



2025 Kansas State Degree

KS

KS0045

604164217

2



Student Approval

Applicant Name

Josie Kueser

Chapter Name

Ellsworth

- I have maintained records to substantiate my supervised agricultural experience program which exhibit comprehensive planning, managerial and financial expertise and will provide these records to my local and state FFA advisors and staff, or their designated representatives, on demand.
- I have prepared this application and certify that the records are true, complete and accurate, and that I hereby permit for publicity purposes the use of any information included in the application.

2/20/2025 11:04:00 PM

Date

Josie Kueser

Candidate's Signature

Advisor Approval

- I have reviewed this applicant's supervised agricultural experience (SAE) records and verify they exist and exhibit comprehensive planning, managerial and financial expertise.
- I have verified the application and find that the statements contained herein match the applicants SAE records and are such that I am able to recommend the applicant for the Degree/Award.
- Furthermore, I verify that the applicant has conducted him/herself in a manner to be a credit to the organization, chapter, school and community.

Date

Chapter Advisor Signature

Parent/Guardian Approval

- I have examined this application and find that the records are true, accurate and complete. We hereby permit for publicity purposes the use of any information included in this application.

2/20/2025 6:39:00 PM

Date

Katie Kueser katiekueser@yahoo.com

Parent/Guardian Signature

Principal or Superintendent Approval

- I hereby certify this applicant has achieved a high school record of "C" or better and has a satisfactory record of scholarship and participation in school activities.

2/20/2025 4:12:00 PM

Date

Ron Davis, Jr. rdavis@usd327.org

School Principal or Superintendent



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Applicant Contact Information

Name as you want it to appear on the certificate

Josie Kueser

Gender

Female

Address

136 21st Rd

Email Address

josiekueser@usd327.org

Parent/Guardian Name

John Kueser

Parent/Guardian Occupation

Rancher

Name on the FFA Chapter Roster (if different)

Name Pronunciation

Josie Key-zer

State

KS

Zip Code

67439

Home Phone

7855319204

Parent/Guardian Name

Katie Kueser

Parent/Guardian Occupation

Elanco Animal Health

Chapter Information

FFA Chapter Name

Ellsworth

School Address

211 WEST 11TH

School Phone

785/472-4471

School Name

Ellsworth Jr/Sr High School

School City

Ellsworth

School State

KS

School Zip Code

67439

Chapter Advisor(s)

Karl Dawn Stover; Kara Quilter

FFA History

Year FFA Membership Began

2020

Had continuous active FFA membership for the past 24 months?

Yes

Year Received Greenhand Degree

2023

Year Received Chapter Degree

2024

Have your State and National FFA Dues been paid?

Yes

Education Information

High School Graduation Year

2026

If not, give date left school

Years of Ag Education Offered (grades 7-12) in high school last attended

6.00

Ag Education completed in High School

Years: 3.00

Hours: 585

Postsecondary/Vo-Tech Education Completed

Semesters:

Quarters:

Four-year College Completed

Semesters:

Quarters:

Major

School Attended

Military Duty - Dates of Full-Time Active Military Duty

World Experiences in Agriculture - Date of International Placement





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Basic Award Setup Information

I. Application Dates

Began Agricultural Education
8/24/2020

Application Ending Date
12/31/2024

II. SAE Types

- ☐ Exploratory, Supplemental, or Improvement
- ☐ Research
- ☒ Placement
- ☒ Entrepreneurship

III. Assets

1. Current/Operating Assets	Value at Beginning Date	Value at Ending Date
a. Cash on hand, checking and savings	\$1,500	\$17,413
b. Cash value - bonds, stocks, life insurance	\$0	\$0
c. Notes & Accounts Receivable	\$0	\$0
d. Current Inventory (Entrepreneurship Experiences)		Itemized ending inventory values are reported on "Ending Current Inventory" page.
1. Investment in harvesting and growing crops	\$0	
2. Investment in feed, seed, fertilizer, chemical, supplies, prepaid expenses, and other current assets	\$0	
3. Investment in merchandise, crops and animals purchased for resale	\$0	
4. Investment in raised market livestock & poultry	\$0	
2. Non-Current Inventory	Value at Beginning Date	Value at Ending Date
a. Investment in non-depreciable draft, pleasure, and breeding animals	\$0	Itemized ending inventory values are reported on "Ending Non-Current Inventory" page.
b. Investment in depreciable draft, pleasure, and breeding animals	\$0	
c. Investment in depreciable machinery, equipment, and fixtures	\$0	
d. Investment in depreciable land improvements, buildings, and fixtures	\$0	
e. Investment in land	\$0	

IV. Liabilities	Value at Beginning Date	Value at Ending Date
a. Accounts and notes payable	\$0	\$0
b. Current portion of non-current debt (the portion of non-current debt during this calendar year)	\$0	\$15,300
c. Real Estate Mortgages (total real estate mortgages minus current portions)	\$0	\$0
d. Other non-current liabilities (total other non-current liabilities minus current portions)	\$0	\$61,200

V. Personal Cash Income & Expense	Total Value
a. Sources of cash gifts	\$500
b. Sources of cash from Ag related (non-SAE) and personal earnings	\$0
c. (Deduct) Total Personal Expense/Draw	\$582
d. (Deduct) Education Expenses Taken Out	\$0





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Supervised Agricultural Experience - Placement and Exploratory

2020

Pathway	Employer or Project Name Job Title, Responsibilities, or Project Description	Unpaid Hours	Paid Hours	Total Hours	Gross Earnings	Current Expenses
Animal Systems	Kueser Ranch Since I have grown up on a family ranch, I do not get paid for my labor as it is just expected from me. This year, I was allowed to go with another employee of Kueser Ranch to spray musk thistle so that I could learn how to identify and eradicate noxious prairie weeds. I was also asked to ride the perimeter of pastures when we are gathering cattle. This is a very big responsibility because I have to be sure that all of the cattle are off the edges of the fence before I return to the herd.	745		745		
	TOTAL	745		745		

2021

Pathway	Employer or Project Name Job Title, Responsibilities, or Project Description	Unpaid Hours	Paid Hours	Total Hours	Gross Earnings	Current Expenses
Animal Systems	Kueser Ranch This year I spent more time with my employer doing daily tasks such as fixing fences, feeding cows and riding horses more frequently. I learned how to properly construct an electric fence using different kinds of wire and materials. I also started taking on my responsibility with the horses on the ranch by feeding, grooming and monitoring their overall health. Even though I am older, I am still required to do small, repetitive tasks that I still do not get paid for.	905		905		
	TOTAL	905		905		

2022

Pathway	Employer or Project Name Job Title, Responsibilities, or Project Description	Unpaid Hours	Paid Hours	Total Hours	Gross Earnings	Current Expenses
Animal Systems	Kueser Ranch In 2022, I started breaking a colt. My employer and I went in 50/50 on a filly and I have started to train her on a halter. I hope to eventually progress to a typical bridle set by the end of 2023. I continued to check on cattle, fence and other pasture features like musk thistle and cedar tree populations. I also continued monitoring water levels in tanks, ponds, and creeks during dry summer months which was grueling but even though I did not get paid, I know it was the right thing to do.	1065		1065		
	TOTAL	1065		1065		

2023

Pathway	Employer or Project Name Job Title, Responsibilities, or Project Description	Unpaid Hours	Paid Hours	Total Hours	Gross Earnings	Current Expenses
Animal Systems	Kueser Ranch I was able to finally ride my colt for the first time which is a very big accomplishment to any horseman. By being able to ride her, I was able to ride the older horses less and begin riding her in the evenings. This summer, I was trusted to monitor mineral tubs and water levels during the scorching summer months to ensure all livestock on the ranch stayed healthy. This summer was very long and difficult because of the severe temperatures but I still worked these hours as an unpaid employee.	1225		1225		
	TOTAL	1225		1225		

2024



Pathway	Employer or Project Name Job Title, Responsibilities, or Project Description	Unpaid Hours	Paid Hours	Total Hours	Gross Earnings	Current Expenses
Animal Systems	Kueser Ranch My duties at Kueser Ranch have continued to increase as I grow up and become more knowledgeable. My responsibilities this year included helping with livestock, maintaining pastureland, and performing routine tasks to help increase efficiency. Some everyday activities I perform in my job this year include machinery maintenance and livestock monitoring. Outcomes for my work in this year include being promoted to organizing a summer thistle crew along with delegating tasks to these individuals.	1300		1300		
	TOTAL	1300		1300		





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Supervised Agricultural Experience - Entrepreneurship

2020

Pathway	Name & Description	Size/Scope of Enterprise
Animal Systems	Josie Kueser Cattle Ranch I worked as day help at Kueser Ranch and was compensated for my time with multiple black angus cattle. I started by helping work calves and working in the summer. I also helped the ranch manager feed cattle in the winter. This is where I learned breeding and feeding techniques.	9 head

2021

Pathway	Name & Description	Size/Scope of Enterprise
Animal Systems	Josie Kueser Cattle Ranch My responsibilities continued to increase this year on Kueser Ranch. I started started helping neighbors work calves and in return, they provided physical labor or advice to questions I had. I also continued to help the ranch manager feed cattle in the winter. During this time, I asked questions about the industry and how the ranch was operated. By asking more questions, I became more educated and interested about diving deeper into the beef industry.	9 head

