduce the amount of reading, visual aids including the use of colors to break up information, individual questioning with students to reduce the amount of written responses, and hands-on applications and activities. Students are frequently given choices in how they want to demonstrate mastery of the subject matter that best shows their understanding and fits their learning style. For example, they can produce a powerpoint, a video, written report or a creative poster/display to address the main concepts and demonstrate the objectives. Each day is unique but they are all student focused.

d. Experiential Learning – examples of the accomplishments in getting students involved in work-based learning such as supervised agricultural experience programs, cooperative education, and internships.

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- In my program, all students are required to have an SAE. All students in both my agriculture classes and Wyatt's welding classes have foundational SAEs. We do weekly journals in AET about what they are learning in class and through their foundational SAE. Once a student has found something that interests them, they develop a full blown SAE. Right now, I have several different kinds of SAEs including students who have internships at local veterinary offices, working at construction and welding companies, working at local grocery and retail stores, along with raising show animals. I have 2 students who work at a local volunteer fire department. I have a student who has an agricultural literacy SAE where she develops different materials/ lessons to teach young children and the community about agriculture.

e. Leadership Development – examples of the accomplishments in developing leadership skills of the students. Students' participation and successes in student organization activities, such as FFA, PAS, and NYFEA but not limited to these organizations may also be included.

- I believe that Leadership Development Events are extremely important in developing FFA members and students. This year I had 2 parliamentary procedure teams; a chapter and a greenhand team. At the state contest, my greenhand team placed 4th. My parliamentary procedure teams are doing a training on parliamentary procedure with our newly elected school board.
- I have had students compete at the district and state public speaking contest. We struggled with the online competitions, but students gained confidence and I had more that were interested.
- I also had several FFA members compete in Agriscience fair projects. Two of my students placed first at the state contest. We completed at the Eastern New Mexico Agriscience fair. I have more students interested in doing Agriscience Fair projects this year
- I have had a District VI officer. I have a student who is going to apply for a state officer position. I have helped one student get their State Degree and four that are applying this year of their State Degree.
- The students have participated in Career Development Events in addition to the leadership contests. We were fifth place Ag Mechanic team in 2021. In 2020, we had 6 teams that unfortunately had to be cut short. The chapter had not participated in CDE with that many teams in a number of years. In 2022, we are training students in 7 different contests.

f. Professional Growth – examples of how they stay professionally prepared and up-to-date in teaching techniques and technical content including information regarding their participation in professional organizations such as NMAETA, NAAE and programs sponsored by NAAE

- I have participated in several professional development programs both in state and nationally. I have attended all NMAETA trainings during both the summer and winter sessions since 2018. I am also CASE certified in both AFNR and ABF. This summer, I am participating in the CASE FSS training at NMSU. In between my student teaching and when I started at Mayfield as a long term sub, I participated in the NAAE FAST symposium for preservice teachers. I have also attended 2 AET online symposiums over the past 2 summers. I was part of the New Mexico group that traveled to Arizona to attend a training on SAE for All/ Foundational SAE's hosted by National FFA. I helped present information on this during Summer FFA Camp. I co-presented a workshop during NMAETA convention on SAE for all. I attended teacher workshops at the NAAE National Convention and at the National FFA Convention. I have participated in New Mexico Delta Kappa Gamma Society International state convention and workshops. Additionally, I completed the district new teacher program and all AHS professional development.

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