

# PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT WORKSHOPS

Wednesday, July 22, 2026

Location	8:30-9:30 am	9:45-10:45 am	11:00-12:00 pm	1:30-2:30 pm	2:45-3:45 pm	4:00-5:00 pm
<b>Selena Auditorium</b>	1) Agriscience and Administrators - How to Support Each Other ^*	14) Trials, Tribulations, & Triumphs of building and showing Ag Mechanics Projects ^^	27) CDE Revision, Proficiency, and AgriScience Fair Updates ^^	40) Team Ag Ed Round Table^^	53) TEA Updates^^	66) Develop Your Chapter Sponsorship Package ^
<b>Selena Rotunda</b>	2) Farming Is Risky Business: Teaching Risk Through Real-World Decisions ^ -	15) Hosting a CDE for Dummies: A Step-by-Step Guide for Ag Teachers	28) Tame the Chaos: Hands-On Animal Lesson Management Essentials	41) Ranch Life, Real Lessons: Easy Wins for the Ag Classroom -	54) Farm to Fork: A Cooperative Program to Promote Your Program	67) Confidence Before Contact: Simulation Tools for Livestock and Veterinary Skills
<b>Rehearsal Hall</b>	3) The Total CTE Solution: Real-World Insights, Funding Strategies & Future-Research -	16) Where Is the Science?	29) From Classroom to Credential: Ag Certifications That Fit -	42) The Do's & Don'ts of Breeding Show Rabbits -	55) Training a Vet Science CDE Team - Tips and Tricks	68) Centerpieces to Celebrate
<b>101/102 Saratoga</b>	4) TVMA Certified Veterinary Assistant Program ^-	17) How to Build Real-World Veterinary Science Programs With Student Buy-in	30) Planning for a Successful Retirement	43) Training a Nursery/Landscape CDE Team 101	56) Homesite CDE Judging	69) Land CDE Judging
<b>Watergarden A</b>	5) Agricultural Mechanics Showmanship Clinic	18) Advanced Floral Design Lessons	31) How to Make Principles of Agriculture Relevant for Today's Students*	44) Different Philosophies to Teaching Ag Mechanics	57) Where are the Boys? The Current Phenomenon and Approaches for Improving the Profession*	70) Woodworking Basics for Your Ag Mechanics Classes
<b>Watergarden B</b>	6) Repurposing With an Eye for Floral Elements and Principles	19) Texas Farm Bureau: Lesson Plans, Resources & Student Programs, Oh My!*	32) How to Manage it All as a Single Teacher	45) Learning Wholesale Floral Lingo	58) Homecoming 2026 - Elevate and Excel	71) Beyond the Bead: Mastering Dye Penetrant Testing in the Welding Lab
<b>Henry Garrett A</b>	7) Common Legal Issues for Teachers *	20) Ducks Unlimited... Cultivating Opportunities -	33) Bridging the gap between SAE and FFA for New and Alternatively Certified Teachers*	46) Simple Profitable Welding Projects	59) Agricultural Electrical Principles & Applications	72) How to Fit in as the Ag Teacher on Campus*
<b>Henry Garrett B</b>	8) An Overview of the New World Screwworm and It's Potential Impact to Texas^^	21) Bloom Where You Planted: How to Adapt to a New Environment ^^	34) The Secret Sauce of Floral Design: Writing Recipes That Bloom ^	47) Fresh lesson ideas from Aggie Class of 2026 ^^	60) Hands-On Without the Hassle: Big Learning on a Small Budget ^	73) Sheep and Goat Project Management ^
<b>Henry Garrett C</b>	9) Using AET to Approve Student Skill Records: Focus on Vet Science Certification	22) How Can I Affect What Happens on Capitol Hill? ^	35) Creating a Culture of Gratitude ^	48) Ag Teacher Survival Lab*	61) Zig Ziglar - Born to Win: Goal Setting*	74) How to Teach the Math Portion of the Texas FFA Veterinary Science CDE
<b>Henry Garrett D</b>	10) Retreat: Take a Step Back to Move Forward ^^	23) Horse Judging for All Types and Kinds	36) Spanish Creed: Tips and Tricks for the non-Spanish Speaking Teacher ^	49) Teacher Journaling and SAE Visit Feedback -*	62) AET Basics -*	75) Teaching a Grilling and Smoking Beef Class
<b>225 AB</b>	11) Advanced Plant & Soil Science - In-Depth Look	24) Planning, Promoting, and Profiting: Ag Fundraising Success*	37) Winning Strategies for the Dairy Cattle CDE Contest	50) Coaching and Hosting the Sustainable Agriculture CDE	63) How to Work & Guide Your FFA Booster Club*	76) Student CTE for Ag - Courses, Internships, & Certification Prep -
<b>225 C</b>	12) The Role of the Cooperating Teacher in Texas A&M Student Teaching	25) Student Teacher Playbook: Getting the Most from Your Experience ^	38) Cluck Around & Find Out - Chicken Shows 101	51) Ballin' on a Banquet Budget: FFA Banquet Best Practices for All Budgets	64) Planning your Greenhouse Plant Sale	77) Aquaponics 101
<b>225 DE</b>	13) How Do I Train Students to Become a Pest Control Technician -	26) Social Emotional Daily Tips & Tricks*	39) STEAM - Agriscience Curriculum	52) "The Magic Time Machine" - Free Resources for YOU!*	65) Hatching in the Classroom	78) Single Teacher Department Roundtable

# PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT WORKSHOPS

Thursday, July 23, 2026

Location	8:30-9:30 am	9:45-10:45 am	11:00-12:00 pm	1:30-2:30 pm	2:45-3:45 pm	4:00-5:00 pm
<b>Selena Auditorium</b>	79) Maximizing Your Advisory Committee: Best Practices for Chapter Success ^^	92) Best of the Best- Animal Science Pathway Classes ^^	105) Work Life Balance for Families ^^	118) How to work with Veteran Teachers as a newer Ag teacher Round Table ^^		
<b>Selena Rotunda</b>	80) Illume: Leatherwork for the Ag Classroom -	93) SketchUp 101 in Ag Mechanics	106) Where Do I Find This? How Do I Fill This Out? How Do I Register? ^^	119) Breaking Down the Farm Business & Marketing Plan CDE		
<b>Rehearsal Hall</b>	81) Beef Cattle Validation 101*	94) Swine Validation 101*	107) Sheep/Goat Validation 101*	120) Ready, Set, Compete! The Ins & Outs of Floral Design Competitions		
<b>101/102 Saratoga</b>	82) Meat Pens Made Simple: From Barn to Banner	95) Don't Just Hope to Retire..... Plan for it!	108) Home Alone: Surviving Sub Days	121) Take FFA Banquet to New Heights this Year		
<b>Watergarden A</b>	83) Cultivated Creations: A Floral Recipe Swap	96) You Matter Too: Educators' Mental Wellness and Self-Awareness	109) Don't Drop the Ball: How to Involve Athletes in FFA	122) Follow Your Arrow Into the World of Welding Symbols		
<b>Watergarden B</b>	84) Modern Shop Safety: Protecting Students, Programs, and Yourself -	97) Advancing Agricultural Science Education with iCEV -	110) Creating Fabrication Skills for Advanced Ag Mech Students	123) New to Ag Mechanics or Want to Get More Involved?		
<b>Henry Garrett A</b>	85) Connecting With the Industry *	98) The Floral Playbook: Design Planning & Program Strategy	111) Applying Floral Design Principles & Elements Month by Month	124) Fiesta Floral Crowns		
<b>Henry Garrett B</b>	86) New World Screwworm -- is your Show Barn Ready?^^	99) From Paper to Progress: Make Your POA Work for You ^^	112) Ag Teachers Dealing with Major Health Issues ^	125) Classroom Management For Novice Teachers ^^		
<b>Henry Garrett C</b>	87) Go All Out for NATIONAL FFA WEEK!*	100) Setting Up Entrepreneurship SAEs	113) Shared Agriculture Program Facilities, Shared Success*	126) Bridging the SAE Gap for Seasoned Ag Teachers		
<b>Henry Garrett D</b>	88) Maintaining Faith in the Chaos of Teaching	101) Middle School Ag Round Table Discussion	114) AI Tools for Ag Teachers: Work Smarter, Not Harder	127) Meat Evaluation CDE		
<b>225 AB</b>	89) Agronomy CDE: Sowing Seeds of Success - New Rules & Training Tips	102) Recruitment: Agriculture is Our Future	115) Funding the Blue Jacket: Fundraising for your Program	128) Entomology CDE		
<b>225 C</b>	90) One Plant, Four Classes: Unlimited Lessons	103) Growing Futures: Connecting the Texas Green Industry to Today's Ag Classroom -	116) Roots and Results: An Advanced Plant & Soil Science Lesson Swap Shop	129) Agrobotics- The Next Generation		
<b>225 DE</b>	91) Giving Feedback that Grows Teachers	104) Successful National Grants for Growing	117) Teach Ag CDE	130) Marketing Your Chapter Using Canva, Google Sites, & Other Digital Tools ^		