2022

Pathway	Name & Description	Size/Scope of Enterprise
Agribusiness Systems	Elkhorn Silver My SAE project started in December of this year. My SAE is based on designing, fabricating, marketing and selling my handmade, unique sterling silver jewelry items. This year, I learned basic techniques that include soldering, polishing and marketing. My SAE will be ongoing for the foreseeable future. A few key moments for me this year were selling my first piece while being 100% profitable while also growing my customer base and gaining interest in my business. I created 5 speciality pieces.	1 Metal Crafts Business
Animal Systems	Josie Kueser Cattle Ranch At the county fair in previous years, I had always envied the beef project. I had always been used to working with cows in a pen or on horseback, never at the end of a halter. I accomplished my goal of breaking and showing a steer at the fair while also maintaining my 9 head of . This opened my eyes to formulating and properly feeding rations to a finisher steer. I was also given the opportunity to see my steer hanging on the rack in the packing plant in the carcass show.	9 head

2023

Pathway	Name & Description	Size/Scope of Enterprise
Agribusiness Systems	Elkhorn Silver This was my first full year of managing my SAE and it was very eye opening to see all of the different components that go into running a business. This year, I continued to develop and advance my skills and techniques by experimenting with new materials and equipment. I have developed different systems and methods that have helped me become more efficient in the production process. My SAE were awarded Grand Champion Visual Arts at the county fair. I created 36 jewelry pieces.	1 Metal Crafts Business
Animal Systems	Josie Kueser Cattle Ranch My responsibilities continue to increase on the ranch which led me to become more interested in owning my own livestock. Fortunately, I was approached with a deal from my grandparents who were looking to sell their 51 head cow herd at a discounted price. This deal would be the perfect opportunity to get my foot in the door of the beef industry along with starting my own cattle herd. I was able to apply my knowledge and skills I had learned to my own herd of cattle.	60 head

2024



Pathway	Name & Description	Size/Scope of Enterprise
Agribusiness Systems	Elkhorn Silver Elkhorn Silver grew exponentially this year. A few things I learned this year were how to better market my products to my target audience, different record keeping strategies, and different fabrication techniques to make new pieces. I was able to make two different kinds of small metal projects this year that I was not able to previously fabricate. By learning new skills, I was able to increase the quality of my work which allowed me to simultaneously increase prices, making me more profitable.	1 Metal Crafts Business
Animal Systems	Josie Kueser Cattle Ranch This is the first year I was able to make money off of a calf crop after selling calves on the market. While maintaining my daily duties, I was also charged with managing the grassland my cattle are living on. Being able to check my cattle for sickness, breeding readiness, and seasonal illness is important to ensure the well-being and longevity of my herd. My involvement and interest in the beef industry has led me to be more active on the family ranch and instilled a passion to learn more.	60 head





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Candidate Inventory Statement - Current Inventory

A. Harvested and Growing Crops/Plants on 12/31/2024

Description	Quantity	Value
	TOTAL	

B. Feed, Seed, Fertilizer, Chemicals, Supplies, Prepaid Expenses, and other Current Assets on 12/31/2024

Description	Quantity	Value
	TOTAL	

C. Merchandise, Crops, and Animals Purchased for Resale on 12/31/2024

Description	Quantity	Value
	TOTAL	

D. Raised Market Animals on 12/31/2024

Description	Quantity	Value
	TOTAL	





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Candidate Inventory Statement - Non-Current Inventory

E. Non-Depreciable Draft, Pleasure, or Breeding Animals on 12/31/2024

Description	Quantity	Ending Total Value
	TOTAL	

F. Depreciable Draft, Pleasure, or Breeding Animals on 12/31/2024

Description	Quantity	Acquisition Cost	Depreciation Claimed	Value
JK 1-60 - 1	1.00	\$1,500	\$149	\$1,351
JK 1-60 - 2	1.00	\$1,500	\$149	\$1,351
JK 1-60 - 3	1.00	\$1,500	\$149	\$1,351
JK 1-60 - 4	1.00	\$1,500	\$149	\$1,351
JK 1-60 - 5	1.00	\$1,500	\$149	\$1,351
Josie 5	1.00	\$1,500	\$372	\$1,128
Josie 9	1.00	\$1,500	\$372	\$1,128
Josie 8	1.00	\$1,500	\$372	\$1,128
Josie 7	1.00	\$1,500	\$372	\$1,128
JK 1-60 - 10	1.00	\$1,500	\$149	\$1,351
JK 1-60 - 11	1.00	\$1,500	\$149	\$1,351
JK 1-60 - 12	1.00	\$1,500	\$149	\$1,351
JK 1-60 - 13	1.00	\$1,500	\$149	\$1,351
JK 1-60 - 14	1.00	\$1,500	\$149	\$1,351
JK 1-60 - 15	1.00	\$1,500	\$149	\$1,351
JK 1-60 - 16	1.00	\$1,500	\$149	\$1,351
JK 1-60 - 17	1.00	\$1,500	\$149	\$1,351
JK 1-60 - 18	1.00	\$1,500	\$149	\$1,351
JK 1-60 - 19	1.00	\$1,500	\$149	\$1,351
JK 1-60 - 20	1.00	\$1,500	\$149	\$1,351
JK 1-60 - 21	1.00	\$1,500	\$149	\$1,351
JK 1-60 - 22	1.00	\$1,500	\$149	\$1,351
JK 1-60 - 23	1.00	\$1,500	\$149	\$1,351
JK 1-60 - 24	1.00	\$1,500	\$149	\$1,351
JK 1-60 - 25	1.00	\$1,500	\$149	\$1,351
JK 1-60 - 26	1.00	\$1,500	\$149	\$1,351
JK 1-60 - 27	1.00	\$1,500	\$149	\$1,351
JK 1-60 - 28	1.00	\$1,500	\$149	\$1,351
JK 1-60 - 29	1.00	\$1,500	\$149	\$1,351
JK 1-60 - 30	1.00	\$1,500	\$149	\$1,351
JK 1-60 - 31	1.00	\$1,500	\$149	\$1,351
JK 1-60 - 32	1.00	\$1,500	\$149	\$1,351
JK 1-60 - 33	1.00	\$1,500	\$149	\$1,351
JK 1-60 - 34	1.00	\$1,500	\$149	\$1,351
JK 1-60 - 35	1.00	\$1,500	\$149	\$1,351
JK 1-60 - 36	1.00	\$1,500	\$149	\$1,351
JK 1-60 - 37	1.00	\$1,500	\$149	\$1,351



JK 1-60 - 38	1.00	\$1,500	\$149	\$1,351
JK 1-60 - 39	1.00	\$1,500	\$149	\$1,351
JK 1-60 - 40	1.00	\$1,500	\$149	\$1,351
JK 1-60 - 41	1.00	\$1,500	\$149	\$1,351
JK 1-60 - 42	1.00	\$1,500	\$149	\$1,351
JK 1-60 - 43	1.00	\$1,500	\$149	\$1,351
JK 1-60 - 44	1.00	\$1,500	\$149	\$1,351
JK 1-60 - 45	1.00	\$1,500	\$149	\$1,351
JK 1-60 - 46	1.00	\$1,500	\$149	\$1,351
JK 1-60 - 47	1.00	\$1,500	\$149	\$1,351
JK 1-60 - 48	1.00	\$1,500	\$149	\$1,351
JK 1-60 - 49	1.00	\$1,500	\$149	\$1,351
JK 1-60 - 50	1.00	\$1,500	\$149	\$1,351
JK 1-60 - 51	1.00	\$1,500	\$149	\$1,351
JK 1-60 - 52	1.00	\$1,500	\$149	\$1,351
JK 1-60 - 53	1.00	\$1,500	\$149	\$1,351
JK 1-60 - 54	1.00	\$1,500	\$149	\$1,351
JK 1-60 - 55	1.00	\$1,500	\$149	\$1,351
Josie 1	1.00	\$1,500	\$0	\$1,500
Josie 2	1.00	\$1,500	\$0	\$1,500
Josie 3	1.00	\$1,500	\$0	\$1,500
Josie 4	1.00	\$1,500	\$0	\$1,500
Josie 6	1.00	\$1,500	\$372	\$1,128
HORSE-HARLEY- MARE	1.00	\$1,200	\$180	\$1,020
	TOTAL	\$91,200	\$9,626	\$81,574

G. Depreciable Machinery, Equipment, and Fixtures on 12/31/2024

Description	Acquisition Cost	Depreciation Claimed	Value
Propane precision torch	\$80	\$6	\$74
Tungsten pick	\$5	\$0	\$5
Soldering Tweezers	\$5	\$0	\$5
Third Hand Base	\$10	\$1	\$9
Flat Nosed Pliers	\$10	\$1	\$10
Round Nosed Pliers	\$10	\$1	\$9
Side Cutters	\$8	\$1	\$7
Metal Sheers	\$10	\$1	\$9
Solderite Soldering Block	\$12	\$1	\$11
Rock Tumbler w/ Steel Shot	\$50	\$1	\$49
Handheld Dremel and accessories	\$50	\$3	\$47
Fine Sandpaper and Files	\$15	\$1	\$14
Copper Tweezers	\$5	\$0	\$5
Sheet silver	\$200	\$3	\$198
Cabachons/Stones	\$200	\$5	\$195
Rope borders and accents	\$75	\$2	\$74
	TOTAL	\$745	\$720

H. Depreciable Land Improvements, Buildings, and Fences on 12/31/2024



Description	Acquisition Cost	Depreciation Claimed	Value
TOTAL			

I. Land on 12/31/2024

Description	Quantity	Acquisition Cost
	TOTAL	



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Income and Expense Summary of SAE Program

