

## The FFA Creed

I believe in the future of agriculture, with a faith born not of words but of deeds - achievements won by the present and past generations of agriculturists; in the promise of better days through better ways, even as the better things we now enjoy have come to us from the struggles of former years.

I believe that to live and work on a good farm, or to be engaged in other agricultural pursuits, is pleasant as well as challenging; for I know the joys and discomforts of agricultural life and hold an inborn fondness for those associations which, even in hours of discouragement, I cannot deny.

I believe in leadership from ourselves and respect from others. I believe in my own ability to work efficiently and think clearly, with such knowledge and skill as I can secure, and in the ability of progressive agriculturists to serve our own and the public interest in producing and marketing the product of our toil.

I believe in less dependence on begging and more power in bargaining; in the life abundant and enough honest wealth to help make it so—for others as well as myself; in less need for charity and more of it when needed; in being happy myself and playing square with those whose happiness depends upon me.

I believe that American agriculture can and will hold true to the best

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## OFFICIAL SCRAP BOOK ATWATER FFA 2017-2018



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# **Official Atwater FFA Scrapbook**

**Atwater, CA**

**Location**

**Anessa Cardenas**

**President**

**Grace Reyes**

**Reporter**

**Stephania Valdovinos**

**Historian**



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# ATWATER FFA CHAPTER OFFICERS



**Anessa Cardenas**



**Jasmine Sandoval**



**Dillon Guillen**



**Zion Brigham**



**Grace Reyes**



**Jonathan Garcia**



**Stephanie Valdovinos**

**BRANCHING OUT TOGETHER**



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# ADVISOR'S

# MESSAGE

## Advisor's Message



Kaylyn Davenport, Natalie Borba, Kim Macintosh, Dan Platt, Jose Vargas, Sam Meredith, Shelby West and Dave Gossman

Dear Chapter Members,

The Advisors of the Atwater FFA would like to welcome each and every new and old member alike to the Atwater FFA and Agriculture program for the 2017-2018 school year.

The mission of the Atwater FFA and Atwater High School Agriculture Department is to lead, assist, and motivate the members of the FFA in providing high quality agricultural education that is equitable and efficient, that prepares students for higher education, employment, and citizenship, and promotes students' intellectual, ethical and cultural growth.

We are committed to make a positive difference in the lives of young people through the variety of resources and opportunities agriculture education and the FFA have to offer. We believe we have something of academic, personal, or career value for all of our students and we encourage all of you to take advantage of the opportunities that have made the Atwater High School agriculture program one of the most productive programs in the state and nation!

We look forward to working with all of you and experience all the successes and adventures that the 2017-2018 school year has ahead!

Sincerely,

Dan Platt, Kaylyn Davenport, Dave Gossman, Kim Macintosh, Natalie Borba,  
Shelby West, Jose Vargas and Sam Meredith

The Atwater FFA Advisors



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# SAE



# PROJECTS



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# Merced



Daisy Flores, showing her Market Swine SAE on Show Day June 7th 2017.



Catalina Diaz, with her Dairy Heifer SAE Project at the Merced County Fair on June 5th 2017.



100+ Atwater FFA Livestock Team Members at the Merced County Fair on June 7th 2017.



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Ricardo Ortega , Belinda Espinoza,  
and Madison Hall with their Rabbit  
SAE on June 8th 2017.



## Days Of Summer



Over 20 Atwater FFA members  
enjoyed showing rabbits at the  
Merced County Fair.



Over 40 swine exhibitors after the  
showmanship round at the Merced  
County Fair.



# County Fair



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Joel Rojas, working on his metal project using the plasma cutter .



# A G W E L D I N G

Eduardo Lopez, welding metal during class as a project for a final.



Sukhjinder Singh, works hard to complete his barrel smoker project before the end of the year.

Anthony Jimenez, working on grinding down his BBQ grill as a final project for Welding Tech 1.





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# Environmental



Eduardo Arroyo, Gabriel Vasquez, and Gladys Santoyo transplant plant plugs to get ready for the plant sale.



Fernando Jeronimo, transplants broccoli plants into the school garden plots.



Marie Cornado, May Vang, and many others transplant plant plugs into wooden tool boxes.



Giovanni Sandoval, and Mayra Espinoza transport young trees while preparing for the plant sale.



# Horticulture



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Ms. West, performing a necropsy in front of the class in order to find the cause of death.



Sydney Ramos, Kirstina Gaut, Esperanza Aguilar, and many others help with the vaccination of baby goats.