## **IN- PERSON WORKSHOPS TO BE AVAILABLE ONLINE (^)**

All workshops marked with (^) will be recorded and made available to all members following the event. These videos can be accessed at [conference.texasagteachers.org](http://conference.texasagteachers.org).

### **EARLY CAREER WORKSHOP SUGGESTIONS (\*)**

All workshops marked with (\*) are designed to be highly useful for members at the forefront of their careers. These workshops cover a range of topics and will provide early-career teachers with the insight and skills needed to successfully build a lasting career as an agricultural science teacher in Texas.

### **PROMOTION OF PRODUCT, SALE, OR SERVICE (-)**

All workshops marked with (-) are denoted to be workshops that promote a relevant product, sale, or service that will solve a problem, benefit, and/or enhance your classroom and program.

## **PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT WORKSHOP DESCRIPTIONS**

### **1) Workshop Name:** Agriscience and Administrators - How to Support Each Other ^\*

*Taylor Christie, Loren Sell, Vance Christie, Jacob Lange*

Administrators can be ag teachers loudest cheerleader or biggest headache. How can we prevent the latter and create supportive relationships between ag teachers and administrators? Hear from Ag Teachers and Administrators how they successfully created supportive relationships with each other and how they managed unsupportive relationships with each other.

### **2) Workshop Name:** Farming Is Risky Business: Teaching Risk Through Real-World Decisions ^-

*Aubrienne Meek and Brett Crosby- Custom Ag Solutions*

Farming Is Risky Business (FRB) is an interactive workshop that teaches students core agricultural risk management concepts through real-world decision-making. Participants experience how price risk, production risk, and crop insurance impact farm profitability using a competitive, game-based simulation that is easy to implement in the classroom.

### **3) Workshop Name:** The Total CTE Solution: Real-World Insights, Funding Strategies & Future

-Ready Tools -

*Megan O'Quinn and Jamie Minchew- iCEV*

CTE leaders and teachers face growing pressure to keep programs aligned, funded, compliant, and engaging. This session shares real-world insights and a Total CTE Solution integrating funding strategies, growth-measuring assessments, IBC readiness, and future-focused tools, including iCEV's TIA-aligned Pre/Post Testing, certification prep, and 2026 course pathways to strengthen outcomes.

**4) Workshop Name:** TVMA Certified Veterinary Assistant Program ^-  
*Larisa Respondek-TVMA*

This workshop covers electrical principles and their applications in agricultural enterprises. The workshop addresses the use of standards, cores, electrical diagrams, and appropriate tools to safely understand electrical systems, enclosures, fittings, conductors, and devices used in agricultural settings. Coverage also includes the use of electrical test instruments, grounding, and overcurrent protection.

**5) Workshop Name:** Agricultural Mechanics Showmanship Clinic  
*Jesica Thornburgh, Joey Perez, Eloy Perez, and Tommy Kotzur*

This workshop will demonstrate how to facilitate an Agricultural Mechanics Showmanship Clinic by outlining the structure, teaching strategies, and evaluation practices that help students present and explain their projects confidently. Participants will learn how to coach students on professional communication, safety awareness, technical justification, and much more.

**6) Workshop Name:** Repurposing With an Eye for Floral Elements and Principles  
*Texas State Florists' Association Instructors*

Make the most of your floral design budget with this pivotal session on reusing and repurposing, emphasizing design elements and principles. Save time and money while your students make deeper contextualized connections.

**7) Workshop Name:** Common Legal Issues for Teachers \*  
*Paul Jordan- Sneed, Vine, and Perry*

Paul Jordan with Sneed, Vine, and Perry will present common legal issues that ag science teachers face and how to deal with them. This session aims to bridge the gap between agriscience educators and school administrators by fostering mutual understanding and collaboration. Participants will explore strategies for effective communication, resource sharing, and joint goal-setting to enhance their respective programs.

**8) Workshop Name:** An Overview of the New World Screwworm and Its Potential Impact to Texas ^\*  
*Sonja L. Swiger, PhD, T.R. Lansford, III, D.V.M., and David Sessum, LVT, Texas A&M AgriLife Extension*

The workshop will explain what the New World screwworm is and the potential concerns and impact it will have on Texas, Texans, and all the animals that live in Texas. The re-emergence of the New World screwworm poses a \$2 billion impact on the Texas livestock economy and requires the cooperation of all Texans to prevent its return and, if it does, to eradicate it.

**9) Workshop Name:** Using AET to Approve Student Skill Records Focus on Vet Science Certification  
*Roger Hanagriff-The AET and Magan Escamilla*

This hands-on workshop shows how the AET platform can help students track employability-ready skills as part of their SAE projects while working in career pathways such as Veterinary Medicine. Participants will learn how students log skills, how teachers and employers review entries, provide evaluations, and approve or deny submitted work within the system.

**10) Workshop Name:** Retreat: Take a Step Back to Move Forward ^\*

*Kayla Guelker*

This workshop will walk through key steps in planning and facilitation to help you and your students plan your next leadership team retreat. This session will focus on evaluating your team's needs and logistics and developing a long-term plan with key follow-through checkpoints.

**11) Workshop Name:** Advanced Plant & Soil Science - In-Depth Look

*Amy Podlewski*

Let's explore the Advanced Plant & Soil Science course. Discussing basic course outlines, meeting the 40% lab requirements, resources, and ways to expand your program's offerings. This course can help your students gain High School Science Credit and potentially Dual Credit. Cross-curriculum is an important factor as well, allowing students to review and relearn basic Chemistry, Biology, and English.

**12) Workshop Name:** The Role of the Cooperating Teacher in Texas A&M Student Teaching

*Randy Lund and Erin Stutts- Texas A&M University*

Cooperating teachers play a vital role in shaping the future of agricultural education by mentoring Texas A&M student teachers. This workshop will provide an overview of expectations, best practices, and effective strategies for supporting student teachers' professional growth.

**13) Workshop Name:** How Do I Train Students to Become a Pest Control Technician -

*Thomas Kezar- CTN Educational Services*

Join to learn about the opportunities your students could have as a pest control technician.

**14) Workshop Name:** Trials, Tribulations, & Triumphs of building and Showing Ag Mechanics Projects ^\*

*Jay Newton, Kyle Pate, and James Merrifield*

Presenters will share avenues of success and failures in Fabricating and Exhibiting Ag Mechanics Projects. Using a "what I do" and " what not to do" approach to informing other advisors in their journey to being successful. Topics include: Plans & Plan Development, Approach to project ideas, Contracts and Discussions with the Project Sponsor, Fundraising for Shows, Show Day Plan.

**15) Workshop Name:** Hosting a CDE for Dummies: A Step-by-Step Guide for Ag Teachers

*Katelyn Ebrom and Addison McKelvey*

CDE contests can feel overwhelming—especially if you've never done one or feel like you're "faking it till you make it." This workshop is designed to break down the CDE hosting process into simple, manageable steps that any ag teacher can follow.

