

**Agriscience/FFA Department Achievements
For 2008-2009 School Year
“Annual Report”**

Homer FFA Chapter

- 99 Homer FFA members (middle school, high school and college)
- State Champion – Stacy Bangert – Creed Speaking Contest (District champ & Regional champ)
- 2 American Degrees – Lyndsay Ball & Jordan Drumm
- 3 State Degrees – Leslie Anderson, Nate Harris & Ross Williams (Silver rating)
- 2 State Outstanding Junior Awards – Samantha Barton & Nick Potts
- State Winner – Ag Skills Contests – Jr. High Floriculture Team
- Regional Proficiency Winners, Samantha Barton in Agribusiness & Nick Potts in Ag Placement
- National Chapter Award – silver rating
- 9th place in State – Silver Rating – Greenhand Conduct of Meetings Team
- Gold rating, 3rd place at Regionals – Jr. High Conduct of Meetings Team (A)
- Silver rating at Regionals – Jr. High Conduct of Meetings Team (B)
- State Proficiency Award – Silver – Samantha Barton in Grain Production
- State Proficiency Award – Silver – Kristen Miller in Poultry Production
- State Runner-up, gold – Dairy Showmanship – Francine Harris (Summer 08)
- State Silver rating – Dairy Showmanship – Ross Williams (Summer 08)
- 4th place, Tractor Driving Contest, Nate Harris (Summer 08)
- 2 FFA members are accepted and performed in State Choir, Taylor Potts & Susan Stepp
- 2 FFA members are accepted and performed in State Band, Becky Colson & Kristen Miller
- National “Teacher’s Turn the Key” award, Agriscience Instructor Lora Finch attended National Association of Agriscience Educators conference in Charlotte, North Carolina to receive award
- 47 FFA members compete in FFA Leadership Contests (47 at Districts, 22 at Regionals and 8 at State)
- 28 FFA members compete at State Ag Skills Contests
- FFA members & Alumni work together to raise over \$3,000 to send members on trips throughout the year

Agriscience Classroom and beyond

- 67 High School Ag Students (21 psychology) total 88 High school students
- 200+ Supervised Agricultural Experience (SAE) projects, students in Agriscience classes utilize SAE Notebooks to keep records and learn about recordkeeping
- 88 High School Ag Students complete Job Shadows to learn about career options (exploratory SAE)
- 60 HS Ag Students attended Spring Ag Field Trip to 5 local agricultural businesses (exploratory SAE)

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- 25 Advanced Horticulture/Landscape Design students (9-12th grade) transplanted, cared for and sold poinsettias, as well as spring bedding plants and cared for landscaping area near Greenhouse
- 101 Middle School students participated in plant projects in the Greenhouse through Ag-6 and Ag-8 classes
- 50 acres of corn and soybeans are harvested in fall and replanted in spring, as well as 3 acre vegetable garden, all at the Land Lab (Land donated by the Village & Miller Brothers)
- Small Animals Room is added to Ag Shop, provides new SAE opportunity at school
- School SAE's now include: Greenhouse, Land Lab, Hydroponics, Aquaculture, Small Animals, Land Lab Vegetable Garden, School Garden and Certified Nutrition Trainer Program
- Received \$1,000 grant from National FFA Alumni to purchase a multimedia projector

Nutrition Program

- Received \$104,000 grant from USDA to start Nutrition Program – two new staff hired, Nutrition special added in elementary schedule for preschool through 4th gr
- Established Farmer's Market in Homer, high school Agriscience students wrote business plan, made signs and assisted
- 400+ elementary students (P-4) grew petunia flowers for Mother's Day in the Ag/FFA School Greenhouse (HS Ag students helped water)
- 400+ elementary students (P-4) planted, grew and ate lettuce & radishes
- 400+ elementary students (P-4) planted pumpkins and took home to plant at home
- 8 new raised beds were built by Tech/Shop/Woods Department for the greenhouse for use by Elem/MS/HS students in Ag and Nutrition classes, lumber donated by SCM & Jonesville Lumber
- New school garden is established and planted in cooperation with Nutrition program and Agriscience Department
- 24 High School Agriscience Students are trained in Nutrition and become “Certified Nutrition Trainers”
- Plans are in place for Summer Gardening Camp for K-8 students

Overall

- **700+ students affected in a positive way by having an Agriscience/FFA/Nutrition Program at Homer Community Schools!**