Honoring our legacy to secure our future.
Social Reach Expands

KFAC has greatly expanded our social media reach by posting more often and posting shareable content. Thanks to amazing supporters like you, our Facebook reach increased by 245%, and our Instragram reach grew by more than 800%, helping us to reach over 400,000 people. More initiatives are coming in 2023, and we cannot wait to share them with you on more platforms and new formats.

Kit Reach Expands

KFAC’s lesson-plan kit offers a free lesson and activity to incorporate agriculture into a class. In 2022, we sent out more than 1,000 K-5th grade kits to educators across Kansas, reaching over 465 schools and 25,000 students. More than 83% of the teachers receiving kits were not yet connected with KFAC. This program has enhanced our ability to connect with new teachers. We plan to continue expanding our reach by adding kits for grades 6-8 and 9-12 and increasing the number of kits we send. You can read more about our 2023 kit initiative at the end of this report and track our progress on social media as we aim to send 2,023 kits to educators in 2023.
**YEAR AT A GLANCE**

3,400+ Facebook page follows
Virtual Agriland views are up 500%
13 Teachers attending NAITCO
Teachers receiving newsletters 1,900+
245% Increase in reach on Facebook
Website page views are up 38%
4 Educator mini-grants
Educator Scholarships 5
Teachers reached 2,000+
50,000+ Students reached

1,000+ Free Educator Kits Sent

143 Teachers using Journey 2050 in their classrooms!

1,360 Agri-tags throughout the state of Kansas!

Proceeds from this specialty license plate contribute to KFAC's operations budget.
Kansas was well represented at the 2022 National Agriculture in the Classroom Conference in Saratoga Springs, New York. Seven of the eleven educators that attended from Kansas received a scholarship to attend. The conference featured four days of speakers and workshops that attendees could choose from based on their grade level, subject, or interest. As many as eight workshops were happening at one time, so educators could receive a customized experience that provides professional development that is unmatched by any other event.

Thanks to our generous sponsors, we were able to help four Kansas teachers attend the National Agriculture in the Classroom Summer Conference in Saratoga Springs, New York. Three of these four educators were able to attend this conference for the first time because of these scholarships. These scholarships were made possible by Kansas Wheat, Kansas Soybean, Kansas Sorghum, and Kansas Corn. We hope to be able to offer even more scholarships in 2023. Contact KFAC staff to sponsor a scholarship for 2023.

**Educator Mini-Grant Winners**

**New Project Grants**
- Mollie Kough - FACS Teachers at Scott City Middle School
- Angela Black - 2nd Grade Teacher at Walton Rural Life Center

**New Teacher Grants**
- Mandy Harkleroad - 3rd Grade Teacher at Wolf Creek Elementary
- Leah Parsons - 7th-8th Grade Science and Special Education at Westridge Middle School

**2022 NAITCO Scholarship Winners**

- **Patricia Wolfe**
  - K-12 Special Education
  - Lakeview Center, Paola
  - Sponsored by Kansas Wheat

- **Clara Schankie**
  - 6th Grade Science
  - Madison Elementary, Madison
  - Sponsored by Kansas Soybean

- **Leah Parsons**
  - 7th & 8th Grade Special Education
  - Westridge Middle School, Overland Park
  - Sponsored by Kansas Soybean

- **Brian Nelson**
  - 7th Grade Science
  - Andover Central Middle, Andover
  - Sponsored by Kansas Corn

**HONORING EDUCATORS**

KFAC awarded four Educator Mini-Grants and is following them through the 2022-2023 school year as they complete their projects. We can’t wait to share them with you.

**New Project Grant Winners**
Mollie Kough - FACS Teachers at Scott City Middle School
Angela Black - 2nd Grade Teacher at Walton Rural Life Center

**New Teacher Grant Winners**
Mandy Harkleroad - 3rd Grade Teacher at Wolf Creek Elementary
Leah Parsons - 7th-8th Grade Science and Special Education at Westridge Middle School
Barbara McCaffree, early childhood through sixth-grade teacher at Bluestem Elementary in Leon, was recently named the 2023 Kansas Foundation for Agriculture in the Classroom (KFAC) Teacher of the Year. KFAC’s Teacher of the Year award recognizes teachers who instill a passion for learning about agriculture within their students. KFAC honors one teacher annually who has successfully integrated agricultural education into their pre-existing curriculum.

McCaffree is in her 37th year of teaching, where she has been incorporating agriculture into classes since 2005. She continues to expand her agricultural lessons each year for early childhood through sixth-grade students through Bluestem’s Ag Academy.

In 2019, McCaffree started Ag Academy in order for every student PreK-6th to be able to learn from her about agriculture. She incorporates general agriculture, soil science, sheep, goats, horses, beef, pork, poultry, and crops into her curriculum while advancing the curriculum for each grade level. McCaffree starts each unit with some form of hands-on experience to engage the students.

The 4th-6th grade classes handle the chores that take care of the animals’ health, nutrition, and sanitation twice a day. Students also weigh the calves weekly to chart their progress and reassess feed rations.

“My goal is not to make all students farmers and ranchers, but to have the students appreciate how farmers and ranchers affect each of us,” McCaffree says. “Everyone needs to know where their food and clothes come from.”