**16) Workshop Name:** Where Is the Science?

*Chelsea Hatch and Will Doss, Texas Tech University, Krysti Kelly, Texas A&M University*

This workshop will guide agriculture educators through practical ways to implement the scientific method and inquiry-based teaching in the agriculture classroom. Participants will explore hands-on strategies that encourage student questioning, data collection, and real-world problem solving in any ag science course.

**17) Workshop Name:** How to Build Real-World Veterinary Science Programs With Student

Buy-in

*Stacey Winters, Holly Standeford, LVT, and Sarah Crawford*

This workshop will focus on strategies for developing and sustaining real-world veterinary science programs that promote strong student buy-in and reflect current industry expectations. The session will be based on the Killeen ISD Career Center's Certified Veterinary Assistant (CVA) program, an established urban veterinary science model that serves a diverse student population while maintaining high expectations.

**18) Workshop Name:** Advanced Floral Design Lessons

*Shannon Tidwell*

Join for practical and proven advanced floral design lessons and resources, focusing on ideas and resources for the time between design days. Resources will include both digital and hands-on lessons that support the growth and skill set of floral students as independent thinkers and designers.

**19) Workshop Name:** Texas Farm Bureau: Lesson Plans, Resources & Student Programs, Oh

My!\*

*Clarissa Darby and Kyndal King- Texas Farm Bureau*

Explore Texas Farm Bureau's TEKS-aligned lesson plans, classroom resources, grant opportunities, and student programs in this workshop. NEW this year – participants will engage in an interactive, hands-on activity to help bring these resources to life.

**20) Workshop Name:** Ducks Unlimited... Cultivating Opportunities -

*Tom Johnson and Scott Grant- Duck Unlimited*

Ducks Unlimited is proud of the relationship we have built with the FFA. At this workshop, we will highlight some great opportunities that we have to offer. We will give updates on our Industry Certification Program, our TRAP program, our Regional Field Days, Scholarships, and our very successful and proven fundraising ideas and opportunities. Please come and learn what we have to offer.

**21) Workshop Name:** Bloom Where You Planted: How to Adapt to a New Environment ^\*

*Kayla Guelker*

Starting or continuing your career in a new organization can feel overwhelming, but it also brings exciting opportunities for growth and renewal. This workshop will explore common challenges that come with stepping into a new role, including navigating changing expectations, building relationships, managing resistance to change, and balancing new ideas with existing traditions. Participants will leave with tips focused on growing with confidence and learning how to truly blossom in a new environment.

**22) Workshop Name:** How Can I Affect What Happens on Capitol Hill? ^

*Aaron Alejandro, Chanda Orren, and Kassie Montford- Texas FFA Foundation*

Gain practical insights into advocacy efforts at the state and federal levels. Understand the legislative process, communicate effectively with lawmakers, and mobilize grassroots support. Learn how to build relationships with elected officials and stay informed on key legislative issues impacting agricultural education.

**23) Workshop Name:** Horse Judging for All Types and Kinds

*Jordan Trees Waddle and Hope Cotten*

Do you enjoy the world of equestrian riding but are worried about how to get a horse judging team started? FEAR NOT! Whether you are starting from "What is a horse?" to a strong "I placed this class of performance geldings...." this workshop is for you! Come learn how to start from the beginning and break it back down to race towards success with your future or current judging team.

**24) Workshop Name:** Planning, Promoting, and Profiting: Ag Fundraising Success\*

*Justin Armes, Liz Treptow, and Brady Wilson- Seitz Fundraising*

Planning, Promoting, and Profiting: Ag Fundraising Success is a hands-on workshop designed to help agriculture teachers run smooth, effective fundraisers without the stress. Participants will learn how to plan timelines, set clear goals, and organize students for success. The session also shares proven promotion strategies to boost community support and increase profits year after year.

**25) Workshop Name:** Student Teacher Playbook: Getting the Most from Your Experience ^

*Lance Nicholas and Jason Woods*

This session is designed to help attending student teachers maximize their experience by focusing their mindset on key growth areas. The workshop will include valuable student testimonials, practical tips, and essential developmental skills to prepare them for a successful career as an agricultural science teacher.

**26) Workshop Name:** Social Emotional Daily Tips & Tricks \*

*Georgia Dunn*

Need a way to connect with your students? Looking for a way to build a positive classroom culture? Come learn how easy daily warm-ups can set your day up for success! From simple self-reflections to small-group and whole-class discussions, these simple activities help you better understand your students, support their needs, and build friendships between students.

**27) Workshop Name:** CDE Revision, Proficiency, and AgriScience Fair Updates ^\*

*Bre Fowler and Tammy Glascock- Texas FFA Association*

This workshop provides essential updates on Texas FFA competitive events for 2026

**28) Workshop Name:** Tame the Chaos: Hands-On Animal Lesson Management Essentials

*Caitlin Schmedthorst and Angela Culp LVT*

Take control of hands-on animal lessons with no-nonsense, classroom-ready tactics. Fast safety checks, slick rotation stations, and clear behavior rules that keep kids safe and focused. Quick liability tips and sharp differentiation - scaffolded tasks and formative checks - so every student can join in, learn, and stay on track!

**29) Workshop Name:** From Classroom to Credential: Ag Certifications That Fit -

*Rick Fleming and Charles Prause- iCEV*

This session shows Ag educators how to turn existing curriculum into TEA-approved, industry-recognized certifications without changing instruction. Learn how iCEV integrates Industry-Based Certifications into Animal Science, Plant Science, and Wildlife courses, enabling reimbursement funding, no-cost educator certifications, and meaningful credentials for students.

**30) Workshop Name:** Planning for a Successful Retirement

*Tommy Neal and Keaton Willet-Edward Jones*

We are back to help identify pitfalls of retirement and also uncover the pitfalls of owning an annuity. We will discuss any changes to the rules or limits for investing. We want to help you understand the performance of each investment type. We will also be having a Q&A session.

**31) Workshop Name:** How to Make Principles of Agriculture Relevant for Today's Students\*

*John Rayfield- Texas Tech University, Travis Park-North Carolina State University; National FFA Advisor and Board Chair, and Kasee Smith-University of Idaho*

Participants will gain practical, classroom-ready skills specifically designed to strengthen introductory agriculture courses, including strategies to increase student engagement, support literacy within TEKS-aligned content, and implement hands-on labs that reinforce core concepts. The interactive session highlights current topics and issues in agriculture while modeling effective scaffolding techniques that help students successfully access industry-relevant and scientific principles required for career pathways in agriculture, food, and natural resources.

All attendees will receive four months of complimentary access to Principles of Agriculture, Food, and Natural Resources from G-W Publisher, which provides free, TEKS-aligned instructional resources that can be implemented immediately in introductory AFNR courses.

**32) Workshop Name:** How to Manage it All as a Single Teacher

*Hope Cotten, Shawn Burt, Brian Reed, Cindy Easley, Justice Fitzgerald, Leslie Thiele, and Marshall Swafford*

Being an ag science teacher as a single teacher department can be daunting between training teams, stock shows, conventions, banquets, validation, and piles of paperwork, you can feel like you are always two steps behind. This session will walk you through how different single-teacher departments function! We will cover an array of topics, but the big part is figuring out how to juggle it all.

**33) Workshop Name:** Bridging the gap between SAE and FFA for New and Alternatively Certified Teachers \*

*Mary B. Wilson and Tally Stout*

Why & how! Practical strategies for connecting the 3-circle model of agricultural education without feeling overwhelmed. The goal is to provide simple ideas that can be adapted to fit any program, while highlighting how tying SAEs to classroom instruction supports accountability and can strengthen access to CTE funding, reinforcing why this connection is important to overall program success.

**34) Workshop Name:** The Secret Sauce of Floral Design: Writing Recipes That Bloom ^

*Ashlyn Childress, Tyler Root, and Tamera Sealy*

This workshop focuses on creating clear, budget-friendly floral recipes that support student success while staying mindful of program budgets. Participants will learn how to break down floral designs into easy-to-follow recipes that outline mechanics, flower quantities, and cost considerations, with emphasis on selecting affordable materials, making smart substitutions, and adjusting recipes.

