

Blaine Wagner

Saint Paul, Indiana

North Decatur FFA

Katie Stokes, Advisor

Blaine Wagner, 18, is currently serving as the 2023-2024 Indiana FFA Southern Region Vice President. Blaine is eager to serve the 13,980 members of the Indiana FFA Association. Blaine is the son of Cody and Holly Wagner.

During Blaine's six years of membership in the National FFA Organization, he served in numerous leadership positions. At the chapter level, Blaine served as the vice president and president. He was named the Star Discovery Member, Star Greenhand, Star in Agriscience, and Outstanding Leader. Blaine organized the Ag Up-Close Petting Zoo for elementary students, coordinated Decatur County Ag Day with the Farm Bureau, facilitated FFA recruitment for 6th graders, and planned Fall Fun Night. Blaine served as the District XII Reporter and President. As a district officer, Blaine coordinated and facilitated Meet and Greet, Kickoff, Movie Night, Dance, Basketball, and Dodgeball. At the state level, Blaine is a member of the State Executive Committee. Blaine attended Premier Leadership Training, Leadership Development Workshop, Seeking Opportunities Achieving Results and Foundations In Reaching Excellence conferences. Blaine mentored members as a counselor at four leadership conferences. He worked at the Indiana FFA Pavilion during set-up and experience days. At the National level, Blaine attended the National FFA Convention for six years and attended the Washington Leadership Conference.

Blaine has been involved in a plethora of Career Development Events. At the 2022 National FFA Convention, Blaine competed in Milk Quality and Products and was the 5th place individual, the National Winner of the Written Exam component, and a member of the 8th place team. In addition, he has been the top individual in the state Milk Quality and Products competition in both the FFA and 4-H divisions. Blaine has completed three agriscience fair projects. He was the National Runner-Up for two years and a state winner for three years. His research was published in the Natural Heritage Database. In parliamentary procedure, Blaine has chaired his team for four years and placed top four in the state four times. Blaine qualified for the national soils judging competition and was the 4th place individual at the state competition. Blaine has competed at the state level in public speaking for five years and placed fifth during his junior year. Blaine placed 7th as an individual in the State Entomology CDE.

Blaine's Supervised Agricultural Experiences are Agriscience, Swine Production Entrepreneurship, Dog Agility Training, and Paid Placement at Wagner Farms. Blaine has researched the short-term and long term effects of COVID-19 on agility dog training and how land management practices impact soil carbon levels. Blaine raises four market pigs each year for show and focuses on raising quality production animals. Blaine has trained two dogs to compete in agility at the national level. He has earned the title of National Junior Handler of the Year and obtained five CATCH titles. Blaine mows, sprays, and trims trees on his family farm.

Blaine is an engaged citizen in his school and community. Blaine serves as the president of National Honor Society. In the Indiana Academic Super Bowl, Blaine placed first in the state individual competition and has led the History Academic team to be State Runner-up two years in a row. Blaine has been a member of the archery team for nine years and qualified for State nine times, Nationals eight times, and Worlds one time. He is a ten year 4-H member and achieved division champion numerous times at the Indiana State Fair Dog Show. Blaine is one of 40 Indiana Academic All-Stars.

Blaine has been selected to be part of the Emerging Leaders Program at Purdue and has received the Stamps Scholarship which provides for the full cost of attendance for a bachelor's degree and a \$10,000 stipend for study abroad experiences. Blaine is ranked 2nd out of 75 in his class. He will be graduating with Academic and Technical Honors. He plans to attend Purdue University and major in Biochemistry. His long-term goal is to conduct research that reduces global hunger and increases sustainability in the agricultural industry.