	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	Total
1. Revenues from Operations						
a. Closing Current Inventory	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$14,758	\$0	\$0
b. Beginning Current Inventory	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$14,758	\$0
c. Change in Current Inventory	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$14,758	-\$14,758	\$0
d. Cash Sales	\$9,100	\$9,000	\$11,603	\$12,425	\$96,280	\$138,408
e. Value Used at Home (Non-cash)	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
f. Value of Production Transferred to other enterprise, Transferred to Non-Current, Bartered or Labor Exchanged (Non-cash)	\$5,000	\$5,500	\$5,000	\$0	\$0	\$15,500
g. Gross Revenues (Change in Current Inventory and Total Sales)	\$14,100	\$14,500	\$16,603	\$27,183	\$81,522	\$153,908
2. Expenses from Operations						
a. Inventory Purchased for Resale (Cash)	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
b. Inventory Purchased for Resale (Non-Cash Transfers)	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
c. Cash Expenses (all other types)	\$0	\$0	\$86	\$50,591	\$56,291	\$106,968
d. Non-Cash Expenses (Transferred, Bartered, or SAE Labor Exchange)	\$5,000	\$5,500	\$5,000	\$0	\$0	\$15,500
e. Contributed Non-Cash Expenses (Gift or non-SAE Labor Exchange)	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
f. Total Operating Expenses	\$5,000	\$5,500	\$5,086	\$50,591	\$56,291	\$122,468
3. Net Income from Operations	\$9,100	\$9,000	\$11,517	-\$23,408	\$25,231	\$31,440
4. Non-Current Inventory						
a. Closing Inventory	\$13,128	\$12,756	\$13,524	\$86,532	\$82,294	\$82,294
b. Transfer in from Operations (Non-Cash Transfers of non-current assets)	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
c. Contributed Inventory (Outside contribution of non-current assets - gift)	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
d. Purchases	\$13,500	\$0	\$1,200	\$77,245	\$0	\$91,945
e. Beginning Inventory	\$0	\$13,128	\$12,756	\$13,524	\$86,532	\$0
f. Sales	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
g. Non-Cash Sales	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
h. Net Non-Current Transactions	-\$372	-\$372	-\$432	-\$4,238	-\$4,238	-\$9,651
5. Net Income From Operations & Net Non-Current Transactions	\$8,728	\$8,628	\$11,085	-\$27,645	\$20,993	\$21,789
6. Annual Profitability Measures						
a. Operating Profit Margin (OPM) Net Operating Income/Totals Sales = % of sales related to profit	65%	62%	69%		31%	20%
b. % of Total Returns from Net Non-Current Gains (Net Non-Current Gains/Total Gains)						
c. Review Non-Current Ending Inv. Value						
7. Non-Cash Transfer/Exchange Review						
a. Check if Non-Cash Transactions are Balanced	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
b. Difference that non-cash income categories Non-Cash minus Non-Current Expenses are off	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0





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Financial Balance Sheet Statement - Assets & Liabilities

A. Assets	Beginning Value	Ending Value
1. Current Assets		
a. Cash on hand, checking and savings	\$1,500	\$17,413
b. Cash Value - Bonds, stocks, life insurance	\$0	\$0
c. Notes & Accounts Receivable	\$0	\$0
d. Current Inventory (Entrepreneurship Experiences)		
1. Investment in harvesting and growing crops/plants	\$0	\$0
2. Investment in feed, seed, fertilizer, chemical, supplies, prepaid expenses, and other current assets	\$0	\$0
3. Investment in merchandise, crops, and animals purchased for resale	\$0	\$0
4. Investment in raised market animals	\$0	\$0
e. Total Current Inventory	\$0	\$0
f. Total Current Assets	\$1,500	\$17,413
2. Non-Current Assets		
a. Non-Current Inventory		
1. Investment in non-depreciable draft, pleasure, and breeding animals	\$0	\$0
2. Investment in depreciable draft, pleasure, and breeding animals	\$0	\$81,574
3. Investment in depreciable machinery, equipment, and fixtures	\$0	\$720
4. Investment in depreciable land improvements, buildings, and fences	\$0	\$0
5. Investment in land	\$0	\$0
b. Total Non-Current Assets	\$0	\$82,294
3. Total Assets	\$1,500	\$99,707
B. Liabilities		
1. Current Liabilities		
a. Accounts and Notes Payable	\$0	\$0
b. Current Portion of Non-Current Debt (the portion of non-current debt during this calendar year)	\$0	\$15,300
c. Total Current Liabilities	\$0	\$15,300
2. Non-Current Liabilities		
a. Real Estate Mortgages	\$0	\$0
b. Other Non-Current Liabilities	\$0	\$61,200
c. Total Non-Current Liabilities	\$0	\$61,200
3. Total Liabilities	\$0	\$76,500





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Financial Balance Sheet Information - Personal Contribution & Net Worth

C. Summary of Contributed Capital (Personal Finances in Balance Sheet)

1. Beginning Value	\$1,500
2. Sources of Cash Gifts	\$500
3. Sources of Cash from Ag Related (non-SAE) and personal earnings	\$0
4. Sources of Non-Cash Contributions (Current and Non-Current)	\$0
5. (Deduct) Non-Cash Sales for "Used at Home"	\$0
6. (Deduct) Total Personal Draw	\$582
7. (Deduct) Education Expenses Taken Out	\$0
8. Net Personal Contribution	\$1,418

D. Net Worth	Beginning Value	Ending Value
1. Contributed Capital (Represents the value of personal contribution)	\$1,500	\$1,418
2. Retained Earnings (Represents the value of SAE net income, entrepreneurship, placement, research)		\$21,789
3. Total Net Worth	\$1,500	\$23,207
4. Total Liabilities & Net Worth	\$1,500	\$99,707
E. Accuracy Check for the Balance Sheet (Assets = Liabilities + Equity) & Growth		
1. Beginning Value	MET	
2. Ending Value		MET
3. Difference (met = \$0)	\$0	\$0
4. Total Growth in Equity		\$21,707
F. Financial Management Ratios		
1. Current Ratio (Measure of Liquidity) (Current Assets/Current Liabilities)		1.14
2. Working Capital (Measure of Liquidity) (Total Current Assets minus Total Current Liabilities)	\$1,500	\$2,113





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Financial Balance Sheet Statement - Earnings & Productively Invested

G. SAE Earnings

1. Placement SAE Earnings (Cash)	\$0
2. Entrepreneurship SAE Earnings (Cash & Non-Cash)	\$21,789
3. Total SAE Earnings (Retained Earnings)	\$21,789

H. Productively Invested

1. Change in Net Worth (Productively Invested from Operations)	\$21,707
2. (Add) Total Educational Expenses (Personal Use)	\$0
3. (Deduct) Net Sources of Assets from Gifts or Non-SAE	\$0
4. Total Growth in Productively Invested	\$21,707

I. Unpaid Hours

1. Total Unpaid Hours	5,240
2. Factor Per Hour	3.56
3. Unpaid hours allowance (hours x rate)	18,654

J. Qualification Check

	Your Value	Condition
Qualified under at least one option (Details of each option are listed below)		Met
Option 1 Conditions - Qualification on Finances		
a. Productively Invested at least \$2000	\$21,707	Met
b. SAE Earnings at least \$2000	\$21,789	Met
Option 2 Conditions - Qualification on Unpaid Hours		
a. Unpaid Hours at least 600	5,240	Met
Option 3 Conditions - Qualification on Combination		
a. Unpaid Hours/600 + Productively Invested/\$2000 is at least 100%	1,959%	Met
b. Unpaid Hours/600 + SAE Earnings/\$2000 is at least 100%	1,963%	Met





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Skills, Competencies, and Knowledge

A. Skills, Competencies, Knowledge

AFNR Performance Indicator		Contributions to Success
10	CRP.04.03 Model active listening strategies when interacting with others in formal and informal settings.	Working with family can be very stressful but thankfully I have developed strategies that have helped me be able to effectively communicate with those around me. One of the most functional communication methods I have discovered is to simply listen to what the other person is thinking before making any final decisions. By fully understanding what is being discussed and considered, I am able to make better decisions and judgments that will be correct the first time so I can minimize my mistakes.
9	CS.02.01 Research and use geographic and economic data to solve problems in AFNR systems.	In my animal science class that I am currently enrolled in, I have learned more about the agriculture industry from many different perspectives. On one occasion, I was asked to read brands on cattle that had been mixed in with my employers cattle. I quickly remembered all of the different names, symbols and meaning that a brand can have. By being able to use the things I learn in class, I have the capabilities to teach older generations something new being incorporated into our curriculum.
8	CRP.01.02 Evaluate and consider the near-term and long-term impacts of personal and professional decisions on employers and community before taking action.	Often while on the job, I have to make quick decisions while also taking into consideration the ripple effect my actions will have on the livestock I am providing for. There are occasions that I come across a cow or bull that catches my eye. It is usually because of a lethargic look, lame walk or sickly demeanor. After detecting the potentially injured animal, I have to think quickly and effectively to make the best decision for that animal while also considering what is best for the operation.
7	AS.07.01 Design programs to prevent animal diseases, parasites and other disorders and ensure animal welfare.	On Kueser Ranch, at roughly one month old, calves are given their first round of vaccinations that include Nuplura, Titanium and Blackleg, and their first dose of Permetrin. Their first time in the chute is when they get their second dose of Titanium while also getting their first dose of pink eye. In the final round of vaccinations, calves receive the first dose of Nuplura, Titanium, Blackleg and Ivermectin. The cattle that I have accumulated also follow this exact vaccination schedule.
6	ABS.04.03 Identify and apply strategies to manage or mitigate risk.	With Kueser Ranch being a sixth generation ranch, my family and I have adopted old practices while also embracing new technology and advanced production practices like rotational grazing. Rotational grazing is being utilized to keep pasture land at its highest quality to provide the most resilient pasture land for its grazing livestock. The cattle on the ranch are cared for at a higher standard which, in turn, makes them less susceptible to illness or injury which decreases the risk of loss.
5	AS.02.01 Demonstrate management techniques that ensure animal welfare.	When we work calves in the spring, it is usually their first interaction with humans and horses. This means that everything we do to that calf while they are being worked will leave a permanent mark in those calves' memory of what humans are like. By creating a positive first experience, calves will be more willing to work with humans instead of being afraid when they come across human interaction. As the calves grow up, they will be run through chutes which is much easier if they are calm.
4	AS.03.01 Analyze the nutritional needs of animals.	During the cold winter months, I help my employer feed and supplement the gestating cows to ensure they are getting all of the nutrients and forage they need. When heavy snowfall covers pastures, it packs down the grass so the cattle have to scavenge for any exposed grass which can be very physically taxing. By providing the cattle with brome, alfalfa or prairie hay, they are able to use more energy to develop their calf and stay warm instead of rummaging through the grass.