**35) Workshop Name:** Creating a Culture of Gratitude ^

*Kassie Montford, Chanda Orren, and Aaron Alejandro- Texas FFA Foundation*

Explore ways to foster gratitude within your FFA chapter. Learn how to motivate students, recognize achievements, and express appreciation to sponsors and volunteers. The session offers practical tips for embedding gratitude into daily activities and chapter events.

**36) Workshop Name:** Spanish Creed: Tips and Tricks for the non-Spanish Speaking Teacher ^

*Agnes Cruz and Marshall Swafford*

This workshop is designed to assist non-Spanish-speaking teachers in preparing their students to compete in the Spanish Creed. The workshop will focus on how to assist students in understanding the terminology in the creed, presentation, writing, and translation questions.

**37) Workshop Name:** Winning Strategies for the Dairy Cattle CDE Contest

*Baylee Adams and Justin Dilorio*

This workshop provides ag teachers with proven strategies for building competitive Dairy Cattle Evaluation teams using the Texas FFA CDE format. It covers effective ways to teach type evaluation, herd record analysis, and student practice without focusing on oral reasons. Attendees will leave with ready-to-use resources and practical coaching tools for all experience levels.

**38) Workshop Name:** Cluck Around & Find Out - Chicken Shows 101

*Jack Winterrowd, James Strickler, Ric Hunter, and Preston Cummings*

Raising and exhibiting poultry as breeding stock can offer many interesting and gratifying opportunities for SAE success. There are many options available for your students to get engaged, learn, and have fun with exhibition-quality breeding poultry projects. This workshop will cover some of the ways to become involved in a segment of the poultry industry that has been around for hundreds of years.

**39) Workshop Name:** STEAM - Agriscience Curriculum

*Kelli Elrod, Dr. Ryan Anderson & Dr. Merritt Drewery-Texas State University*

STEAM AG-ED is an innovative initiative of the Texas State University Department of Agricultural Sciences, funded by USDA NIFA (Grant 2021-77040-34881). STEAM was designed to help high school teachers integrate science, technology, engineering, agriculture, and mathematics (STEAM) into their curriculum by providing ready-to-use lessons, research activities, and classroom resources.

**40) Workshop Name:** Team Ag Ed Round Table<sup>^\*</sup>

*Ray Pieniazek- ATAT, Aaron Alejandro- Texas FFA Foundation, Jennifer Jackson- Texas FFA Association, Les Hudson-TEA*

Directors from Team AGED will participate in a round table to answer questions directly from participants, covering current happenings, updates, and future directions for each organization that collectively supports agricultural education.

**41) Workshop Name:** Ranch Life, Real Lessons: Easy Wins for the Ag Classroom -

*Nicole Ellis, Emily Wolff, and Julie Hodges-The National Ranching Heritage Center*

Looking for fresh, classroom-ready ways to engage students and spark interest in agriculture? This workshop introduces the five Ranch Life Learning books and shares practical strategies high school ag teachers can use to develop contest ideas, introduce young FFA members to agriculture, and create flexible lessons—including ready-to-use, engaging plans for busy ag teachers.

**42) Workshop Name:** The Do's & Don'ts of Show Rabbits -

*Kathryn Snider and Kendall Lisle*

There are 53 recognized rabbit breeds eligible for show... but which one is the right fit for your student? How do you choose—and more importantly, how do you set your student up for success? In this session, you'll explore Texas' niche breeds and major livestock shows, learn how to realistically evaluate your chances on the show table, and gain a clear understanding of what it takes to build a competitive, high-quality program where your students can truly succeed.

**43) Workshop Name:** Training a Nursery/Landscape CDE Team 101

*Brooke Hardin and Jacob Price*

Looking to start a Nursery/Landscape team? Join this workshop to learn the fundamentals of building a successful team from the ground up. Already coaching a team? We'll dive deeper into each component of the contest and share practical tips and strategies that have worked well for us.

**44) Workshop Name:** Different Philosophies in Teaching Ag Mechanics

*Larry Waddle*

After teaching ag mechanics at multiple schools, I have seen two distinct approaches to ag mechanics instruction. This workshop will examine two distinct instructional philosophies and approaches to Agricultural Mechanics. Participants will explore the characteristics of both methods to determine which strategy best aligns with their classroom goals and program needs.

**45) Workshop Name:** Learning Wholesale Floral Lingo

*Susan Weatherford, Scott Maraskin, Mark Hazelwood- Southern Floral Company, and Jack Winterrowd*

Master the art of sourcing from your wholesaler with this comprehensive guide to vase life and floral durability. Join a panel of industry professionals and experienced teachers to learn the essential questions to ask your supplier and strategies for ensuring lasting freshness in your designs.

**46) Workshop Name:** Simple Profitable Welding Projects

*Alan Linson, Hank Hollywood, and Jerome Jones*

This workshop focuses on the design and fabrication of simple, high-demand welding projects that are both educational and profitable. Participants will learn how to integrate these projects into their curriculum to help students practice essential skills for AWS certifications while creating products that can be sold to recoup funds for the shop budget. Topics include project selection, material sourcing, and marketing strategies for student-built goods.

**47) Workshop Name:** Fresh lesson ideas from Aggie Class of 2026 ^\*

*Erin Stutts and Graduates from the Texas A&M class of 2026*

Top students from the Texas A&M Class of 2026 will present their best and most unique lesson plans during this session. These young ag teachers will share the materials they developed and explain their lessons. Lessons presented will cover a variety of courses and topics.

**48) Workshop Name:** Ag Teacher Survival Lab\*

*Amber Jennings*

Ag teachers need tools that work on Monday. The Ag Teacher Survival Lab is a hands-on session built around real Texas ag-ed challenges: burnout, parent conflict, admin pressure, and time chaos. Participants will identify ways to maintain organization, make the most of their time, and practice exact scripts for hard conversations. This session is blunt, practical, and unapologetically teacher-centered.

**49) Workshop Name:** Teacher Journaling and SAE Visit Feedback -\*

*Vanessa Kirby- The AET*

Do you document your SAE visits at students' homes or the school facility? Come learn how to use the SAE Visit tool on the mobile version of AET. This tool allows you to give students direct feedback and rate them on their skills. Parents receive a copy, and an entry is added to your Teacher Journal (Extended Contract) log! It is an excellent tool for providing documentation to the administration!

**50) Workshop Name:** Coaching and Hosting the Sustainable Agriculture CDE

*Dr. Bob Williams and Carolyne Savage- East Texas A&M University*

This workshop provides agriculture teachers with the specific rules and essential resources needed to successfully coach a Sustainable Agriculture CDE team. Participants will dive into contest-specific guidelines, including plant and pest identification, soil health assessment, and sustainable management practices. Beyond coaching, the session offers action-oriented guidance for hosting the CDE at chapter-level invitationals, covering logistics such as site selection, scoring procedures, and securing industry-relevant materials to ensure a high-quality competitive experience for all students.

**51) Workshop Name:** Ballin' on a Banquet Budget: FFA Banquet Best Practices for All Budgets

*Taylor Christie and Jordan Trees Waddle*

This workshop shares practical best practices for planning meaningful FFA banquets at any budget level. Participants will learn strategies to maximize student recognition, community engagement, and overall impact without overspending. Advisors will leave with adaptable ideas they can implement immediately, regardless of banquet size or resources.

**52) Workshop Name:** "The Magic Time Machine" - Free Resources for YOU!\*

*Charlotte Main*

Need more time? Need a quick sub lesson? Come learn about the FREE Resources to help you have more TIME! Come find out how you can have tons of resources...all at the tip of your fingers (keyboard). Participants will discover practical lesson plans, activity guides, and program support materials that can be immediately implemented in the classroom to enhance instruction and chapter activities.

**53) Workshop Name:** TEA Updates ^\*

*Les Hudson- TEA*

This session will update Agriculture, Food, and Natural Resource teachers on changes to the programs of study and courses resulting from the Program of Study Refresh and the TEKS revision. This session will also address opportunities for AFNR teachers to participate and give feedback on future AFNR course revisions.

