

Conner Keeslar

LaGrange, Indiana

Prairie Heights FFA

Ron Noll, Ben Leu, and Laney Koeppe, Advisors

Conner Keeslar is currently serving as the 2023-2024 Indiana FFA Northern Region Vice President. Conner is the son of Corey and Pamela Keeslar of LaGrange, Indiana. Conner is prepared and excited to serve the members of Indiana FFA.

Conner has strived to serve in many leadership positions throughout his FFA career. Conner was the chapter's Vice President his sophomore year. While in this position he took the opportunity to discover and learn more about FFA at the local, district, state, and national levels. Conner used his experience to become the chapter's President in his junior year. Once again he used this position to learn more about the FFA in hopes to become a District III Officer. Conner achieved his goal and was elected the 2022-2023 District III Student Advisor. During his senior year, he also served as his chapter's President for the second year in a row. While in these positions Conner has strived to improve his leadership skills with the help of Indiana FFA Conferences. These include attending SOAR (Seeking Opportunities Achieving Results) his freshman year, FIRE (Foundations in Reaching Excellence), PLT (Premier Leadership Training), and LDW (Leadership Development Workshop) all his senior year. These conferences have prepared him to become a better leader in the FFA.

Conner has a passion to compete in CDEs and LDEs. Throughout his career, Conner has competed in 13 different contests. Conner has competed in the Extemporaneous Speaking, Agriculture Business Management Demonstration, and Quiz Bowl contests at the district level. Conner has also competed at Soils Judging, Parliamentary Procedures, Crops, Forestry, Discovery Animal Science Demonstration, Multimedia Scrapbook, Agriculture Issues Forum, Agriculture Communications, and Agriculture Sales all at the state level. Conner placed third in state with his parliamentary team and he placed fourth with his agriculture communications team. Conner was honored to place first in the multimedia scrapbook contest last year at state.

Conner has two SAEs (Supervised Agricultural Experience). The first is an SAE that involves working in his family's woods to help improve the condition of the woods by planting trees and cleaning out dead wood. His second SAE involves him working at the school to help run and maintain the school farm that is used as an outdoor recreational location for the community. These two SAE programs complement each other nicely as the forestry management skill helps create a beautiful environment for outdoor recreation.

Outside of FFA Conner has participated in different clubs within the school and 4-H clubs outside of school. In terms of athletics Conner has been a part of the soccer, wrestling, and track & field teams at Prairie Heights High School. Conner was a varsity soccer defender for all 4 years of high school. During his senior year, he was awarded the mental attitude award and the top player award. He managed wrestling for three years and in his senior year, he decided to wrestle and earned a varsity spot on the team. Conner was a varsity thrower for three years on the track & field team and plans on being a varsity player once again. Conner has been awarded four Indiana Academic All-State Awards throughout his athletic career.

Conner will graduate as the valedictorian of his class of 94 students. Conner has pursued high academic achievement throughout high school by taking many dual credit classes and will be graduating with 40+ college credits. He will also be graduating with an Academic Honors Diploma. Conner has been accepted to Purdue University and plans to major in Agriculture Education and return to Prairie Heights to be an FFA Advisor.