3	AS.04.01 Evaluate animals for breeding readiness and soundness.	Kueser Ranch uses natural service breeding which means the bulls will be turned out with cows to breed naturally. Before the bulls can be turned out on to the cows, they have to be tested for their semen quality. If a bull fails this exam, they are usually sold to prevent injuries to the cows. The cows are given vaccinations to ensure they are healthy enough to have a full term pregnancy. My herd goes through the same breeding soundness exams as well to ensure longevity of my herd.
2	AS.05.01 Design animal housing, equipment and handling facilities for the major systems of animal production.	I have been helping my employer mend fence for many years but now I truly understand the importance of high quality, sound structured fence. I recently helped my boss go around a full section of fence before breeding season to ensure that all strings of wire were tight and secured to the posts. It was a very good learning experience because now I know how to properly mend fence to ensure that my cattle will be safe and secure in the pastures they inhabit during different seasons.
1	AS.04.02 Apply scientific principles to select and care for breeding animals.	Each year, cows are palpated to determine if they have been bred during the allotted breeding season. If the cow is not bred or not suited to carry a calf for the entire gestation period, the decision must be made to cull these cows. Most of the time, if you keep these cows in your herd, they will be the ones you always have troubles with during calving. It is best to cull them from the breeding program as soon as possible to guarantee general herd health and fertility rates remain consistent.





2025 Kansas State Degree

Leadership/FFA Activities

Activity	Chapter	Area, District or Region	State	National Finals Multi-State	National
CDE: Horse - Horse Judging Invitational		24			
CDE: Horse - Kansas state fair Competitions			23		
CDE: Horse - NCD Horse CDE		23			
CDE: Horse - State Fair Horse Show			22		
CDE: Junior Prepared Public Speaking - Prepared Public Speaking		23			
CDE: Livestock - Cloud County Livestock Judging		23			
CDE: Livestock - HCC Winter Judging Classic			23		
CDE: Livestock - State CDEs			23		
CDE: Meats Evaluation - Meats CDE		24			
CDE: Meats Evaluation - Meats Judging CDE		23			
CDE: Meats Evaluation - State CDEs			23		
CDE: Meats Evaluation - State Meats Judging			24		
CDE: Parliamentary Procedure - NCD Leadership School: Senior Parliamentary Proced		24			
CDE: Parliamentary Procedure - Parliamentary Procedure CDE		22			
CDE: Poultry - Poultry Judging CDE		24			
CDE: Senior Chapter Conducting - NCD Leadership School: Leadership Information Test		24			
CDE: Senior Prepared Public Speaking - Conservation Speech Contest	23				
Christmas FFA Meeting	24				
Christmas FFA Social Meeting	22				
Christmas Meeting	23				
Conservation Speech Contest			24		
Cow Town Days Concession	23				
District Banquet		24			
EI FFA Fiesta	23				
Elementary Literacy Day	24				
Ellsworth FFA Career Day	23				
Ettique Dinner	23				
FFA Back to School Bash and Meeting	23				
FFA Banquet	24				
FFA Bowling Party	24				
FFA Leadership For Teachers	24				
FFA Officer Meeting and Worknight	24				
FFA Officer Retreat	24				
CDE: Horse - Horse CDE		24			
CDE: Extemporaneous Speaking - State Extemp Contest			24		
CDE: Extemporaneous Speaking - Public Speaking LDE		24			
CDE: Entomology - Entomology CDE		23			
CDE: Discussion Meet - Discussion meet LDE		24			
CDE: Dairy Cattle - Dairy Judging	22				
CDE: Dairy Cattle - Dairy CDE		23			
CDE: Agronomy - Agronomy CDE		23			
CDE: Agricultural Sales - State Ag Sales Judging			24		



CDE: Agricultural Sales - NCD Agricultural Sales		24			
CDE: Agricultural Sales - NCD Ag Sales CDE		23			
CDE: Agricultural Issues Forum - State Ag Issues			24		
CDE: Agricultural Issues Forum - National Ag Issues LDE					24
CDE: Agricultural Issues Forum - Ag Issues LDE		24			
CDE: Agricultural Communications - State Ag Communications Judging			24		
CDE: Agricultural Communications - Ag Communication CDE		23			
Block Party with FFA	23				
Beef Expo			22		
Back to School Night	23				
Back to School FFA Bash	24				
Alumni Softball	24				
Ag Awareness Day	24				
A Very Bearcat Christmas	24				
95th Kansas FFA Convention			23		
FFA Pizza Party	24				
FFA Silent and work auction	24				
FFA Slip and Slide meeting	22				
FFA Work Auction	23				
First Bank Kansas presentation	24				
Fruit Meat and Cheese Sales	24				
Halloween Meeting	23				
Information Test LDE		22			
Junior Officer Retreat	23,24				
JV Concessions	22,24				
JV Football Concessions	22,23,24				
Kansas State Fair			24		
Kansas state fair Competitions			23		
Kids Ag Day		24			
Mexican Fiesta Meeting	24				
Mobile Dairy Classroom	24				
November FFA meeting	24				
Office: Secretary	23				
Officer Meeting	23				
Officer meeting and Worknight	24				
Officer Retreat	23				
Open House Night	24				
Pink out week	23				
Ritual LDE		22			
Rodeo Concessions	24				
Rooster Booster Fundraiser	23				
Safety Day	24				
State Convention SAE finalist			24		
Varsity Concessions	24				
Varsity Football Concessions	23,24				
Very Bearcat Christmas	23				





2025 Kansas State Degree

Community Service

2023

Individual / Group / Organization to whom service was PROVIDED	Service performed and whom you performed the service with if applicable	Hours
Bearcats Give Back- USD 327	Painted visitor bleachers for a service learning project.	6.00
Ellsworth County Cancer Fund	I helped design a T-shirt for the Ellsworth County Cancer Fund. We sold these shirts and all the money was given to cancer patients in the county.	4.00
Free Community Breakfast Feed - USD 327	Worked at the community breakfast feed.	2.00
TOTAL		12.00

2024

Individual / Group / Organization to whom service was PROVIDED	Service performed and whom you performed the service with if applicable	Hours
Bearcats Give Back - Good Sams Retirement Home	Helped pull weeds, clean landscaping beds and rearrange and move furniture at Good Sam locations	4.00
Ellsworth County Cancer Fund	I helped organize a silent auction for the Ellsworth County Cancer Fund. All monies went to help cancer patients in Ellsworth County.	6.00
Ellsworth County Fair Board	Helped during fair week with set up and clean up along with working as a scribe during static judging and helped get animals lined up during the beef show and premium auction. I helped clean before and after the shows	10.00
Ellsworth County Food Bank	Helped collect cans for food bank by going and asking door-to-door. I helped deliver the cans as well.	5.00
Free Community Breakfast Feed - USD 327	Helped cook breakfast for the community. I assisted with clean up as well.	4.00
TOTAL		29.00

Qualification Check

	Your Value	Condition
At least 2 different activities	8	MET
At least 25 hours	41.0	MET





2025 Kansas State Degree

Checklist of Minimum Qualifications

Item	Value
Candidate has been an active FFA member for at least 24 months.	MET
Candidate has the Chapter and Greenhand FFA Degree.	MET
Applicant must have completed at least 2 full years (360 hours) of agriculture, or all of the agriculture offered at the school last attended.	MET
Non-cash income and expense is balanced each year on the Income/Expense Report.	MET
Accuracy Check for the Balance Sheet (Assets = Liabilities + Equity) & Growth	MET
Candidate has recorded of at least 25 hours community service and at least 2 different activities. (Organizations and activities must be manually reviewed in records.)	PENDING REVIEW
Student qualifies for the Degree with earnings, productively invested, and hours.	MET
Student has done at least 8 activities above the chapter level. Activities must be manually reviewed in records.	PENDING REVIEW
Candidate has obtained the required electronic signatures and approvals.	MET





2025 Kansas State Degree

State Degree Manual Review Sheet of Qualifications

Circle	Initial
Y N	

1. Has the candidate been a chapter officer or serve on a major committee as listed below.

_____ Chapter FFA Officer: _____
_____ FFA Committee Chairman: _____
_____ FFA Committee Member: _____

Circle	Initial
Y N	

2. Has the candidate performed at least 10 Parliamentary Procedure abilities?

- | | |
|----------|-----------|
| 1. _____ | 6. _____ |
| 2. _____ | 7. _____ |
| 3. _____ | 8. _____ |
| 4. _____ | 9. _____ |
| 5. _____ | 10. _____ |

Circle	Initial
Y N	

3. Has the candidate given a six-minute agricultural related speech or demonstration? Please provide details below.

1. (Title) _____ (Length) _____

Circle	Initial
Y N	

4. Has the candidate attached signed SAE agreements (or SAE plans) for all SAEs listed in the application?
(Attached to this application)

Circle	Initial
Y N	

5. Are all the Skills, Competency, and Knowledge listed in the application complete and accurately represents the student's experiences.