**54) Workshop Name:** Farm to Fork: A Cooperative Program to Promote Your Program

*Joseph Tyus and Roy Flora*

This course is designed to describe the process of developing a unique farm-to-fork experience within CTE disciplines and the greater community to engage students in their area of interest. The course will walk participants through the process of creating this experience with notes on challenges and successes, followed by a question-and-answer session.

**55) Workshop Name:** Training a Vet Science CDE Team - Tips and Tricks

*Madison Flores*

Tips on training a vet med team, how to slowly work a new team up to learn all of the material needed for the contest.

**56) Workshop Name:** Homesite CDE judging

*Eric Kale, Stephen Scitern, Shane Wigington, and Richard Kramer*

This workshop provides comprehensive guidance on the Homesite CDE, detailing exactly what students must know to properly evaluate and judge homesite scenarios. Led by expert presenters who have successfully coached state and national championship teams, participants will gain proven strategies, scoring insights, and foundational knowledge to build and train a highly competitive team.

**57) Workshop Name:** Where are the Boys? The Current Phenomenon and Approaches for Improving the Profession\*

*Stacy K. Vincent- Texas A&M University*

We will take a deep dive into how the country arrived at the current phenomenon, what we do in the classroom to further reinforce the trend, and classroom remedies that can restore, re-engage, and reignite the interest and productivity of young men in agriculture.

**58) Workshop Name:** Homecoming 2026 - Elevate and Excel

*Fallon Drennan, Ashlynn Pigg Childress, Brittany Rivera, Kayla Hughes, Susan Weatherford, Scott Marasckin, and Mark Hazelwood- Southern Floral Company*

A panel of talented floral teachers will showcase their creations and discuss Tips of the Trade.

How to stand out from the rest and entice orders. Share ideas on ordering, creating, pricing, and selling!

**59) Workshop Name:** Agricultural Electrical Principles & Applications

*Ryan Anderson*

This workshop covers electrical principles and their applications in agricultural enterprises. The workshop addresses the use of standards, cores, electrical diagrams, and appropriate tools to safely understand electrical systems, enclosures, fittings, conductors, and devices used in agricultural settings. Coverage also includes the use of electrical test instruments, grounding, and overcurrent protection.

**60) Workshop Name:** Hands-On Without the Hassle: Big Learning on a Small Budget ^

*Macey Cheatham and Kaitlin Tyler*

This practical workshop focuses on incorporating meaningful, hands-on agricultural activities using little to no resources. Designed for new ag teachers and Title I programs, participants will explore creative strategies and adaptable lesson ideas that maximize student engagement without requiring extensive facilities or budgets.

**61) Workshop Name:** Zig Ziglar - Born to Win: Goal Setting\*

*Kassie LaDon Montford, Chanda Orren, and Aaron Alejandro- Texas FFA Foundation*

Interactive session using Zig Ziglar's Born to Win principles to strengthen goal setting, accountability, and focus. Participants develop clear, values-driven goals and practical action steps to support personal and professional growth.

**62) Workshop Name:** AET Basics -\*

*Vanessa Kirby- The AET*

Learn the basics of navigating AET and tips to improve the record book experience for you and your students. This includes creating new accounts, managing existing accounts, setting up courses and key Student PROFILE areas, and establishing successful SAE projects. Bring your laptop to follow along!"

**63) Workshop Name:** How to work & guide your FFA Booster Club\*

*Hank Hollywood and Alan Linson*

We will cover how to develop a positive working relationship with your booster club to support FFA projects, scholarships, and fundraising. Learn how to set goals for long-term capital investment projects such as items for the chapter's barn. Learn to include the booster club in FFA activities like State Convention, retreats, and end-of-the-year officer gifts.

**64) Workshop Name:** Planning your Greenhouse Plant Sale

*Sophie Hayhurst*

Learn how to advertise, promote, and plan for an amazing plant sale. A plant sale through your greenhouse is not only a great fundraiser but also a promotional tool for your chapter! Come and learn about greenhouse potential by offering a plant sale.

**65) Workshop Name:** Hatching in the Classroom

*Skyler Shively & Kyleigh Duckett - Texas A&M AgriLife Extension*

This workshop helps ag teachers successfully implement Hatching in the Classroom by covering incubation basics, animal welfare, and classroom management. Participants will learn how to align the project with curriculum standards and FFA/SAE opportunities while avoiding common challenges. Participants will have hands-on lab experiences.

**66) Workshop Name:** Develop Your Chapter Sponsorship Package ^

*Aaron Alejandro, Chanda Orren, and Kassie Montford- Texas FFA Foundation*

This workshop provides strategies to create a compelling sponsorship package. Learn how to identify potential sponsors, structure sponsorship tiers, and craft a proposal that highlights the chapter's strengths. Attendees will receive a customizable package template to engage local businesses and community leaders.

**67) Workshop Name:** Confidence Before Contact: Simulation Tools for Livestock and Veterinary Skills

*Don Hahn and Sofia Scott- Realityworks*

Discover how hands-on trainers and realistic simulations can elevate instruction in Livestock Production and Veterinary Medical Applications. This session explores how simulation-based learning increases student engagement, builds confidence in skills through repetition, strengthens career connections, and supports mastery of TEKS-aligned content.

**68) Workshop Name:** Centerpieces to Celebrate

*Texas State Florists' Association Instructors*

For those called upon to design florals to highlight a banquet or accent a luncheon table, this session offers an array of ideas that easily respond to the exclamation, "We need 20 centerpieces on Friday!" Learn to plan ahead, develop a system, and appear to create a custom, one-of-a-kind design that embellishes the best within a budget!

**69) Workshop Name:** Land CDE Judging

*Eric Kale, Stephen Scitern, Shane Wigington, and Richard Kramer*

This workshop provides comprehensive guidance on the Land CDE, detailing exactly what students must know to properly evaluate and judge homesite scenarios. Led by expert presenters who have successfully coached state and national championship teams, participants will gain proven strategies, scoring insights, and foundational knowledge to build and train a highly competitive team.

**70) Workshop Name:** Woodworking Basics for Your Ag Mechanics Classes

*Larry Waddle and Michael Bowen*

Master the fundamentals of incorporating woodworking into your Agricultural Mechanics curriculum. This session provides practical tips and tricks for selecting beginner-friendly projects, managing shop safety for wood-based assignments, and using basic tools to achieve high-quality results. Participants will walk away with several project plans and strategies to engage students of all skill levels in the wood shop.

**71) Workshop Name:** Beyond the Bead: Mastering Dye Penetrant Testing in the Welding Lab

*Randy Lund- Texas A&M University*

Discover how to bring professional-grade Non-Destructive Testing (NDT) to your welding classroom using affordable dye penetrant kits. This hands-on session guides you through the five-step inspection process to help students identify "invisible" surface defects like cracks, cold laps, and porosity. Leave with a grading rubric and a plan to integrate this industry technique into your lab.

**72) Workshop Name:** How to Fit in as the Ag Teacher on Campus\*

*Jared Lynch*

Jumpstart your success as a new or old ag teacher by learning how to fit in, be a team player, and make a big impact on campus. Walk away with practical tips to thrive, shine, and even set yourself on the path to Teacher of the Year!

**73) Workshop Name:** Sheep and Goat Project Management ^

*Conner Newsom, Sam Silvers, Logan Newsom, and Jurahee Silvers*

This workshop will provide agriculture teachers with practical strategies for sheep and goat management, including nutrition, health, facilities, and daily care. Participants will gain classroom-ready tips and real-world examples they can take back to their programs and student livestock projects.

**74) Workshop Name:** How to Teach the Math Portion of the Texas FFA Veterinary Science CDE

*Joe W. Mask- Stephen F Austin State University*

This professional development workshop equips agricultural science teachers with practical, classroom-ready strategies for teaching the math portion of the Texas FFA Veterinary Science CDE. Participants will learn how to break down dosage calculations, unit conversions, and data interpretation using step-by-step, student-friendly instructional methods aligned with contest expectations.