# VETERINARY SCIENCE



Aphrodite Gomez, Chelsea Thompson, and Callie Norton clip chicken wings as part of a class project.



Ms. West, inspecting the digestive system of a goat to find the cause of death.





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# FLORICULTURE



Kathy Vargas, Aaron Smith, and Elisa Cardenas making Christmas Wreath Arrangements for customers.

Hayley Burris, working on a center piece arrangement for the Merced County Teacher Dinner.



Liliana Vargas, and Jennifer Velasquez making Japanese inspired centerpieces.



The Advanced Floral Design class making Hydrangea arrangements for an MCOE Dinner.



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**Audrey Esau, working on her picnic table project for the Atwater FFA plant sale.**



**Nicholas Giesbrecht, working on his picnic table project as part of his final exam.**



**Amy Cocio, working on her jewelry box project which she will use as a gift for her mother.**



**Tyler Brawley, working on his dresser project as part of his final exam during Woodshop.**





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Arley Gonzalez, Celeste Chargoy, Dakota Jones, and many others from 0 period Ag Explorations transplant plants as part of a class project.



Emmanuel Peral, making sure the baby rabbits are safe, and accounted for as part of a class project.



The Ag Explorations class transplanting plant plugs to get ready for the Atwater FFA plant sale.



Celeste Chargoy, and Arly Gonzalez vet checking the goats as part of a class project.



# AG EXPLORATIONS



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Anna Lozano, happily receiving an award for her diligence and dedication.



Zion Brigham, and his family happy to be at the Sectional Project Comp Banquet.



9 hard working Atwater FFA members and advisors at the Sectional Project Comp Banquet on February 7th 2018.



Kaya Briscoe, presenting her rabbit breeding project.



Nicholas Giesbrecht, presenting his wood work project.



COMPETITION



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# COMMUNITY



# SERVICE



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# OPERATION

Abby Wilson, Kara Isham, and Chelsea Thompson preparing boxes for international shipping.



Cassidy Kingston, packing boxes with an assortment of essentials.

Hannah Carillo, Sayra Ramos, Melissa Ramos, and Emily McCartney packing boxes with supplies.



Sayra Ramos, preparing boxes that will soon be shipped.



# CHRISTMAS CHILD



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A young boy is delighted to receive wooden toy trucks from Atwater FFA.



Edwin Martinez and Vincent Gonzalez deliver toy trucks to young children.



Callie Norton, Vanessa Varela, Natalie Frontella, Emmanuel Mejia, and Dillon Guillen help assemble toy trucks for the toy drive.



Wood shop students and CDE teams unite to build toy trucks for the Toys for Tots Toy Drive  
#wingup #tistheseason #communityfirst #ffa



Twitter post provided by Atwater FFA.



# Toys for Tots



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# Napa/ Santa Rosa



Atwater FFA members, Sophia Rhoades, Joel Rojas, and Jose Montanez help with the donation collection.



Atwater FFA's Vice President, Jasmine Sandoval, helps load the trailer with donations collected from the community.



Twitter post provided by the Atwater FFA on October 18th 2017.



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Tuesday, October 17, 2017

ATWATER, Calif. (KFSN) -- Staff and students at Atwater High School are pitching in to help wildfire victims in Northern California.

Three trucks and trailers full of donations hit this road early Tuesday morning. The call went out for help locally after teachers at Atwater High checked in on a former student teacher Victor Evans, now teaching in Santa Rosa.

While Evans' school and home escaped the flames he said their campus had become a refuge for evacuees and the need was great for food, clothing, and animal supplies.

"They opened up the school farms, if they didn't open up the school farms, they went down to the local fairs, the local shelters, and just started opening up and helping and feeding those animals and give them someplace safe to go."

The supplies were gathered by Atwater High and other local schools. Donations also came in from FFA students that had supplies left over from the Big Fresno Fair.

**A news article provided by ABC  
30 News on October 17th 2017.**



**Twitter post provided by Atwater  
FFA on October 18th 2017.**



# FIRE ASSISTANCE



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# SHAFFER ELEMENTARY AG DAY



Around 20 Atwater FFA members attended and presented at the Shaffer Elementary Ag day to advocate and teach about Agriculture.



Abby Wilson, Belinda Espinoza, Callie Norton, and Victoria Lopez talking to students in the 3rd grade about Dairy Goats.



Tweet posted on March 20th by Atwater FFA.



Chapter Vice President, Jasmine Sandoval, talking about Floriculture during Ag day.



Atwater FFA students talking about Horticulture while describing how to plant carrot seeds in a glove.