Circle	Initial
Y N	

6. As the advisor, I have reviewed the complete application and information listed in this manual review sheet and confirms the candidate's information is accurate and meets all qualifications.

All information is accurate and represents the work of the student.

Signature of FFA Advisor

Date



State Star Farmer

KS

KS0045

604164217



Applicant Information

Candidate Name

Josie Kueser

FFA Chapter Name

Ellsworth

Star Type

Application Type

Star Farmer

Application Level

State

Primary Pathway

Animal Systems

Submission Order

Organize and print your entire application in the following order:

1. FFA Degree Application
2. FFA Star Application
3. Additional Application Attachments





1. Describe the SAE project(s) included in this application as completely and specifically as possible in the space allowed.

Kueser Ranch is a sixth generation cattle ranch that also farms to help provide for livestock kept on the ranch. The ranch manages over 400 black Angus cattle on over 6,000 acres of native, smoky hill grass located in Ellsworth County. Kueser Ranch is managing around 30 bulls that will be turned out in the summer months of June to September to naturally service cows that are mature enough to produce a calf. My employer also asks me to keep an eye on mineral levels in the feeders strategically placed around different pastures, commonly around water sources. I work on a daily basis to help maintain livestock while simultaneously monitoring grassland health. For compensation for my work on the ranch, I was given an opportunity to buy cattle and grow my herd. Through the years, I had accumulated and bought nine cows that were already involved in the Kueser Ranch breeding program. This new deal gave me the opportunity to buy 51 head to round out my herd at an even 60 head. I am currently working towards paying for these cows over a five year plan. My direct involvement in the industry has led me to become more interested about starting my own herd and having assets. As I grow up, I see the importance and value of long term investments which will allow me to support myself through college and early adult life. Owning my own cattle will be a way that I can apply my accumulated knowledge and skills in real world situations within the beef industry as a new producer.

2. Briefly explain how your roles, responsibilities, and/or management decisions related to this award area changed.

When I was younger, my main responsibilities consisted of doing small daily chores and getting gates for the ranch manager while feeding. As I have grown up, I have become more passionate about the agriculture industry and more specifically, the beef industry. I have grown up on Kueser Ranch so I have always been involved in the production agriculture industry and have been raised to appreciate the hard work it takes to own livestock. As a gift and as compensation for working on the ranch, I was gifted nine cows over the course of my childhood. Now that I am old enough to manage and monitor my own cows, I decided to take advantage of a deal that my grandparents presented. They were looking to get out of the cattle business and wanted to give their grandchildren an opportunity to make the long term investments of purchasing cattle. I am currently in the process of buying 51 head of red Angus cattle on a five year payment plan. The entire negotiation and ownership process has been very educational in terms of how business and deals work in the production agriculture industry. Gaining knowledge and experience about how the cattle industry operates has required me to ask questions, listen to industry professionals, and read articles to become more informed. By owning a small herd of cattle, I will have invested into my future, whether that be college, early adult life, or even into retirement.

3. Briefly explain what is the single greatest challenge you faced in this award area and how did you overcome that challenge?

Since Kueser Ranch is family owned and operated, I am working on a daily basis with people I am closely related to. Being able to effectively communicate with those around you is a critical life skill for people and employees of all ages and careers. Now that I am older and have gained more responsibility, I have realized how important communication is when accomplishing all kinds of tasks. As I became more interested in owning my own cattle, I realized I would need to learn how to ask the right questions to be able to understand what was being discussed. As a little kid, I never needed to understand what was being talked about but as my involvement increased, I had to learn what was being discussed around me. The most challenging part of starting my own cow herd has been familiarizing myself with the business aspects of owning cattle. I have grown up on the ranch, so I am pretty familiar with different practices and routines in terms of production and maintenance. I have picked up lots of techniques and skills that have allowed me to be successful recently. By asking questions and seeking advice, I have finally been able to add helpful input into important conversations that pertain to my cattle. Being a part of the decision making processes that go into livestock production is extremely rewarding, especially when these risks pay off. Now that I own livestock, I have a deeper appreciation for the hard work, time, energy, and critical thinking that it takes to own livestock.





State Star Farmer

Performance Review B

Briefly explain your two greatest accomplishments or findings in this award area.

Accomplishment/Finding #1

In the spring of 2021, my father and I purchased a filly as 50/50 partners. I had been inquiring about and researching different genetics and qualities that I would want in a potential colt that I would be spending time working with. In the first few sessions of working with this filly, I began to realize how special she was. Harley, the filly, was able to be used this spring to help work calves. In the summer of 2024, I was able to ride her consistently with minimal issues during these long weeks. I am now using her to gather, manage, and work my own cattle. Being able to see the time, energy, and hard work that I have put into that project pay off was incredibly satisfying.

Accomplishment/Finding #2

One of my biggest aspiring goals that I have had since 2020 has been to own cattle. This always seemed out of reach for me since I am only a junior in high school. Thankfully, I was approached with a deal to buy my grandparents out of the cow business at a discounted price. I quickly realized I had very little knowledge and experience about the business and negotiations side of the production agriculture industry. Nearly a year later, I can now say I have been able to make good decisions involving my herd because of my

Name one issue, trend, technology or public policy that has impacted your SAE project or the industry your SAE project falls in and describe the specific impact on your SAE project.

Throughout 2023 and 2024, the entire nation experienced a record-setting drought, and Kansas was no exception. With unprecedentedly low levels of water and precipitation, Kueser Ranch was one of the millions of operations that were hoping and waiting in anticipation for the next rain chance to help replenish the rapidly depleting natural water resources. On Kueser Ranch, we were constantly checking and monitoring fields, pastures, water levels in tanks, ponds and creeks while simultaneously keeping an eye on our livestock's health and well-being. Now that I own my own cattle I, this meant longer days, more responsibilities, and also developing plans for potential emergency situations like wildfires started by dry, windy conditions.





State Star Farmer

Performance Review C

Specify your career objective and describe the career exploration and research steps you performed to select this career.

As a sophomore with my graduating year of 2026 quickly approaching, I have started to research different colleges and career options. When I was younger, I always wanted to be an elementary education teacher. Now that I have gotten older, I realize that is definitely not the career for me because I do not have the patience to deal with younger children for extended periods of time. I still have a strong passion for teaching and have recently begun looking into the agriculture education pathway. Paving the way for the next generation of agriculturalists that will feed the world is truly inspiring to me. My involvement in FFA and in the ag classroom has helped me further explore and pursue the career path of agricultural education.

Describe two experiences, activities, or opportunities provided by this SAE project and explain how they have helped you explore this career choice.

Experience/Activity/Opportunity #1

Gathering stray cattle can be just as chaotic and uncoordinated as a classroom full of high school students but thankfully I have experience in one of those fields which I am expecting to flawlessly help me through being an adolescent educator. In all seriousness, working with animals and livestock has helped me be more patient and calm during high stress situations. I am constantly trying to solve problems quickly and correctly while also taking into consideration the effects that my actions will have on the people and livestock that are depending on me to do my job to the best of my ability. My employer regularly gives me jobs or tasks to do that require attention to detail along with the responsibility of monitoring livestock and crops.

Experience/Activity/Opportunity #2

Working with my hands and having my own personal responsibilities from a young age has helped me see that I am able to make decisions on my own. Through growing up on a family owned operation, I am constantly expected to fulfill daily tasks. Some tasks are second nature to me because of their regularity, while other jobs require more critical thinking. On the occasion of a challenging job, I have to problem solve and experiment methods to solve the issue that I am facing. In these instances, I have to be self reliant to find the root of the problem and resolve it on my own. Self reliance is a key aspect of teaching because you have to be able to form decisions on your own quickly without having to ask others for help or guidance.





State Star Farmer

Learning Outcomes & Efficiency Factors

Learning Outcome or Efficiency Factor		Beginning Level	Level Attained	Description
1	Be trusted to make informed decisions about management practices of invasive plant species	<u>2020</u> 0%	<u>2024</u> 70%	I was taught how to identify numerous different kinds of plant species including different kinds of trees, shrubs, bushes and even some types of grasses. My goal is to eventually be able to increase my accuracy and more precisely identify and eradicate invasive plant species
2	Have all cows fully paid for by then end of the 5 year payment plan	<u>2020</u> 0%	<u>2024</u> 20%	Being able to make payments on time is critical to ensure that I will be able to keep the herd. Reallocating calf crop funds allowed me to be able to fulfill my first cow payment. Putting money aside throughout the year from cows that are sold is another way I plan on continuing to make payments.
3	Learn how to calmly and efficiently handle and work with livestock	<u>2020</u> 0%	<u>2024</u> 60%	I am constantly reading and researching new material on animal behavior and humane livestock handling practices. By learning to effectively work with all different kinds of livestock, I will be able to help in a much wider variety of situations year round.
4	Learn how to identify animals in distress	<u>2020</u> 0%	<u>2024</u> 60%	I have been able to better understand how animals behave and act when they are in high stress situations. I have read a few books on animal behavior which have helped me recognize livestock that needs assistance like a troubled first calf heifer all the way to an ailing mature cow
5	Learn how to perform basic machine maintenance	<u>2020</u> 0%	<u>2024</u> 40%	I used to not know how to check tire pressure on four wheelers and now I can perform routine maintenance practices in certain capacities. I am continually learning new applications and routines that I must follow to keep machinery running as efficiently as I can





