



Troup County School System

Your Future Starts Today

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Story Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

FFA Students Participate in Teamwork, Leadership and Community Development (TLC) Event

LaGrange, Ga., February 16, 2022 – National FFA week (Future Farmers of America) is February 19-26 and to celebrate, Troup County School System (TCSS) FFA students from all three high schools came together at the new Troup County Agricultural Education Center for a day of learning and meeting new people. Jessica Bowden, Agricultural teacher at LaGrange High said; “We wanted to have a day where we could pull students together to focus on teamwork, leadership and community development all in one day.” The agenda was full with guest speakers from F&W Forestry Services, Diverse Power, Troup County 4H Extension Office, as well as, college representatives from West Georgia Technical College, Auburn University, ABAC, University of Georgia, and the University of West Georgia.

During their morning break, students could visit with college representatives to receive information about enrollment opportunities. They also had a chance to test their “corn-hole skills” as well as participate in a Scavenger Hunt.

Gabi Martinez of LaGrange High shared, “It’s was a really good opportunity to meet other students and talk with them about what they’re doing in FFA in their schools.” Jacob Bearden of Troup High said, “FFA means more than just farms and agriculture, it’s an outlet for students and it provides leadership in the community.” Callaway High student, Cameron Gravitt said; “It’s been an amazing opportunity to meet everyone. It’s like being a community and family.”

Secondary Education Director Jonathan Laney shared; “I appreciate the initiative and hard work of all our Ag Teachers in TCSS. I’m especially grateful of their willingness to bring the community together and to reach out and get the support of our industry leaders. These teachers stay connected with our community to support this effort.” “To be able to bring our students to this brand new facility is phenomenal. We especially thank the Troup County Commissioners for helping us put this together.”

Lunch was provided by Troup County Farm Bureau and the students heard from Central Region State FFA Officer Ally Wayne. She said, “One thing I’ve always loved about FFA is just how everyone can join together and really bring all their leadership skills into one room that we’ve learned separately.”

At the close of the event, students wrote thank you notes for the event sponsors and speakers, brought together their donations for the warming center, and wrapped up with some door prizes! FFA is a community of likeminded but different students and teachers from all backgrounds.

About FFA

FFA is not just for students who want to be production farmers; FFA also welcomes members who aspire to careers as teachers, doctors, scientists, business owners and more. For this reason, the name of the organization was updated in 1988 after a vote of national convention delegates to reflect the growing diversity and new opportunities in the industry of agriculture.

About Troup County School System

Troup County School System is an accredited educational system with over 12,100 students in grades K-12. TCSS does offer a free Pre-K program at each elementary school. The system is comprised of eleven elementary schools, three middle schools, three high schools, one college and career academy, and one alternative learning center. Students within the school system are taught a rigorous and relevant curriculum that helps them make college and career choices beyond graduation and succeed in life. The system 2021 graduation rate is 85.9 percent. To learn more about Troup County School System, visit troup.org and the Troup County School System Facebook page.

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Photo: FFA Group Photo

Photo: ABAC

Photo: Ally and Jacob

Photo: Auburn

Photo: Gabi, Jacob, Cameron

Photo: UGA

Photo: WGTC