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# Atwater Beautification



Mr. Vargas, provides direction to students on the areas that need cleaning during the Atwater Beautification meeting.

Dakota Jones, and Tatiana Marquez preparing to clean the Atwater High School campus.



Lily Ramirez, helping clean up the Atwater High School Agriculture Department.



Estrella Venancio, and Arely Venegas helping pick up garbage around the Atwater High School Quad.





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# LEADERSHIP





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24 Atwater FFA members were glad to have been given the opportunity to be at the 89th Annual State FFA Leadership Conference.



The new 2017-2018 State Officers ready to start a new year of service, including our very own, Jasmine Flores.



# CALIFORNIA STATE FFA LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE ELECTRIFY



California State FFA President thanking Atwater High School staff for their continuous support.

Instagram post provided by Atwater FFA.





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# OFFICER RETREAT



Atwater FFA chapter Officers showcasing their theme 'Branching Out Together' for the 2017-2018 school year.



Chapter Officers participating in a team building activity in Reno, Nevada.



Zion Brigham, Daisy Flores, Mr. Vargas, and Callie Norton ready to go river rafting as a bonding activity.



Atwater FFA Chapter Officers and MMS Officers in Squaw Valley where the 1960 Winter Olympics took place.





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26 Freshman attended the Greenhand leadership conference on August 25th 2017.



Daniel Narez, and Rylie Wagner participating in a teamwork activity at GLC on August 25th 2017.



Sera Campanario, participating in a trust activity with members from other chapters at GLC.



Joshua Vann, and Simarjot Gandhoke getting ready to start a teamwork activity at GLC on August 25th 2017.





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# SOLC



Atwater FFA Chapter officers with State Vice President, Jasmine Flores, getting ready to initiate with MMS Sectional Officers.

Atwater FFA Chapter officers ready to take the leadership skills learned and apply them to the chapter.



Merced Mariposa Sectional Officers and Atwater FFA Chapter Officers at the MMS Leadership Conference held on September 12th 2017.



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# Chapter Officer Leadership Conference



Chapter Secretary, Dillon Gullien, meeting with State Officers Genevieve Regli, and Bobby Marchy.



Chapter President, Anessa Cardenas, making new friends.

Atwater FFA Chapter Officers ready to Stand up, Stand out, and Stand together for this up coming year.





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# GREENHAND



Patricia Mena, Simarjot Gandhoke, and Carlos Avila dyeing their hands green as part of national FFA week.



Nandani Patel, Adriana Espinoza, and Erika Silva excited to have green hands.



Kelsi Kamesch, dyeing Mr. Vargas' hand as part of his initiation into the Atwater FFA program.



Emily Ruiz, Deja Oliveras, and Maria Espinoza dyeing their hands green to start off the day.

# DEGREE





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# CHAPTER FARMER



Alexis Sanchez, Grecia Ayala, Arly Gonzalez, Briana Valencia, and Alondra Marquez happy to receive their greenhand degree on November 15th 2017.



Mr. Gossman, talks to numerous members and guest about the importance of agriculture in our community at the GH/CF Banquet.



Litz Suastigi, and Flor Agundis embrace Ms. Macintosh after they received their Chapter Farmer degrees.

Micheal Bray, and Chapter President Anessa Cardenas happy to start the Greenhand Chapter Farmer Banquet on November 15th 2017.



Chapter Officers with newly elected Greenhand officers on November 15th 2017.

# BANQUET





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## Made For Excellence

**16 Atwater FFA members attended two leadership conferences intended for sophomores and juniors.**



**Natalie Frontella, and Kaya Briscoe talk to the State Sentinel and President about important leadership qualities.**

### FFA Students Attend State Leadership Academy

Sixteen Atwater High School FFA students joined over three hundred and fifty students from central and northern California FFA chapters for the State Leadership Academy (SLA), and Advanced Leadership Academy (ALA) conference on February 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> at the DoubleTree by Hilton in Modesto, California. This two-day conference is designed primarily for high school sophomores, juniors, and seniors. The SLA curriculum focuses on the personal growth of each individual. Students learned about using conflict resolution techniques, experiments, writing goals, and building self-esteem. Each student created a plan of action which outlined a game plan to accomplish their individual high school and career goals. The ALA course focuses on improving leadership skills, identifying important agriculture issues, and communicating these important aspects to the school and community.

The National and California FFA Organization offer FFA members a series of five leadership and personal growth conferences. Throughout the 2017-2018 school year, the Atwater FFA has sent students to various California locations to participate in the Inland Empire Leadership, Made for Excellence Leadership and Advanced Leadership Academy, Sacramento Leadership, and Washington DC Leadership conferences.

