**ND FFA Leadership Development Events (LDE)**

**Creed Speaking:**

 “I believe in the future of agriculture, with a faith born not of words but of deeds…” The FFA Creed Speaking LDE recognizes outstanding FFA members in seventh through ninth grades for their ability to present the National FFA Creed from memory and answer three questions related to it.

 The FFA Creed outlines the organization’s values and beliefs regarding the industry of agriculture, FFA membership, and citizenship and patriotism. Students participating in the Creed Speaking LDE learn to communicate in a powerful, organized and professional manner and build self-confidence.

**Demonstration:**

 During the Demonstration LDE, students prepare a demonstration on an agricultural topic related to some facet of agricultural education and FFA. Students who are sophomores or younger demonstrate to a panel of judges a skill or process related to agriculture that is five to fifteen minutes in length.

 This LDE promotes and informs the public about the many facets of the agricultural education instructional program. The Demonstration LDE enables students to explain a topic in a planned and proficient method.

**Employment Skills:**

 Participants in the Employment Skills LDE get a leg up on their future careers by developing the skills needed to seek employment in the agriculture industry.

 This LDE simulates real-world activities used by employers and tests students’ ability to perform effectively throughout the employment process. Students submit a cover letter and resume; complete an application and participate in a face–to–face interview.

 In this LDE, students will use many leadership skills including active listening, problem–solving and decision making as well as improve their written and oral communication skills. This event also helps students in their current search for jobs, internships, and part-time and full-time employment in any career field.

**Extemporaneous Public Speaking:**

 Students participating in the Extemporaneous Public Speaking LDE showcase their agricultural knowledge and ability to think on their feet by giving a speech and answering questions with limited prep time.

 During this event, participants select from a list of agricultural topics then selects one of interest. Students select the topic of their speech and have 30 minutes to prepare. Participants then present a four to six-minute speech on their topic to a panel of judges. After their speech, students answer questions on the topic they just presented.

 This event challenges students to practice their presentation skills, articulation, and logical thinking and advocate for agriculture and agricultural education.

**Prepared Public Speaking:**

 During the Prepared Public Speaking LDE, students write and deliver a six to eight-minute speech about a current agriculture-related topic.

 Students research a topic of interest and then put together a creative, informative speech. The speech is then presented to a panel of judges, who score the student based on the speech’s content, composition and delivery.

**Conduct of Chapter Meetings:**

 This introduces FFA members to parliamentary procedure as they learn how to conduct efficient meetings and build their communication skills.

 Designed for FFA members in 7 – 9th grade, this LDE challenges a team of seven students from one chapter to demonstrate correct use of FFA opening and closing ceremonies. Students will learn to communicate and participate effectively as a team while growing skills in effective decision making.