A. Five Primary Skills, Competencies, and Knowledge within your Pathway

AFNR Pathway Standard		Description of Activity
1	AS.04.02 Apply scientific principles to select and care for breeding animals.	Each year, cows are palpated to determine if they have been bred during the allotted breeding season. If the cow is not bred or not suited to carry a calf for the entire gestation period, the decision must be made to cull these cows. Most of the time, if you keep these cows in your herd, they will be the ones you always have troubles with during calving. It is best to cull them from the breeding program as soon as possible to guarantee general herd health and fertility rates remain consistent.
2	AS.05.01 Design animal housing, equipment and handling facilities for the major systems of animal production.	I have been helping my employer mend fence for many years but now I truly understand the importance of high quality, sound structured fence. I recently helped my boss go around a full section of fence before breeding season to ensure that all strings of wire were tight and secured to the posts. It was a very good learning experience because now I know how to properly mend fence to ensure that my cattle will be safe and secure in the pastures they inhabit during different seasons.
3	AS.04.01 Evaluate animals for breeding readiness and soundness.	Kueser Ranch uses natural service breeding which means the bulls will be turned out with cows to breed naturally. Before the bulls can be turned out on to the cows, they have to be tested for their semen quality. If a bull fails this exam, they are usually sold to prevent injuries to the cows. The cows are given vaccinations to ensure they are healthy enough to have a full term pregnancy. My herd goes through the same breeding soundness exams as well to ensure longevity of my herd.
4	AS.03.01 Analyze the nutritional needs of animals.	During the cold winter months, I help my employer feed and supplement the gestating cows to ensure they are getting all of the nutrients and forage they need. When heavy snowfall covers pastures, it packs down the grass so the cattle have to scavenge for any exposed grass which can be very physically taxing. By providing the cattle with brome, alfalfa or prairie hay, they are able to use more energy to develop their calf and stay warm instead of rummaging through the grass.
5	AS.02.01 Demonstrate management techniques that ensure animal welfare.	When we work calves in the spring, it is usually their first interaction with humans and horses. This means that everything we do to that calf while they are being worked will leave a permanent mark in those calves' memory of what humans are like. By creating a positive first experience, calves will be more willing to work with humans instead of being afraid when they come across human interaction. As the calves grow up, they will be run through chutes which is much easier if they are calm.

B. Two Supporting Skills, Competencies, and Knowledge from any Pathway

AFNR Pathway Standard		Description of Activity
6	ABS.04.03 Identify and apply strategies to manage or mitigate risk.	With Kueser Ranch being a sixth generation ranch, my family and I have adopted old practices while also embracing new technology and advanced production practices like rotational grazing. Rotational grazing is being utilized to keep pasture land at its highest quality to provide the most resilient pasture land for its grazing livestock. The cattle on the ranch are cared for at a higher standard which, in turn, makes them less susceptible to illness or injury which decreases the risk of loss.



7	AS.07.01 Design programs to prevent animal diseases, parasites and other disorders and ensure animal welfare.	On Kueser Ranch, at roughly one month old, calves are given their first round of vaccinations that include Nuplura, Titanium and Blackleg, and their first dose of Permetrin. Their first time in the chute is when they get their second dose of Titanium while also getting their first dose of pink eye. In the final round of vaccinations, calves receive the first dose of Nuplura, Titanium, Blackleg and Ivermectin. The cattle that I have accumulated also follow this exact vaccination schedule.
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C. Three Career Ready Practice and/or Cluster Skills standards

AFNR Pathway Standard		Description of Activity
8	CRP.01.02 Evaluate and consider the near-term and long-term impacts of personal and professional decisions on employers and community before taking action.	Often while on the job, I have to make quick decisions while also taking into consideration the ripple effect my actions will have on the livestock I am providing for. There are occasions that I come across a cow or bull that catches my eye. It is usually because of a lethargic look, lame walk or sickly demeanor. After detecting the potentially injured animal, I have to think quickly and effectively to make the best decision for that animal while also considering what is best for the operation.
9	CRP.02.01 Use strategic thinking to connect and apply academic learning, knowledge and skills to solve problems in the workplace and community.	In my animal science class that I am currently enrolled in, I have learned more about the agriculture industry from many different perspectives. On one occasion, I was asked to read brands on cattle that had been mixed in with my employers cattle. I quickly remembered all of the different names, symbols and meaning that a brand can have. By being able to use the things I learn in class, I have the capabilities to teach older generations something new being incorporated into our curriculum.
10	CRP.04.03 Model active listening strategies when interacting with others in formal and informal settings.	Working with family can be very stressful but thankfully I have developed strategies that have helped me be able to effectively communicate with those around me. One of the most functional communication methods I have discovered is to simply listen to what the other person is thinking before making any final decisions. By fully understanding what is being discussed and considered, I am able to make better decisions and judgments that will be correct the first time so I can minimize my mistakes.





State Star Farmer

Resume

Objective

As I have grown up, I have always had a strong passion for teaching and have recently begun looking into the agriculture education pathway. Paving the way for the next generation of agriculturalists that will feed the world is truly inspiring to me. My involvement in FFA and in the agriculture classroom has helped me further explore and pursue the career path of agricultural education.

Agricultural Classes/Coursework

- Aug 2024-May 2025 - Agribusiness Management
- Aug 2024-May 2025 - General Horticulture
- June 2024- K-State Animal Science and Leadership Academy (KASLA)
- Aug 2023-May 2024 - Agricultural Communications and Leadership
- Aug 2023-May 2024 - Animal Production/Science

SAE

- 2022-2024 Sales (Ownership)

Elkhorn Silver provides jewelry that is all 100% handmade by me from start to finish. I use sterling silver and natural stones to create one-of-a-kind items. Elkhorn Silver offers high quality products to anyone looking to enhance their accessories or give a unique gift.

- 2020-2024 Beef (Employment; Ownership)

Kueser Ranch is a sixth generation cattle ranch that farms to help provide for livestock kept on the ranch. The ranch manages around 400 black Angus cattle and 30 bulls on over 6,000 acres located in Ellsworth County. I work on a daily basis to help maintain livestock and monitor grassland health. As compensation for my work, I was given an opportunity to buy 51 cows and am currently paying for them.

FFA Leadership

2023 Chapter Secretary
2024 Chapter President

FFA Activities

- 2022-2025 District FFA Competitions - 22 events (Dairy Cattle; Extemporaneous Speaking; Agricultural Communications; Agricultural Sales; Junior Prepared Public Speaking; Senior Chapter Conducting; Employment Skills; Agricultural Issues Forum; Horse; Meats Evaluation; Parliamentary Procedure; Entomology; Poultry; Discussion Meet; Marketing Plan)
- 2024 Speech (Chapter; Invitational)
- 2024 National FFA Competitions - 1 event (Agricultural Issues Forum)
- 2022-2024 Other (Chapter; District; State)
- 2022-2024 Project Show or Stock Show (State)
- 2022-2024 State FFA Competitions - 11 events (Horse; Livestock; Meats Evaluation; Agricultural Issues Forum; Extemporaneous Speaking; Agricultural Sales; Agricultural Communications)

Community Service

- 2024
Bearcats Give Back - Good Sams Retirement Home
Ellsworth County Food Bank
Free Community Breakfast Feed - USD 327
Ellsworth County Fair Board
Ellsworth County Cancer Fund

- 2023
Ellsworth County Cancer Fund
Free Community Breakfast Feed - USD 327
Bearcats Give Back- USD 327



School and Extracurricular Involvement

Ellsworth FFA- President 2024-Present; Secretary 2023- 2024

Elkhorn 4-H Club- President 2023-Present

Volleyball- Letterman 2023, 2024

Basketball- Letterman 2023

NHS- 2024- Present

Ellsworth County Economic Development Honorary Student Board Member- 2024- Present

Ellsworth County Farm Bureau Agriculture Ambassador- 2024- Present

Awards and Honors

- 2024-2024 Community Service AET Badge - 1 badge

- 2022-2024 FFA Activity AET Badge - 3 badges

- SAE Project AET Badge - 1 badge

2024-Kansas FFA Agriscience Fair Social Systems Division 2- State Champion

2024-Kansas FFA Diversified Agricultural Production Proficiency- State Champion

2024-Kansas Association of Conservation Districts (KACD) State Speech Contest- State Champion

2024-National FFA Agricultural Issues Competitor- Bronze Emblem

2024-Kansas Youth Entrepreneurship Challenge- Exemplary Category

2024-Ellsworth County Youth Entrepreneurship Challenge- 1st place

2024-Kansas FFA State Extemporaneous Speaking- Semi-Finalist

2024-Kansas FFA State Agriculture Communications- 8th Place

2024-Kansas FFA State Agriculture Sales Competitor

Certifications

HSI Adult First Aid & CPR AED All Ages

Skills

Hard working

Organized

Responsible

Time oriented

Caring

Good communicator

Experienced speaker

Humble

Adaptability

Leadership

Attention to detail

Problem solving

References

Christina Vague

Ellsworth Junior Senior High School Advisor & 4-H Leader

211 West 11th Street

Ellsworth, Kansas 67439

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785-531-0326

Karl Dawn Stover

Ellsworth Junior Senior High School CTE Coordinator

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Beloit, Kansas 67420

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Kara Quilter

Ellsworth Junior Senior High School FFA Advisor

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Ellsworth, Kansas 67439

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State Star Farmer

Personal History

Provide a narrative story of your personal achievements. Work within the character count and review your PDF to limit your final report to a maximum length of 3 pages.