"We are fortunate to have a strong support network with our school administration, district, and especially the Atwater community, who have supported fundraisers that have raised \$3,000 to help pay for student conference and transportation fees," reports Natalie Briscoe, one of eight current serving Atwater High School FFA advisors. "Our number one priority is getting students involved and providing them opportunities for scholastic, personal, and career success, and without the support of parents, the Atwater High School administration, and members of the community, we would not be able to provide students the opportunity to participate in these special events."

Atwater FFA members who attended the leadership conference were (MFL) Michael Brice, Alyssa Camillo, Luc Solis, Jennifer Rodriguez, Emmanuel Mejia, Hayley Vargas, Crystal Vargas, Mariah Castro, Daisy Ponce Mejia, Khrystina Escamilla, JALU, Karylynne Briscoe-Morris, Natalie Frontella, Aracelis Cardenas, Stephanie Vasquez, Zion Brigham, and Emily Jones.

For more information on the Atwater High School Agriculture Department and Atwater FFA, please log on the website [www.atwaterffa.org](http://www.atwaterffa.org).



**Zion Brigham, and Natalie Frontella talk to State Vice President, Jasmine Flores, about our chapter meetings.**

**Newspaper article by Atwater FFA.**



## Advanced Leadership Academy



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# FFA



# ACTIVITIES



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# CAL POLY STATE



**30+ Atwater FFA members happy to have received awards after the award ceremony at the Judging Team State Finals.**



**30+ Atwater FFA members getting ready to head to the beach to have some fun before the State Finals Competition.**



**Mai Vang, Jasmine Sandoval, Jennifer Zavala, Samantha Theodozio, and Mrs. Davenport happy to have won a state championship for Floral Design.**



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The Marketing Plan team happy to have placed 5th at the State FFA Judging Team Finals.



The Agronomy Team excited to have won the State title at the Cal Poly State Finals.

The Horticulture Team happy to have won a state championship during the Cal Poly State Finals.



The Floriculture team happy to have won a Sate title at State Finals held in Cal Poly.

# FINALS 2017



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26 Atwater FFA members getting ready to ride attractions and enjoy the beach.

**Newspaper article provided by Atwater FFA.**

Atwater High School Agriculture Department  
Atwater FFA  
1301 Highland Ave.  
Atwater, CA 95301  
(209) 537-4629



**PRESS RELEASE**

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(209) 453-6880 (fax)

Date: August 13, 2017

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE - [Website](#) by Atwater FFA

**Atwater FFA Students Remained Engaged Throughout the Summer**

For most high school students, the school year ends the first week of June. For most high school agriculture students, the summer season extends beyond vacation with various agriculture and FFA-related events and activities keeping them active and involved.

Getting students involved outside the classroom is a primary focus with the Atwater High School agriculture program. Throughout the spring and summer this past year, over one hundred students raised livestock (sheep, goats, cattle, and swine) at the Atwater County Fair. An additional forty students raised and exhibited adult and poultry projects, while hundreds of agriculture mechanics (shop) students showcased hundreds of shop projects at the fair. "The experience and skills obtained go beyond the awards and the shop. It's about responsibility and a work ethic," said FFA advisor Sam Merabian. "For many students, this is a taste of what it's like in the real world and as an adult."

During the summer, the Atwater FFA recognizes each year's most active, hardworking students from the previous school year with an incentive trip centered on recreation and fun. Twenty-six students spent at the Santa Cruz Boardwalk. "It's always rewarding to share a new experience with students involving travel to somewhere they have never gone," said Atwater FFA advisor Shelley Ward. Atwater High School students who attended the summer trip included Anissa Carrillo, Ana Lopez, Araceli Carrillo, Audra Tate, Carter Norman, Colby Platt, Courtney Clineburn, Crystal Hernandez, Daisy Flores, Emily Luna, Emmanuel Mejia, Joanne Flores, Jeff Clark, Josh Rojas, Jose Montano, Kiana Brinson, Kelli Kamehiki, Madison Hall, Mariana Garcia, Michael Reyes, Natalie Prosser, Nathaniel Gaudin, Sidney Wiley, Sidney Barrios, Stephanie Valdivia, and Jon Brighman.

Earlier this month, the new 2017-2018 chapter officers as well as students who were elected as sectional and regional officers went to Lake Tahoe, CA and Reno, NV for a leadership retreat. The trip involved various team building and leadership activities and provided the students and program with a strong foundation for students to be engaged in leadership roles to help inspire, encourage, and motivate this year's group of new and continuing agriculture education students at Atwater High School.