**75) Workshop Name:** Teaching a Grilling and Smoking Beef Class

*Amy Foster-Texas Beef Council*

Texas Beef Council will guide you through how to teach a Grilling/Smoking 101 class. You will get first-hand guidance from our Pitmaster, Jerry. You will leave with ideas and access to our free resources (including aprons, thermometers, and recipes), scripts, videos, and talking points for you to share in your classrooms.

**76) Workshop Name:** Student CTE for Ag - Courses, internships, & Certification Prep -

*Frances Johnson- Student CTE*

Student CTE for Agriculture provides access to world-class courseware, simulations, and cert prep for content Areas: Intro to Ag, AgBiz, Plant Science, Animal Science, Floral Design, & Ag Mech. All updated & engaging, TEKS-aligned courses, application-rich simulations, IBC certification prep, industry-baked certifications, and bellringers based on current events & case studies.

**77) Workshop Name:** Aquaponics 101

*Sophie Hayhurst*

Learn from an ag teacher running a 2000 fully commercial farm-to-table production gallon aquaculture system. From small systems to large systems, I will recommend how to get started with your system, maintenance, and fish selection. Additionally, how to navigate Texas Parks and Wildlife permits for owning and raising fish such as Mozambique Tilapia.

**78) Workshop Name:** Single Teacher Department Roundtable

*Katherine Gering, Augustus Kash, Jesse Laine, Justin Southern, LeeAnn Franke, and Tammy Christian*

Join a single-teacher roundtable to discuss the unique challenges of being a single-teacher department and strategize to overcome them. The round table discussion will include taking questions from attendees.

**79) Workshop Name:** Maximizing Your Advisory Committee: Best Practices for Chapter Success ^

*Jennifer Jackson, Les Hudson, Paul Boff, and Ray Pieniazek*

Advisory committees can be a game-changer for your FFA chapter, but where do you start if you don't have one yet? This panel is designed for both new and experienced advisors. We'll cover the basics of forming an effective advisory committee, the dos and don'ts of engagement, and strategies to leverage your committee to support chapter growth, secure local partnerships, and enhance student opportunities.

**80) Workshop Name:** Illume: Leatherwork for the Ag Classroom -

*Misty Shaw, Aaron Heizer, and Monica Patrick*

The Learn with Illume School Program is a classroom-ready leathercraft curriculum designed for Ag and CTE educators—no leathercraft experience required. With structured video instruction, pre-cut student kits, and ongoing support, teachers can confidently guide hands-on projects that build real-world skills and student engagement. Come see how easy it is to bring meaningful, industry-backed craftsmanship into your classroom.

**81) Workshop Name:** Beef Cattle Validation 101 \*

*Greg Clark*

The workshop will be designed for validation chairs and teachers. The workshop will cover the ins and outs of the validation process and provide updates on last year's validation. All validation chairs, co-chairs, committee members, and teachers supervising beef projects should attend.

**82) Workshop Name:** Meat Pens Made Simple: From Barn to Banner

*Alexis Whitely, Tara Whitely Stroud, and Samuel Stroud*

In this workshop, we will cover the essentials of running a successful meat pen project. We will cover everything from animal selection and daily care to proper feeding and management. We will also cover showmanship strategies and explore the "why" behind these projects. Our goal is for you to leave feeling confident in your ability to help your students shine with their market rabbits.

**83) Workshop Name:** Cultivated Creations: A Floral Recipe Swap

*Macey Cheatham and Kayla Hughes*

In this interactive workshop, ag teachers will explore a curated collection of floral "recipes" shared by fellow educators, showcasing materials, quantities, and design ideas ready for classroom or program use. Participants will also have dedicated time to contribute their own floral recipes, exchange ideas, and collaborate with others to build a shared bank of practical, seasonal arrangements.

**84) Workshop Name:** Modern Shop Safety: Protecting Students, Programs, and Yourself -

*Jonathan Grimes and Brian Alexander-Safety First*

This session focuses on modern best practices for maintaining a safe and defensible agricultural mechanics laboratory. Participants will learn how to reduce liability through consistent procedures, proper documentation, and effective safety instruction. The workshop also introduces a ready-to-use safety curriculum designed to save time while improving student accountability and learning.

**85) Workshop Name:** Connecting with the Industry \*

*Miles Guelker- J Bar B Foods and Jake Pieniazek- Holmes Foods*

Join us to learn how collaboration with community and industry partners can open doors for both teachers and students alike. This workshop will focus on bringing together agricultural business professionals and educators to explore how these partners can support FFA chapters and agricultural science programs. Panelists will share examples of how they currently engage with students and teachers and how these partnerships began.

**86) Workshop Name:** New World Screwworm - Is Your Show Barn Ready? ^\*

*Karl Harborth*

This workshop will provide a quick overview of the current New World Screwworm threat status and will discuss its biology, history, and the severe impacts it can have on livestock health and production. This session will focus on recognizing clinical signs, understanding current prevention strategies, and outlining best

management practices to keep livestock projects safe.

**87) Workshop Name:** Go All Out for NATIONAL FFA WEEK!\*

*Leslie Dohnalik and Allison Talbott*

Come see ideas and take away the resources needed to plan engaging National FFA Week activities that involve the entire school. Host a fundraiser, a service project, a collection drive, recruit for next year's course enrollment, and even throw an ag education event for the littles nearby-- ALL IN ONE WEEK!

**88) Workshop Name:** Maintaining Faith in the Chaos of Teaching

*Matt Comer and Jeff Bishop- American Fellowship of Cowboy Churches*

Many days of life as an ag teacher are spent working toward one deadline after another, and finding time for God seems impossible. This session addresses the unique challenges faced by ag teachers, addressing the struggle to maintain your spiritual connection while managing overwhelming professional demands. Presenters Matt Comer and Jeff Bishop of the American Fellowship of Cowboy Churches will provide practical guidance and actionable strategies to help participants navigate the intense deadlines and chaos of teaching, ensuring they can prioritize their faith and well-being.

**89) Workshop Name:** Agronomy CDE: Sowing Seeds of Success - New Rules & Training Tips

*Colton Pouncy and Ron Snyder*

This workshop aims to promote greater participation in the Agronomy CDE contest by covering revisions to the new rules, as well as training tips and tricks from two veteran coaches and revision committee members. Training resources will be provided during the workshop to help new and experienced coaches.

**90) Workshop Name:** One Plant, Four Classes: Unlimited Lessons

*Tiffany Latin Terry*

One plant that can be used in Floral, Landscape Design, Greenhouse management, and even 6th-grade Career Exploration. As an Agricultural Teacher, using a cost-effective approach to teach both hands-on and academic lessons will also make lesson planning much easier. While the Sweet Potato Vine is widely known yet often overlooked, it offers endless possibilities in the classroom.

**91) Workshop Name:** Giving Feedback that Grows Teachers

*Chelsea Hatch, John Rayfield, Krysti Kelley, and Will Doss*

This workshop will support cooperating teachers in developing effective, high-quality feedback practices that promote student teachers' growth. Participants will learn practical strategies for delivering timely, constructive, and reflective feedback that strengthens instructional skills, builds confidence, and supports student teachers in becoming effective classroom educators.

**92) Workshop Name:** Best of the Best- Animal Science Pathway Classes ^\*

*Leslie Dohnalik and Allison Talbott*

See a showcase of some of the best of the best hands-on activities, labs, & projects within the animal science pathway at Travis High School. Highlighting Advanced Animal Science, Livestock Production, Small Animal

Management, and Principles of ANFR- Livestock TEKS.

**93) Workshop Name:** SketchUp 101 in Ag Mechanics

*Wesley McFarland and Tori Boehme*

Teaching the basics of SketchUp and how we implement it in our Ag Mechanics class, as well as how we use it on projects. We will go over all of the ins and outs of SketchUp.