My name is Josie Kueser and growing up on my family's cow/calf operation has been the utmost blessing to me and my family. The gift that agriculture has given me through various experiences instilled in me the belief that every kid should be immersed into agriculture. On the ranch, I have been able to experience things I truly believe every kid should be able to see and go through. I have seen everything from birth to death and everything in between. I truly believe that having first hand experience with these difficult situations has allowed me to be more resilient and grateful for the time I get to spend on the ranch.

Outside of the ranch, I have been involved with sports from a notably young age. Nearly every weekend at the Kueser household was spent in the bleachers, between me playing volleyball, basketball and softball and my brother playing football, baseball and wrestling. Sports have instilled the value of teamwork in me from a young age. This has proven to be incredibly beneficial as I move up into higher leadership roles. I have always looked up to all of my teachers and coaches who have all set such an amazing example of how to be a role model for those younger than you. When I was younger, I always remember being in awe of the high school kids I would see at varsity games, Kids Ag Day, and agriculture literacy days at the elementary school.

I have always been super active and involved as a kid. When I entered high school, my parents saw no change in my level of involvement. Now that I am in high school, I am regularly the "monthly high-point winner" of our FFA chapter along with balancing basketball or volleyball, being involved on numerous community boards, helping dad on the ranch, and making jewelry for my business. When people ask me how I have time for everything, I usually reply with "If I knew, I would tell you", which they usually laugh about and remind me that I only have this opportunity once in my life. While some days are exhausting, I would not trade my involvement for anything. Through these organizations, clubs, and other groups, I have been able to take part in many experiences that have given me a deeper look into different aspects of the agricultural industry.

When I was younger, I had the idea that I wanted to become an elementary education teacher. Since it was all I ever knew, I thought my teachers were the most amazing people on the planet. After spending a day at the elementary school during our monthly agriculture literacy lesson, I realized this was not the right career path for me. I have always had a passion for teaching others so I still had a desire to follow the education pathway, just not with elementary aged children. Being involved with FFA has led me to pursue the agricultural education career path as I end my high school experience. Agricultural education is the ideal profession for me since it combines advocating for agriculture while simultaneously educating students that will eventually play a vital role in sustaining our next generation.

Living on the ranch, I have always been taught to be self-sustaining. I always used to compare it to a freshly weaned calf, finally able to eat solid foods and live without its mother. Now I have a better understanding of being self-sustaining. Owning my own business has opened my eyes to the reality of hard work it takes to own and operate a small entrepreneurial business. My business got started by accident quite honestly. It was early July of 2022 and I was frantically scrolling through Pinterest trying to find a last minute visual arts project for the county fair. Thankfully, my mother had experience in jewelry and taught me the basics of silversmithing. From there, I started silversmithing and eventually decided to start my own business, Elkhorn Silver. Elkhorn Silver started off as a side hustle and quickly grew into a true business. In 2023, I entered into the local Shark Tank contest to test my skills as a business owner. Little did I know, I needed to be keeping track of everything I bought, sold, made, how much time it took, and so much more. I now have systems in place that I use to keep track of inventory, time, goods sold, etc. After winning the Ellsworth County Economic Development Youth Entrepreneurship Challenge in 2024, I was able to move onto the state level and compete there. Being surrounded by young, driven individuals like myself was inspiring and has led me to continue making and selling handmade jewelry. The ability to make money in high school is very important and since I am very involved and busy, it is difficult to work a normal job. Running my own business allows me to be flexible in my work hours while simultaneously making money to supplement my college fund.

Investing in my future is incredibly important to me because I believe it will help me be able to live a comfortable adult life. I do not want to worry about the extreme debts and costs that are associated with college, home ownership, having children, owning a vehicle, buying property, and other related expenses. With these ideas in mind, I decided to invest in around 50 head of red Angus cattle that were previously my grandparents. As they age, my grandparents were looking for a way to get out of the cattle business and also help establish a college fund for the grandkids. They were gracious enough to sell the cattle to my parents at a discounted price with the intention of my brother and I buying them out. Right now, we are currently working through a five year payment plan that will end with my brother and I completely owning around 60 head of home raised cows. I am extremely grateful for this opportunity as it has provided me with new knowledge and experiences that will be useful for my future. Having people like my grandparents that are willing to support young kids and all their endeavors, is crucial to help the next generation of our industry's leaders.

Gaining knowledge about common production practices has helped me be more helpful on the day-to-day operations of Kueser Ranch. Understanding the process of raising healthy, high quality beef animals is crucial so that Kueser Ranch can continue to breed and raise cattle for years to come. I have been lucky enough to grow up on a ranch that is surrounded by other like minded farmers and ranchers along with a community that supports agriculture. Each year when it comes time to work all of the baby calves, everyone usually has an assigned role. Throughout the years, my



roles and responsibilities have changed. There is usually a progression of jobs starting with disinfecting the recently castrated bull calves with a spray bottle. The next job usually moves to either ear notching or applying Brute (a Permethrin used to help young calves fight pests like lice, ticks, and flies). After gaining trust of the ranch manager, you are usually trusted to administer a vaccine or transport hot iron brands to and from the branding pot to the calf and vice versa. There are other specialty jobs like branding and roping that are usually left to the adults with lots of experience. As I have matured and gained responsibility, I find myself able to do a majority of these tasks.

While stressful at times, being involved in a variety of activities can help you build relationships and form connections with like minded individuals. Since the agricultural industry is more than just cows and plows, concepts in agriculture like communications and marketing, law and policy, sales, and education are becoming more popular. Many individuals, like myself, have always had the idea that agriculture is limited to manual labor in the fields on hot summer days. Now that the industry is developing, people are realizing and embracing that they can be involved in one of the most significant industries in the world. Embracing the increased need for diverse portfolios works in favor for someone like myself who is experienced in many areas. Owning my own business, working on the ranch, being successful in FFA, attending clinics and workshops, and playing sports have all led me to be the person I am today. I can confidently say through my involvement in my SAE's, I have the skills, knowledge, and experience that make me an excellent candidate for the Kansas FFA Star Farmer.





State Star Farmer

Safety Photo #1



To handle calves during branding season, Kueser Ranch uses Nordforks to help ensure the safety of the calves. A Nordfork is a steel tool that holds calves in place while they are branded, vaccinated, and castrated. Being able to properly assemble and operate these devices is crucial to insuring the safety and welfare of the calves while these are being used. I have gained experience using these devices the last few years during branding season and am now trusted to use these devices on my own.





During branding time, I am frequently asked to apply fly tags to the calves. The ingredients that make these tags so effective are usually generally harmful to humans because of their insecticidal properties. These tags are covered in different active ingredients that kill flies on contact so it is usually unfavorable to come in direct contact with the tags without gloves or long sleeves. When I am dealing with these tags, I make sure to wear gloves, long sleeves and never touch other surfaces.





In the beginning stages of introducing and desensitizing a colt to their surroundings, horsemen usually practice something called ponying. This method is essentially an experience for the colt so they can be around another horse they trust while being positively introduced to their natural surroundings they will be required to be around in their daily working lives. In this photo, I am riding my main horse, Opposum, and ponying the new filly, Harley, through the pasture by my family's house.





At branding time, I was given the job of implanting the bull calves with the implant gun which is inserted under the skin of the ear between the second and third rib of cartilage. Implanting is a new skill for me and so far, I have enjoyed learning this new production method. I have enjoyed implanting because it is a task that has a higher level of responsibility that comes with it. I implanted roughly 125 calves that were either owned by Kueser Ranch or myself.





As payment for my summer labor at Kueser Ranch, I was able to show a steer out of one of my cows at the county fair. I have grown up in the beef production industry, so stepping in to the show ring and being compared to high dollar show steers was eye opening. During this experience, I was exposed to new feeding strategies that would allow me to be competitive in market classes, while also maintaining a high quality carcass that would later hang in the county carcass show.





One of the most important, overlooked jobs that coincides with owning cattle is record keeping. In this photo, I am doing some routine record updating. For example, each year when cows are pregnancy checked, the bred cows are recorded in a continuous spreadsheet. Keeping these records up to date helps me track cattle numbers and where these cows are in their pregnancy. This is especially beneficial when calving season comes around so I know how many calves to expect.





State Star Farmer

Checklist of Minimum Qualifications

- Missing, Error, or Not Met indicates a condition causing the candidate not to qualify for the degree.
- Review indicates a condition that will require additional explanation or documentation.
- Only computer-generated checks are shown here. The PDF application includes additional manual checks.
- Regardless of the qualifications shown here, FFA staff and reviewers may contact the advisor or applicant for additional information and evidence, including, but not limited to, SAE agreements and record books.

Item	Value
Candidate has chosen a Star Type and Primary Pathway.	MET
Candidate has fully described and selected one to five Learning Outcomes or Efficiency Factors.	MET
Candidate has fully described all ten Skills, Competencies, and Knowledge.	MET
All pictures include captions.	MET
All pictures include a digital upload.	MET
Required attachments have been uploaded.	MET





State Star Farmer

Application Attachments

The following are attachments to include at the end of your application.

Attachment 1 - SAE Agreements

Attach a copy of your most recent SAE partnership, rental, Family Corporation or occupational training agreement.