Atwater FFA (Facebook) - [www.ffa.org](#)  
Having fun at the FFA Point Awards Trip! #agriculture #pointawards #atwaterffa



Twitter Post provided by Atwater FFA.

# Point Award Trip



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Mr. Meredith, excited to have some ice cream during the Social on August 30th 2017.



Daliha Flores, is ecstatic to be having ice cream at the Social on August 30th 2017.

Atwater FFA Chapter Officers serving ice cream to over 200 people during the Ice Cream Social on August 30th 2017.



Morgan Collins, Moria Conway, and Theresa Cavallero happy to have ice cream along with friends.





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Janell Cribbs, Chapter Vice President  
Jasmine Sandoval, and Chapter  
President Anessa Cardenas happy to  
be at the meeting.



Pablo Gomez, playing corn hole at  
the Pool Party meeting on September  
11th 2017.



Jason White, Mark Ramirez, Tobias  
Fredson, and Victor Medina having  
fun in the pool.



Valerie Sanchez, Gabriel Vasquez,  
Connor Briner, Anthony Hernandez,  
Xitlalic Alvarado, and Kathy Vargas  
happy to be at the meeting.



Jaimie Colores, Cassandra Presido,  
Stefanie Sanchez, Daniel Narez,  
Cristal Venegas, and Arly Gonzalez  
excited to start the meeting.

# POOL PARTY MEETING



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A total of 10 teams were at the Opening and Closing Ceremonies Contest held on October 11th 2017.



Sydney Wiemer receiving the Outstanding Vice President Award at the Opening and Closing Contest.



Kaleb Hand, Dakota Jones, Luis Hernandez, Madison Ainslie, Celeste Chargoy, and Arly Gonzalez prepare for the Opening and Closing Ceremonies Contest on October 11th 2017.



# Opening and Closing



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Hayley Vargas, happy to have won the Pumpkin Drawing competition at the Corn Maze Meeting on October 19th 2017.

Simarjot Gandhoke , Belinda Fernandez, Oscar DeLa Rosa, Kelvin Sterling, and Gerardo Marquez happy to be at Dell'Osso Farms.



Over 50 students attended the Corn Maze Trip to Dell'Osso Farms on October 19th 2017.

Jay Dugdale, Alexis Sanchez, Perla Caballero, Braulio Gutierrez, Alex Cruz, Marissa Harper, and Natalie Francisco happy to get the meeting started.



# Corn Maze





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Sidney Miller, excited to meet Frank Mason, a player for the Sacramento Kings.



Over 20 Atwater FFA members happy to be able to watch the Sacramento Kings vs Toronto Raptors Basketball Game.



Ms. West, and Callie Norton seeing who can shoot the most balls into the hoop.



Mr. Vargas, and Mr. Avila ecstatic to be able to see the game.



Twitter post provided by the Sacramento Kings on December 10th 2017.



# Sacramento Kings Game





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Over 50 Atwater FFA members attended the Morning Wave Meeting on December 18th 2017.

Newspaper Article provided by Atwater FFA.



Gissele Sanchez, Maren Reed, and Chaeney Puthuff happy to be celebrating the holidays.

Jasmine Sandoval, Anna Lozano, Anessa Cardenas, Colby Flattt, and others happy to have the meeting start.

#### Atwater High School Agriculture Department

Atwater FFA  
2301 Trullaland Ave  
Atwater, CA 95310  
(209) 357-4025



Grace Reyes - Chapter FFA Reporter

#### PRESS RELEASE

##### Contact Information

Grace Reyes (FFA Reporter) / Mr. Dave Goodman (FFA Advisor)  
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Atwater, CA 95310  
(209) 357-4025 (office)  
(209) 357-4067 (fax)

Date: December 21, 2017

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE - Written by: Grace Reyes - Atwater FFA

#### Atwater FFA "Waves" in the Holiday Season

During the last week of the 17<sup>th</sup> semester, just before the Christmas break, over 200 Atwater FFA students braved the cold weather and gathered at the Ag Department for the annual "Morning Wave" at 8:30 am. The idea was created by FFA advisor Dave Goodman who, while visiting in Bermuda in the late 1980's, was inspired by the country's famous luxury ferries who stood at the road leading into the city of Hamilton every weekday morning (rain or shine) to wave and greet everyone driving into work.

