

Gladbrook-Reinbeck Community High School Agriculture Teacher  
Selected for Educator Award

Ankeny, IA - Jeffrey Mayes, agricultural educator at Gladbrook-Reinbeck High School in Reinbeck, Iowa, received the prestigious Iowa Association of Agricultural Educators (IAAE) Turn the Key Award, given July 29th at the IAAE annual convention in Ankeny.

The Teachers Turn the Key Award program (TTTTK) is a scholarship to allow early career agricultural educators to attend the annual National Association of Agricultural Educators (NAAE) convention, giving them an opportunity to become involved with their professional association on a national level. TTTK participants take part in special programming geared toward early career agricultural educators.

Mayes has been the agricultural teacher at Gladbrook-Reinbeck High School since 2008. He creates a learning environment where students are not only encouraged to ask questions, but also to challenge their own beliefs. By helping students step outside their comfort zones, encouraging them to work with others, and helping them turn overwhelming tasks into manageable chunks, Mayes is preparing his youth for a world after high school.

Mayes has also been very inventive as the Gladbrook-Reinbeck FFA Chapter Advisor by creating a Chapter Officer Leadership Training (COLT). COLT is a leadership training event that created the opportunity for local chapter officers to network with other chapter officers from across state in small groups. Last year Gladbrook-Reinbeck teamed up with the Sioux Central FFA Chapter and next year they are hoping to add two more chapters to the leadership training.

As the recipient of the IAAE Teachers Turn the Key winner Mr. Mayes will be receiving a plaque and a scholarship to cover convention registration, travel expenses, and housing during the NAAE convention in St Louis. RAM Truck Brand sponsors the TTTK program as a special project of the National FFA Foundation.

IAAE is the professional association for agricultural educators. The vision of IAAE is to be the premier organization for advancing Agricultural Education in Iowa.

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