Attachment 2 - Student Recommendations

Attach three one-page recommendations

1. Agriculture instructor recommendation
2. Two other recommendations (if your SAEs include placement, please include at least one employer recommendation)





KS - Ellsworth

Josie Kueser 604164217

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SAE Agreement - Josie Kueser Cattle Ranch

SAE Information

Name:	Josie Kueser Cattle Ranch
SAE Type:	Entrepreneurship/Ownership
AFNR Pathway/Category:	Animal Systems - Beef

SAE Plan - Josie Kueser Cattle Ranch

Description

My interest and motivation for this project is to help continue my family legacy of owning and operating a cattle herd of my own. I am currently working towards owning 60 cows. I am buying them from my parents for \$1,500 a piece over 5 years. I will work directly with my parents to operate this program and manage these cattle.

My project started in 2024 and will terminate when I decide to sell my herd.

My project goals are to learn about the business and financial side of owning cattle, maintaining a herd, and monitoring livestock.

My project will be evaluated/supervised by John Kueser, owner/operator of Kueser Ranch.

Time Investment

My project time will vary from month to month, but common activities are monitoring pasture land, mineral intake, and water consumption.

Key dates or events in my project may include the day that the calves are sold. Another Key event that I will need to keep track of is the day that bulls are turned out on the cows to be bred.

My project time relates to my career plan, which is currently to go into agriculture education, because I am learning important business principles, communication skills, and basic animal handling techniques.

Financial Investment

(1) Planned project expenses:

Main cash expense categories are grass rent, hay, and vaccines/medication.

In terms of total cost, my project will fluctuate each year depending on the cattle market, cost of hay, and rent prices.

I am currently in the process of buying 51 cows for \$1,500 a piece from my parents. I had 9 cows I had already paid for in my herd. My parents and I have an agreement that stretches of 5 years and will continue until I decide to sell my portion of the herd.

(2) Planned project income:

Planned income for my project is currently being allocated to pay for the cows but will eventually be used for college and early adult life.

(3) Planned use of non-current items:

I plan to use assets that someone else owns, which include machinery like a chute, a feed-truck, and a trailer.

Learning Objectives (SAE Skills):

Skill Area	Planned Activities	Results or Outcome
AS.02.01 Demonstrate management techniques that ensure animal welfare.	I will check cows and calves to ensure their safety. I will provide medical treatment when needed.	
AS.03.01 Analyze the nutritional needs of animals.	I will help feed cows and prepare hay crops.	
AS.04.01 Evaluate animals for breeding readiness and soundness.	I will be apart of moving cows and bulls around to different groups.	
AS.05.01 Design animal housing, equipment and handling facilities for the major systems of animal production.	I will help with fencing and maintance of equipment.	

Signatures

Josie Kueser

Student

2/20/2025 3:24:00 PM

Date

Katie Kueser

Parent / Guardian

2/20/2025 3:28:00 PM

Date

Karl Dawn Hobbs Stover

Ag Science Teacher

2/21/2025 9:11:00 AM

Date

The school, individuals or businesses participating in this educational program will not discriminate against participating students with regards to race, sex, creed, color, national origin, age or handicap as defined by law.

Karl Dawn Stover
780 KS 14 HWY
Beloit, KS 67420

Kansas FFA Association
Umberger Hall
Kansas State University
Manhattan, KS

To whom it may concern on the FFA State Star Selection Committee:

Writing this letter of reference for Josie Kueser is an honor for me. She is a pleasure to work with as she is a hardworking and dedicated young lady who puts her heart and soul into every commitment she takes on. Josie will serve as an well-versed representative of the Kansas FFA Star Program, as she is motivated, driven, and passionate about rural America and Kansas agriculture. This has been proven to me in a variety of ways while I have been her agriculture teacher and FFA advisor.

While at EJSBS, Josie has balanced her class load and multiple activities with ease. She has taken a challenging career oriented schedule and has maintained a 4.0 GPA. She has taken upper level math classes and is currently in pre-calculus. Plus, she has taken an impressive agriculture education class load from animal science to agribusiness to horticulture. In the classroom Josie is fast to catch on to concepts. Then she takes it a step further and helps those around her understand the material. She will sit down one-on-one with another student and explain things in a different way so they can grasp the concept. She has done this so well that she has been recruited into the tutoring program as a lead tutor.

Josie has been a two sport athlete competing in volleyball and basketball. Josie pushes herself on the court and holds her teammates to high expectations. She is known as an encourager for her team and will bring people up, even if they had a bad shot or play. She takes the extra time to learn plays and understand her role and how her part is integral to the team strategy. She takes a lead role in communicating to younger players to help the team's growth for future years. She makes it a point to attend every Junior Varsity and C-Team game and tournament she can to support the developing players. As a starting varsity player, she wants everyone to meet their fullest potential and grow throughout the season.

Outside of sports, Josie has been showing leadership in FFA. Josie is the current president of the Ellsworth FFA Chapter. She has been a key player in organizing multiple silent auctions, agriculture awareness events, and motivating FFA members to try new things. She has been a helpful hand to get many sophomores this year to apply for a proficiency or engage in a new activity. She goes out of her way to encourage them to try something out of their normal box and will give suggestions on how they can improve. Josie's encouragement has pushed one of her FFA team's to be named the state champion of the agriculture issues leadership development event.

Josie is a star in our local community, school, and FFA chapter. She goes above and beyond what is asked of her. I highly recommend this talented young woman to represent this organization. If you have any more questions, please call me at 785-738-7102.

Sincerely,

Karl Dawn Hobbs Stover

Karl Dawn Hobbs Stover
Career and Technical Education Coordinator
Agriculture Education Teacher and FFA Advisor

To Whom It May Concern:

It is with immense pride and pleasure that we recommend Josie Krauer for Kansas FFA Star Farmer. We have had the distinct privilege of being Josie's employer (and parents) at Krauer Ranch for the past sixteen years, where she has consistently demonstrated exceptional work ethic, a keen understanding of animal husbandry, and a remarkable ability to learn and grow regardless of the challenges we throw her way.

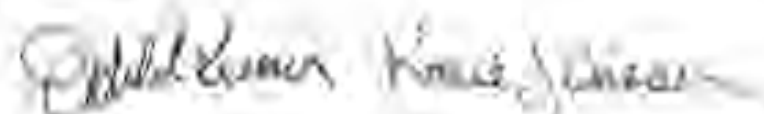
From a very young age, Josie has been an integral part of our cattle and farming operation. Her responsibilities have extended far beyond typical chores and "farm kid duties", from starting with her first bucking calf and a pony named Seaborn, to now owning her own cow-herd and breaking and training her own mare, Harley. Josie has continually been up for the challenges and adventures that ranch life offers.

Throughout her ranch employment, Josie has helped with a wide range of tasks including: breaking cattle, moving cattle via horseback or truck and trailer, pregnancy checking, branding calves, taking lung, spraying noxious weeds, fence repairs, equipment maintenance, keeping ranch records, and a variety of other tasks. Josie is a trusted ranch hand and possesses a deep understanding of animal behavior, a topic she reads about continually! She is a skilled cattle and horse handler and is very proficient in giving vaccinations, implanting, worming, tagging, gathering cattle, sorting, caring for sick animals, and providing for the animal's daily nutritional needs.

Josie is not only a highly capable individual but also a person of exceptional character. She is hardworking, level-headed, observant, a go-getter, self-driven, humble, and possesses a wonderful sense of humor and kindness. These qualities have made her a tremendous asset to Krauer Ranch (and our lives), and we are immensely proud of her contributions to our ranch family, school, and community!

While we are proud to be her employers, we are even prouder to be her parents. We have witnessed firsthand her dedication, passion, and commitment to excellence. We wholeheartedly believe that Josie has the potential to achieve great things, and we highly recommend her for all recognition.

Sincerely,



John A. Krauer-Krauer

Krauer Ranch

February 24, 2025
Star Farmer Selection Committee

Dear Members of the Star Farmer Selection Committee,

I am writing to wholeheartedly recommend Josie Kueser for consideration by the Star Farmer Selection Committee. As a seasoned teacher, mentor, and 4-H leader, I have had the pleasure of knowing Josie for several years, during which time I have witnessed her growth and exceptional leadership qualities.

Josie has demonstrated remarkable leadership through her active involvement in 4-H and FFA. As the President of both organizations, she has shown her ability to lead by example, inspiring her peers and guiding younger members with enthusiasm and dedication. Her commitment to mentoring younger 4-H and FFA members is commendable; she regularly assists them with their projects, fostering a spirit of collaboration and learning within the community. Furthermore, Josie works with elementary school children through Ag Literacy, showcasing her passion for agricultural education and her desire to share knowledge with the next generation.

In addition to her leadership in 4-H and FFA, Josie excels in athletics, participating in both volleyball and basketball. On the court, she is a leader, demonstrating teamwork and resilience. Her high academic integrity is equally impressive; she consistently works hard to achieve excellent grades while balancing her extracurricular commitments.

Josie also participates in a peer tutoring program, where she supports middle school students with their homework and explains concepts they find challenging. This role reflects her dedication to helping others succeed, further highlighting her strong character and sense of responsibility.

Her work ethic is evident in her contributions to her family ranch, where she engages in various tasks such as working with horses and cattle, fixing fences, and managing other ranch duties. Josie is highly organized and demonstrates integrity in all her endeavors, making her a reliable and trustworthy individual.

In conclusion, I am confident that Josie Kueser will be an honored recipient of the Star Farmer Selection Award. Her leadership skills, commitment to service, and strong work ethic make her an exemplary recipient. I wholeheartedly endorse her and believe she will continue to make a positive impact in her future pursuits.

Thank you for considering Josie Kueser for this prestigious recognition.

Sincerely,



Christina Vague
Teacher/Advisor
Ellsworth Jr. Sr. High School