For the past fourteen years, the Atwater FFA utilizes its December FFA meeting as a way to gather and socialize over hot chocolate, hot cider, and muffins and proceed to the main corner of the school to greet, wave, and wish everyone a "Happy Holiday" season.

"It's been a great tradition," said FFA advisor Sam Hernandez, "The best part is seeing the smile and enthusiasm on the members' driving in their vehicles. I think we make them day!"

For more information on the Atwater High School Agriculture Department and Atwater FFA, please log on the website [www.atwaterffa.org](http://www.atwaterffa.org).



# Morning Wave



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# MOVIE NIGHT MEETING



Maria Espinoza, Marlet Rios, Isabele Marillo, and Belinda Paz excited to start the meeting.



Daisy Flores and Kelsi Kamech happy to be watching Guardians of the Galaxy during Movie Night.

Sidney Miller and Sydney Ramos talking about the upcoming events at the Movie Night event.



Chapter Secretary, Dillon Guillen, asking his friend to formal at the Movie Night event on January 17th 2018.





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# ATWATER FFA DRIVE THRU BBQ'S



Daisy Flores, Arley Venegas, and Jamsin Hurtado preparing take out bags for the BBQ.



Emily Junez, handing happy customers their meals.



Chapter President, Anessa Cardenas, selling eggs to BBQ customers to help the AHS poultry facility.



Newspaper article provided by Atwater FFA.



Gabriela Moreno, Maria Ruelas, Lizzy Suastigi, and other members help wrap and bag tri-tip for the hungry customers.



Instagram post provided by Atwater FFA.





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# Super Saturday



Anna Lozano, Stephanie Valdovinos, Jennifer Velasquez, and Ms. Macintosh celebrate their accomplishments in the Extemporaneous Public Speaking Contest at Merced College on January 27, 2018.



Atwater FFA public speakers receive many awards at the Merced-Mariposa Section Super Saturday on January 27, 2018.



Mrs. Davenport, Allison Melander, Dillion Guillen, Kaya Briscoe, Callie Norton, and Alyssa Carillo celebrate their accomplishments in the Prepared Public Speaking Sectional Contest.



Freshman students celebrating their hard work in the sectional FFA creed competition.

Atwater High School Agriculture Department  
Atwater FFA  
2201 Highland Ave  
Atwater, CA 95301  
(209) 531-6025



Grace Royce - Chapter FFA Reporter

## Atwater FFA Students Qualify for Regional Speaking Finals

The Atwater High School FFA joined over 100 FFA speaking contestants, representing these high school agriculture programs throughout Merced and Mariposa counties at the annual Merced-Mariposa FFA Public Speaking Sectional Finals at Merced College January 27th. The top four individual finalists in each speaking contest advance to the regional finals in February. Atwater FFA had seven of the twenty sectional finalists, advancing to the regional finals next month.

Atwater High School agriculture students Stephanie Valdovinos (2nd overall), Jennifer Velasquez (3rd overall), and Anna Lozano (5th overall) placed in the top four in Extemporaneous Speaking which qualifies them for the regional finals. In Extemporaneous Speaking, students are presented with a choice of three questions related to agricultural current events and, in 30 minutes, prepare a seven-minute speech answering the selected question. Students may consult articles and evidence they gather prior to the contest, but may not use the Internet during preparation. Topics range from local-specific issues to national world concerns relating to agriculture.

Atwater High School agriculture program senior Dillon Guillen placed 2nd overall in Prepared Public Speaking with senior Callie Norton (3rd overall) and Allison Melander (5th overall) also qualifying for the regional finals. The three qualifying speeches covered topics on gene editing, farmer mental health, and farm security within the agriculture industry. The contest for all participants involves a 5-minute speech on an agriculture-related topic, a written manuscript which is scored, and a question and answer period between the contestant and judges following the speech. Alyssa Carillo and Kaya Briscoe Martin also participated and earned top finishes.

Atwater High School agriculture program sophomore Emmanuel Mags placed 1st overall and will be moving onto the regional finals in the Impromptu Speaking contest. The impromptu speech is given without any preparation, any notes or other additional materials. It is a spontaneous reaction to an agriculture-related topic at hand which may introduce an interesting turn to the discussion. Emily Jones (2nd overall), Uliana Vargas, and Natalie Forrester also competed in the sectional finals.

Atwater High School agriculture program junior Anissa Cardenas placed 3rd overall in the Job Interview contest which involves students completing a cover letter, resume, job application, and career interview. This event emphasizes developing, practicing, and demonstrating skills needed when seeking employment. Other Atwater FFA members that competed in the Job Interview contest included Dier Rojas, Jennifer Sandoval, and Daisy Flores-Rios, and.

