

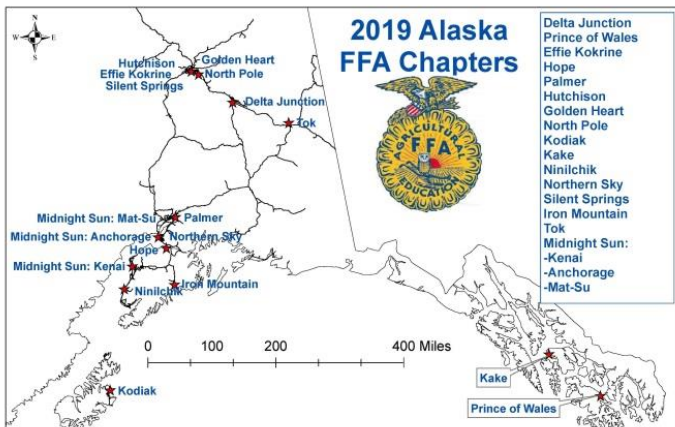
# 2018 FFA Year in Review



Alaska FFA is excited to have grown to over 300 members this year and chartered new FFA chapters at Tok and Seward. We have almost tripled both student membership and FFA Chapters increasing from 117 members in January 2015 to currently over 330 members and growing from 6 to 18 chapters. Our state FFA membership continues to expand and this year, Alaska FFA was awarded National FFA's top state in nation for the highest percentage membership increase.

Through our great partnership with the Alaska Farm Bureau and visits with state legislators during the 2nd annual Governor's Alaska Grown reception has lead to Alaska now recognizing agriculture education as a teacher certification.

We are excited to have hired three certified Agriculture Education teachers who began teaching this fall.



In March a new slate of four state officers were installed for the 2018-19 year. Pictured are Cody Meyer-North Pole, Brandon Traini-Palmer, Jasmine Moyer-Willow, and Skye Reimers- Wasilla.



Our 2018 State convention was held in mid-March at the MatSU college and UAF experiment farm. Every year seems to grow and get more students involved. We couldn't host it without the fantastic support of numerous volunteers. Thanks!!! One thing AK FFA did this year was devote a whole day to community service. Our work with the Magic Yarn project was successful in that over 600 wig kits were assembled to brighten a young child's day. These children have suffered from cancer and lost their hair due to chemotherapy treatment. Convention had visits from National FFA officer-Gracie Furnish and this year's convention theme was Live a Legacy!







The summer included national leadership training for officers. With the fantastic support from our sponsors our state officers were able to attend the 1<sup>st</sup> National Officer Summit leadership conference for state FFA officers from across the United States. The focus of this conference was advocating for agriculture.



Alaska FFA presented at SARE, the Alaska Farm Bureau Convention, the Alaska Secondary Principals Conference, and a Pioneer Grange meeting highlighting agriculture and natural resource education and FFA. Officers also participated in the Division of Ag. MatSu Farm Tour and Drive Your Tractor to Work Day.



Alaska's teacher organization (AAANRE) was busy hosting professional development for teachers with CASE in late July for agriculture and natural resource teachers and a conference for Alaska teachers at Chena Hot Springs in August. CASE is Curriculum for Agriculture Science Education. The past two years of CASE have been devoted to Environmental and Natural Resources teacher education.

Farmland Trust invited us to partner with them on a summer concert event and we provided concessions as a fundraiser. With generous support from Fred Meyers, Mount McKinley Meat & Sausage, Alaska Chip company, Northern Sales and Purely Alaska Water it was a great success for both organizations.



Farm Bureau's continued support with their educational grants helped us to host fall District Leadership Schools (DLS) across the state. These two day events were devoted to leadership workshops for local chapters and a second day concentrating on Natural Resource education, including soils, GPS, wildlife and ecology. Twelve chapters had members represented at these events.



Kenai D.L.S at Ninilchik



Interior D.L.S at Fort Greely



MatSu D.L.S. at Palmer





### More DLS Highlights



In late October, seven local chapters traveled to Indiana to compete against other state winners in career development events and attend the National FFA Convention in Indianapolis. It had record setting attendance being just 60 members shy of reaching 70,000 members in attendance. There were awesome leadership opportunities for members with visits from President Trump, Agriculture Secretary-Sonny Perdue and Garth Brooks hosting a private concert just for FFA. Other highlights



included Melissa and Mikayla Clark received the highest FFA award the American FFA degree. The Silent Springs chapter being recognized as a top three star chapter and Hutchison FFA member, Alden Jerome made it into the top sixteen in prepared public speaking.



Through the generosity of former Senator Bill Stoltze we provided our 2nd annual \$1500 scholarship to an Outstanding FFA member, Jeremiah Moyer. In addition, with the support of Holland America/Princess Cruise Lines, Mt. McKinley Meat and Sausage, Chena Hot Springs Resort, Palmer Produce and Pike's Landing we were able to raise over \$11,000 in a raffle to support scholarships and local chapter leadership events for chapters across our state. This year we were supported by over 35 generous sponsors and 150 outstanding volunteers at our state convention as we continue growing FFA in Alaska. We are once again participating in Click Pick

Give and need you support in this endeavor. We hope to build the Alaska FFA Foundation for a sustainable future involving agriculture and natural resource education. With your help we can expand scholarships, **grow leadership** opportunities for our members, **strengthen agriculture** and **build communities** across Alaska. Thanks so much for your continued support of the Alaska FFA Association.



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*Review includes activities from January 2018-December 2018*