**94) Workshop Name:** Swine Validation 101 \*

*Tammy Glascock*

The workshop will be designed for validation chairs and teachers. The workshop will cover the ins and outs of the validation process and provide updates on last year's validation. All validation chairs, co-chairs, committee members, and teachers supervising swine projects should attend, as major revisions were made to the Swine Validation portal and process.

**95) Workshop Name:** Don't Just Hope to Retire..... Plan for it!

*Jonathan Price- Value Teachers*

Our TRS pension is good, but it isn't enough! If you want to retire with financial dignity, you have to PLAN for it! We cover the rules for retirement eligibility, the new Social Security laws, how to reduce your tax liability, and best strategies for saving money. What does your retirement plan look like?

**96) Workshop Name:** You Matter Too: Educators' Mental Wellness and Self-Awareness

*Jim Harris and Jim Teal- McMullen County Judge*

Be empowered to recognize signs of stress, burnout, negative addictions, toxic relationships, and other mental health challenges in yourself—before those challenges begin to affect your well-being, health, and your teaching. Learn strategies for self-awareness and early intervention. Emphasis is put on reducing stigma and building personal resilience so that you can thrive in all areas of your life.

**97) Workshop Name:** Advancing Agricultural Science Education with iCEV -

*Megan O'Quinn and Breckyn LeCompte-ICEV*

Agricultural Science education is evolving, and iCEV continues to expand and refresh its Agricultural Science library to keep instruction relevant. From hands-on labs and design challenges to certification-ready Turfgrass Management and Floral Design courses, plus tools like pre- and posttests, engagement reports, and accessibility supports, iCEV is built to meet student needs and improve outcomes

**98) Workshop Name:** The Floral Playbook: Design Planning & Program Strategy

*Kayla Hughes and Georgia Dunn*

Dive into behind-the-scenes planning of a floral program, how to intentionally map out designs, align projects with the school year, and connect classroom instruction to student-run enterprises. This workshop will provide

practical systems for organizing production, streamlining workflow, ordering, and creating consistency across floral and plant science programs.

**99) Workshop Name:** From Paper to Progress: Make Your POA Work for You^\*  
*Jennifer Jackson, Glascock, and Ashley Laird - Texas FFA Association*

Join us for a hands-on POA and National Chapter Award workshop! Share your plans, get expert feedback, and learn how to leverage these tools to drive meaningful experiences for your students and your community. This is your chance to leave with practical ideas and a roadmap for chapter success.

**100) Workshop Name:** Setting Up Entrepreneurship SAEs  
*Vanessa Kirby-The AET*

Come to this workshop to learn how to set up projects correctly, and we will share as many tips as we can in the time allowed! Also, a great time to ask questions if you have an Entrepreneurship SAE that gave you a hard time during award season this past spring!

**101) Workshop Name:** Middle School Ag Round Table Discussion  
*Emily Lane, Ellen Todar, Donald Wernecke, and Ashton Ochoa*

This roundtable discussion addresses the significant need and current gap in workshop opportunities specifically tailored for middle school agricultural science programs. Led by Emily Lane, the session follows a collaborative format where panelists provide short introductions and a positive piece of advice, followed by a moderated exchange of ideas. The discussion will cover engaging, active lessons for 8th-grade Principles of AFNR classes, including group projects, immersive individual activities, and strategies for working effectively outside the traditional classroom.

**102) Workshop Name:** Recruitment: Agriculture is Our Future  
*Shelby Parker*

Recruiting within urban schools that are in constant competition with other High School campuses and programs requires planning and innovative ideas. We focus on building a brand and marketing experiences linked to our district's elementary, middle, and academy campuses. Let's work together to keep GROW-ing our agriculture programs!

**103) Workshop Name:** Growing Futures: Connecting the Texas Green Industry to Today's Ag Classroom -  
*Sarah Riggins and Jeremiah Armstrong- Texas Nursery & Landscape Association*

Explore Texas Green Industry careers and trends, and leave with classroom-ready activities, certification pathways, and career exploration tools you can use immediately.

**104) Workshop Name:** Successful National Grants for Growing  
*Sophie Hayhurst*

The National Grant for Growing Applications opens every spring for Chapters to apply. I have been successful in applying for the grant and in receiving the maximum amount. I would like to discuss how to apply for easy

grants that could benefit FFA advisors and chapters. Good tips and tricks about finding grants and setting yourself apart from others.

**105) Workshop Name:** Work Life Balance for Families ^\*

*Tanner Smith*

Workshop for Ag teachers who have kids, are about to have kids, or will one day have kids. Talk through things that you can do during "work time" or "early part of the career" to help you transition from the workaholic ag teacher to the family-friendly ag teacher. How I have transitioned, how some of my friends transitioned, and a little bit of a Q&A on what works for you.

**106) Workshop Name:** Where Do I Find This? How Do I Fill This Out? How Do I Register? ^\*

*Tracy Cofield, Katie Keele, and Jennifer Gilbreth*

First-year, early-year, and new-to-the-state teachers often have a hard time knowing where to find the important information needed for the success of their programs. They struggle when understanding how to fill out paperwork such as record books, degree applications, and proficiency applications, or how to register students for LDEs, CDEs, SDEs, or stock show entries.

**107) Workshop Name:** Sheep/Goat Validation 101 \*

*Patrick Padgett*

The workshop will be designed for validation chairs and teachers. The workshop will cover the ins and outs of the validation process and provide updates on last year's validation. All validation chairs, co-chairs, and committee members should attend, as well as teachers supervising sheep/goat projects.

**108) Workshop Name:** Home Alone: Surviving Sub Days

*Kasey Naylor and National FFA Teacher Ambassadors*

Ever feel like your classroom is Home Alone when you're gone? Lucky for you, it's Christmas in July! This workshop equips you with substitute resources designed to keep students' learning and behavior in check. Walk away confident that your classroom can survive a sub day—no wet bandits or booby traps involved.

**109) Workshop Name:** Don't Drop the Ball: How to Involve Athletes in FFA

*Taylor Christie and Rylee Yarborough*

Believe it or not, it is possible to be an athlete and an FFA member. Maybe even more surprising, it is possible to do both and do them well. So, how do you get athletes involved in FFA? This workshop will provide tips and tricks on how to involve athletes in your FFA chapter and successfully share them with their coaches.

**110) Workshop Name:** Creating Fabrication Skills for Advanced Ag Mech Students

*Justin Wood*

Looking into how to create Skills that can be applied both to the upper-level students in the Applied Agricultural Engineering Pathway and the Applied Ag Engineering Contest. Discussion topics will include

material selection, Fusion 360, and exploring out-of-the-box thinking for skill creation.

**111) Workshop Name:** Applying Floral Design Principles & Elements Month by Month

*Julia Ricicar*

This professional development workshop guides teachers in understanding and applying the core principles and elements of floral design. Educators will be able to incorporate design principles and elements into monthly classroom arrangements while fostering creativity, critical thinking, and design literacy in students.

**112) Workshop Name:** Ag Teachers Dealing with Major Health Issues ^

*Jana Wilson, Andrew Hokanson and Karrie Cox*

We will have a roundtable/open discussion to discuss coping techniques and share ideas for dealing with disease/sickness while still working. Environmental and Natural Resources will be discussed, which could be causing some of our health issues, and advocating for changes in the livestock industry. Healing prayer and scriptures will be given at the conclusion.

**113) Workshop Name:** Shared Agriculture Program Facilities, Shared Success \*

*Ashley Mitchell, Bryce Hamlin, Coby Johnson, Darin Martinez, and Sean Hightower*

Integrating multiple schools into a cohesive, district-wide education program presents instructional, cultural, and operational challenges. This workshop examines common obstacles such as curriculum alignment, school culture integration, equity across campuses, and effective stakeholder communication. Participants will analyze real-world scenarios and collaborate on practical strategies.