Freshman agriculture students Luc Soto (3rd overall) and Alyssa Carillo (12th overall) made it to the section's final round and placed in the top one-third of the competitors. This event is designed to recognize outstanding FFA members for their ability to present the FFA Creed from memory and answer questions on the meaning and purpose of the FFA Creed. The event is just one way FFA members can develop their ability to communicate in a powerful, organized and professional manner. Members boost their self-confidence and earn recognition. City Sandoval and Dier Vargas also competed in the sectional finals.

"Being a good communicator is one of the foundations of success towards personal and career development," says Atwater FFA Advisor Kim Macintosh. "Our agriculture program is very proud of our students' efforts, participation, courage, and enthusiasm in this event."

Newspaper article provided by  
Atwater FFA.



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# Arbuckle Field Day



Daisy Flores, happy to have placed in the Job Interview Contest at Arbuckle Field Day on February 3rd 2018.

The Land Judging Team with Audrey Esau placing as a high individual at the Arbuckle Field Day on February 3rd 2018.



The Agronomy Team excited to have placed at the Arbuckle Field Day on February 3rd 2018.

Farm Business Management Team ecstatic to have placed at their very first contest at Arbuckle on February 3rd 2018.



Over 50 Atwater FFA members attended the Arbuckle Field Day on February 3rd 2018.





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# NATIONAL FFA WEEK



Ag Biology students showing camo spirit on Camo Day for National FFA Week.



Instagram post provided by Atwater FFA.



Over 40 Atwater FFA members attended the Thursday lunch activity which involved kissing a goat on March 1st 2018.



20+ Atwater FFA members attended the Annual National FFA Week basketball game at El Capitan High School on February 29th 2018.



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The Poultry Team was happy to have placed 2nd at the UC Davis Field Day on March 3rd 2018.



The Land and Soil Evaluation Team ready to compete at the West Hills Field Day on March 3rd 2018.



The Meat Evaluation Team happy to have received 5th place at the UC Davis Field Day on March 3rd 2018.



The Agriculture Mechanics Team happy to have had a day of learning at the West Hills Field Day on March 3rd 2018.



# UC Davis / West Hills



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# CHICO STATE FIELD DAY



The Floral Judging Team on March 10th 2018.



The B.I.G. Team on March 10th 2018.



Over 40 Atwater FFA members attended the Chico State Field Day on March 10th 2018.



The Dairy Products Team happy to have placed 2nd on March 10th 2018.



The Horticulture Team on March 10th 2018.



The Poultry Judging Team happy to have placed 1st on March 10th 2018.



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# Merced College Field Day



**24 Atwater FFA members competed in the Merced College Field Day.**



**Instagram post provided by Atwater FFA on March 17, 2018.**

Atwater High School  
Atwater FFA  
2201 Portland Ave.  
Atwater, CA 95321  
(209) 537-4525

Grain Raiser - Chapter FFA Reporter

## Atwater FFA Earns Honors at Agriculture Skills Competition

Atwater high school FFA members joined over 1400 registered agriculture high school students throughout California at the annual National FFA Field Day on March 17th. Atwater FFA's high quality and dairy teams were the school with a 17 place team along with strong showings from the Land and Soil Evaluation, Agriculture Mechanics, Soil, Interview, and Vegetable Crops teams.

"Our students continue to take advantage of opportunities to be successful personally, academically, and towards their future endeavors," said Atwater FFA Advisor Jan Hawkins. "The opportunity FFA and career development events that are organized by various colleges and universities such as Merced College, provide students a tremendous opportunity to grow and develop personally and academically."

The Atwater FFA 17 place high quality and dairy teams were comprised of Natalie Morales (1st overall, breeded Cows (2nd overall), Cattle Nutrition, and Live and Impairment). Other participants included Alyssa Carrillo, Anthony Hernandez, Emerson Sanchez, and Valerie Carlos. The contest involves high quality evaluation, milk fat identification, cheese identification, "top to bottom" dairy products, and a written exam pertaining to the dairy industry.

The Atwater FFA 4th place Land and Soil Evaluation team included Michael Bray, Audrey Shaw, Jose Ruiz, and Arturo Vazquez. The contest involves the evaluation and interpretation of soils and soil profiles. Students analyze various soil pits and determine soil texture, water holding capacity, and erosion characteristics while associated the data with agriculture applications.

The Atwater FFA Ag Mechanics team of Jose Ruiz, Daisy Flores-Molina, Samuel Perez, Peter Caballero, and Monica Corona placed 12th overall 12th overall on welding in a contest involving hands on application skills in welding, electrical, and fluid welding & cutting skills, tool identification, and a written exam on all aspects of agriculture mechanics.

The Atwater FFA best informed breeder (BIB) team placed 4th overall in the section and was led by Jessica Aguilar, Gabby Nolas, and Isabella Landwehr. The contest requires the student to understand the aims, purposes, history, and structure of the local, state, and national FFA student organizations and know the opportunities it makes available as referenced in the current National FFA Manual and State Constitution.

Atwater high school agriculture program junior Anissa Carlsener participated in the job interview contest which involved students completing a cover letter, resume, job application, and panel interview. This event emphasizes developing, practicing, and demonstrating skills needed when seeking employment.

The Atwater FFA vegetable crops team comprised of Dillon Guillen, Jose Hernandez, Stephanie Rodriguez, and Victor Vega had a strong showing in a contest designed to create interest and provide understanding in the vegetable crop industry by providing opportunities for recognition through the demonstration of skills and proficiencies.

The next FFA Field Day competition is on Saturday, March 25th at Modesto Junior College with over 2000 high school agriculture students expected to compete from all over California in various hands on application and critical thinking skills.

For more information on this event, upcoming events, and information on the Atwater FFA, log on their website at [www.atwaterffa.org](http://www.atwaterffa.org) or follow them on Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram.

**Newspaper Article by Atwater FFA.**



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# MODESTO JUNIOR COLLEGE FIELD DAY



Over 30 Atwater FFA members competed at the MJC Field Day on March 24th 2018.



The Milk and Dairy Products Team happy to have placed 2nd at the MJC Field Day on March 24th 2018.

Modesto Junior College Agriculture Department  
Presents the

## Atwater FFA Lams Honors at Agriculture Skills Competition

Modesto Junior College's Lams Honors contest was held at Modesto Junior College's Agriculture Department on March 24th. The contest was held in the evening and was open to all students who are members of the FFA organization.

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Newspaper article by Atwater FFA.

Farm Business Management Team excited to place 4th at the MJC Field Day.



The Poultry Team ecstatic to have placed 1st at the MJC Contest on March 24th 2018.





NOTE: There may be a 1/8" variance from the final, printed product.



# CAL POLY



Falcon FFA

#### Attorney 118 Students Earn Top State Recognition and Awards

over more than 100 high schools throughout the state and over 100 individual high school students competing, the annual high school regatta has 87% of its participants earning recognition and awards that put them at the top of the state. During the 2000 Regatta State University, San Diego, San Jose State University, and California State University-Concord were taken about over the past couple weeks.

The students who bring quality and care to their food (such as warm blankets, hand-dyed, and handmade kumogata) played 2P events in the past. They were championing in a context where students demonstrate their courage, pride in work quality (crafting), creative identification, and a complete care for food, and a central focus on the daily laboratory.

The Institute for Marketing Plan (IMP) comprised of Jimmie Santoluc, Jimmie Carberry, and Albert Hernandez shared 27 percent of the 2014-2015 Championship in a contest that aims to effectively prepare students for the opportunities and expectations of the agricultural business workplace. Students seeking careers in agricultural business must develop a high degree of knowledge and skill as well as the capacity to create and present a marketing plan.

As students learn to participate in the various forms of academic work, they learn to work with others, to work with their own emotions, to work with their own beliefs, to work with their own values, to work with their own identity, to work with their own culture, to work with their own community, to work with their own world. They learn to work with their own life.

[illegible]

During the 83<sup>rd</sup> annual California State Leadership Conference held in Anaheim a few weeks ago, 15,000 11th-graders were recognized throughout the state in front of just 1,000 high school agriculture students in attendance. Another 15,000 new 11th-grade students who the California State Proficiency award in Small Animal Production, the application is now going on to the National 11th for national recognition. Another 15,000 students from the state were recognized as one of the state's 100 top performers. Multiple languages, areas covered, and California students from all schooling theories and programs in various areas were the individuals that to a small but thoughtful state.

Newspaper Article provided by  
Atwater FFA.



Over 40 Atwater FFA members competed at the 2018 Cal Poly State Finals on May 5th 2018.

**The Land and Soil Evaluation Team enjoying time at the beach before competing at the Cal Poly State competition.**



**The Farm Business Management Team happy to have placed 5th at Cal Poly State Finals.**



# STATE FINALS 2018



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