**114) Workshop Name:** AI Tools for Ag Teachers: Work Smarter, Not Harder

*Brittney Avant*

Learn how to use AI to streamline lesson planning, create or modify resources for ag topics you're less confident in, and save time on daily tasks. This workshop will provide practical strategies to help you work more efficiently, so you can focus on what you love—teaching and growing your ag program. Discover how AI can be your best tool for reducing stress and max

**115) Workshop Name:** Funding the Blue Jacket: Fundraising for your Program

*Brian Reed and Gus Kash*

Over the past few years, I have seen programs struggle to raise funds. I want to give a presentation on different options I have seen chapters use, what to expect from each, how well they raise funds, and key details for

those fundraisers. Stuff like fruit & meat sales, jackpot shows, getting chapter sponsors, hosting LDEs and CDEs, etc.

**116) Workshop Name:** Roots and Results: An Advanced Plant & Soil Science Lesson Swap Shop  
*Adrianna Segura*

Ag education thrives on shared ideas. This Advanced Plant & Soil Science lesson swap shop features TEKS-aligned lessons that have been borrowed, built on, and tested in real classrooms. Participants will gain practical strategies and lesson materials designed to increase student engagement and real-world application.

**117) Workshop Name:** Teach Ag CDE  
*Hailey Browning Lacour and Randy Lund- Texas A&M University*

This workshop highlights the Teach Ag CDE and how it can be used to introduce students to careers in agricultural education. Participants will learn the components of the contest, expectations for success, and how the event supports student skill development.

**118) Workshop Name:** How to work with Veteran Teachers as a newer Ag teacher Round Table ^\*  
*Tanner Smith*

Workshop on how to work with Veteran teachers or a teacher who is embedded in the community. Learn how to communicate your thoughts and ideas effectively as a new teacher in a program without stepping on toes.

**119) Workshop Name:** Breaking Down the Farm Business & Marketing Plan CDE  
*Grant Brill and Elliot White*

Do you have a group of students interested in FBM or Marketing Plan CDE contests, but don't know where to start? In this workshop, we will break down the elements of the contest, discuss resources that can help your team be successful at their respective area and state contests, and provide a Q&A Session with a former SHSU National Agri-Marketing Association state CDE judge and FBM test author/coach.

**120) Workshop Name:** Ready, Set, Compete! The Ins & Outs of Floral Design Competitions  
*Jack Winterrowd, Tara Spencer, Baylee Adams, and Sara Burke*

Are you considering implementing a Floral Design Competition? This teacher-panel workshop will help you understand the nuances of Floral Design competitions. Join us and learn how veterans and pros in this new and exciting field of student competitions and real-world experiences can take your Floral Design program to a new level.

**121) Workshop Name:** Take FFA Banquet to New Heights this Year

*Kasey Naylor*

Let us help you transform your banquet into a meaningful, high-impact celebration of FFA. This session will share innovative ideas for themes, programs, and organizations that highlight student success and strengthen community connections. Leave with fresh ideas and ready-to-use strategies to make your next banquet unforgettable.

**122) Workshop Name:** Follow Your Arrow Into the World of Welding Symbols

*Justin Wood*

Attendees will get an in-depth view of the world of welding symbols. Welding symbols are becoming an increasingly popular discussion topic throughout the Applied Agricultural Engineering Pathway. This workshop will help teachers tackle the task of teaching their students how to read and understand welding symbols.

**123) Workshop Name:** New to Ag Mechanics or Want to Get More Involved?

*MaKenzy Mulder and Megan Miller*

Are you looking to create more opportunities for your students in the Ag mechanics/Ag engineering pathway? Come to this workshop to see how other Ag mechanics teachers handle building projects, competing in CDE contests, and working with local community members to create tangible career pathways for students.

**124) Workshop Name:** Fiesta Floral Crowns

*Georgia Dunn*

Have you ever wanted to create crepe paper flowers? Do you need an inexpensive arrangement idea for your floral class? Fiesta Flower Crowns are the perfect project to practice wire and tape skills, discuss color and cultural significance, and just have fun! Come learn the basics of creating individual crepe paper flowers and constructing a crown.

**125) Workshop Name:** Classroom Management For Novice Teachers<sup>^\*</sup>

Chelsea Hatch-Texas Tech University

This interactive workshop gives new teachers clear direction and confidence as they begin building their classroom management plans, focusing on what to plan before the school year starts. Participants will walk away with practical tips, consistent procedures, and ready-to-use strategies they can apply immediately to set their classrooms up for success.

**126) Workshop Name:** Bridging the SAE Gap for Seasoned Ag Teachers

*Mary B. Wilson and Tally Stout*

Been there, done that? Get fresh ideas and see why SAE and FFA are more valuable than ever. This one-hour workshop shows experienced ag teachers how to connect the two, boost student engagement and maximize program funding.

**127) Workshop Name:** Meat Evaluation CDE

Erin Stutts and Joe David Lehmberg

An overview of the Meat Evaluation CDE contest with teaching and coaching tips from state and national winning coaches.

**128) Workshop Name:** Entomology CDE

Derek Dunlap and Kyle Crilly

Come learn the basics of the Entomology CDE. We will discuss order identification, tips and tricks for training a team, and updates to the revision cycle.

**129) Workshop Name:** Agrobotics- The Next Generation

Tamra Mcgaughy

STEM... What is it, and how can I help my students be better prepared for the world of STEM? Ag teachers, FFA advisors, and 4-H volunteers can involve their students in Ag Robotics. Come learn more about this program and what it offers your students.

**130) Workshop Name:** Marketing Your Chapter Using Canva, Google Sites, & Other Digital Tools ^

*Kinlee Cobel*

Expect to learn practical strategies for promoting your program using accessible, low-cost digital tools like Canva and Google Sites. This workshop will demonstrate how effective marketing can increase student engagement, strengthen community and administrative support, and highlight program success. Attendees will leave with ready-to-use ideas to elevate their chapter's visibility and impact.

## **ONLINE PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT WORKSHOPS**

All online only Workshops will be released on Tuesday, July 21, at 8:00 AM.

Workshops marked with a \* will be recorded during the session.  
These videos can be accessed after the event at [conference.texasagteachers.org](http://conference.texasagteachers.org).

- Ag Teachers Dealing with Major Health Issues\*
- Agriscience and Administrators - How to support each other\*
- An Overview of the New World Screwworm and It's Potential Impact to Texas\*
- Best of the Best- Animal Science Pathway Classes\*
- Bloom Where You Planted: How to Adapt to a New Environment\*
- Canva - More than basics, less than pro
- Classroom Management For Novice Teachers\*
- Contest Revision, Proficiency, and AgriScience Fair Updates\*
- Creating a Culture of Gratitude
- Creating an FFA Chapter Press Kit
- Develop Your Chapter Sponsorship Package\*
- Farming Is Risky Business: Teaching Risk Through Real-World Decisions
- Fresh lesson ideas from Aggie Class of 2026\*
- From Paper to Progress: Make Your POA Work for You\*
- Hands-On Without the Hassle: Big Learning on a Small Budget\*
- Hosting an LDE Invitational 101
- How Can I Affect What Happens on Capitol Hill?
- How to Create a Healthier Lifestyle as an Ag Teacher
- How to work with Veteran Teachers as a newer Ag teacher Round Table\*
- Marketing Plan CDE
- Marketing Your Chapter Using Canva, Google Sites, and Other Digital Tools
- Maximizing Your Advisory Committee: Best Practices for Chapter Success\*
- New World Screwworm -- is your Show Barn Ready?\*
- POA Power Hour
- Retreat: Take a Step Back to Move Forward
- Rooted Locally, Learning Globally: Ag Education with EF Tours
- Sheep and Goat Project Management\*
- Spanish Creed: Tips and Tricks for the Non-Spanish-Speaking Teacher
- Special Education But Make it Ag!
- Student Teacher Playbook: Getting the Most from Your Experience
- TEA Updates\*
- Team Ag Ed Roundtable Discussion\*
- The Secret Sauce of Floral Design: Writing Recipes That Bloom\*
- Trials, Tribulations, & Triumphs of building and showing Ag Mech. Projects\*
- TVMA Certified Veterinary Assistant Program
- Where Do I Find This? How Do I Fill This Out? How Do I Register?
- Work Life Balance for Families\*