Students at Bluestem have the opportunity to learn many life skills through the teachings during Ag Academy classes that can help them in the future. The students plant, grow and prepare the plants and vegetables for the two annual plant sales they host. The community, as well as the local FFA chapter, is actively involved and always looking for ways to help and donate.

McCaffree will be recognized during the 2023 KFAC Annual Meeting to be held in Manhattan in early 2023 and will receive an all-expense paid trip to the 2023 National Agriculture in the Classroom conference in Orlando, Florida. McCaffree will also be considered for the 2023 National Excellence in Teaching About Agriculture Award, presented by National Agriculture in the Classroom.
Two teachers received our Excellence in Teaching Award this year, sponsored by the Kansas Farm Bureau Foundation for Agriculture. The Excellence in Teaching awards are given to exemplary teachers who integrate agriculture into their classroom lessons and curriculum. Each of these winners will receive their choice of a $600 scholarship to attend the 2022 NAITC conference or a $200 gift certificate to purchase classroom supplies.

Shelby Taylor is a sixth-eighth-grade teacher at Thunder Ridge Middle School in Agra, Kansas. Taylor believes one of the biggest things we can do to encourage agriculture is to ensure that students understand how agriculture affects everyone, not just farmers. She does this by incorporating agriculture into science, financial literacy, STEM classes, and taking students to see agriculture in action through tours like the local ethanol plant.

Carla Varner is a fifth-grade teacher at Blackmore Elementary in El Dorado, Kansas. She likes to use real-world examples to incorporate agricultural concepts into the classroom. The highlight of the year for her students is the annual trip to her family farm, where students see all of the machinery, animals, and farmland in person.
These donors have made educational resources available through their generous support. We are very grateful for their investment in our mission. You can get your name on this list by investing today!

Premier Partners (+$25,000)

Partner ($10,000 - $24,999)

Supporter ($5,000 - $9,999)

Classroom Connector ($1,000 – $4,999)

Ag Mark LLC
American Farm Bureau Foundation
Central National Bank
David Whitney
High Plains Journal
James Adams

Kansas Association of Conservation Districts Auxiliary
Kansas Bankers - Ag Division
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Midwest Dairy
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2022 Donors

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Industrial Maintenance Inc.
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Melissae Stiles
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Patricia Wolfe
Patsy Vining
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Shannon Fox
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Steven and Nancy Manche
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Sue Adams
Thomas Tuggle
Tom Morton
Tyler Royle
Vickie and Eldon Lawless
Victoria Thompson
Warren Slocombe

Allen County Conservation District
Bourbon County Conservation District
Butler County Conservation District
Chautuaqua County Conservation District
Cloud County Conservation District
Coffey County Conservation District
Comanche County Conservation District
Decatur County Conservation District
Elk County Conservation District
Greenwood County Conservation District
Harvey County Conservation District
Jackson County Conservation District
Jefferson County Conservation District
Jewell County Conservation District
Kiowa County Conservation District
Labette County Conservation District
Lee County Conservation District
Leavenworth County Conservation District
Marion County Conservation District
Mitchell County Conservation District
Morris County Conservation District
Norton County Conservation District
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Reno County Conservation District
Republic County Conservation District
Riley County Conservation District
Rooks County Conservation District
Rush County Conservation District
Seward County Conservation District
Stafford County Conservation District
Sumner County Conservation District
Wabaunsee County Conservation District
Wilson County Conservation District
Harvey County Farm Bureau
Labette County Farm Bureau
Reno County Farm Bureau
Shawnee County Farm Bureau
Wabaunsee County Farm Bureau
There are many ways to support KFAC. Consider leaving your legacy with KFAC today!

Donate

By giving on one of our annual giving days, your donations can be matched; however, any time is a great time to give! You can give through Benevity, Thrivent, Venmo, PayPal, Facebook, or a designated giving page.

Agri-tag

Sporting an Agri-tag specialty license plate on your vehicle is a great way to support KFAC with an annual tax-deductible donation while promoting agriculture everywhere you go! Talk to your County Treasurer about how to get yours.

Share

Sharing our posts on social media, our mission with friends, and our free resources with educators are excellent ways to get support KFAC! You can help us grow our reach.

Looking to leave a lasting legacy?

Support KFAC's mission by leaving a bequest in your will or living trust.

Planned Giving

Include the following information in your bequest:
Legal name: Kansas Foundation for Agriculture in the Classroom
Federal Tax ID #48-0963313
Address: 1990 Kimball Ave Manhattan, Kansas 66502
**ANNUAL EXPENSES**

- Program Outreach - 15%
- Staff Admin - 20%
- Staff Fundraising - 15%
- Staff Programing - 65%
- Office - 3%

**2022 INCOME**

- Agritag
- Annual Giving
- Grants
- Endowment

**$233,108**  
Total Expenses

**$234,707**  
Total Income

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The constant change we face makes KFAC’s mission of “connecting classrooms to Kansas agriculture” more important than ever. Through providing resources, professional development, and support for educators to teach students about the origins of their food, fiber, and fuel, we are influencing the development of more than 50,000 students annually. In 2022, we significantly expanded our network through social media, in-person events, word of mouth, and our website. Our 2022 social media reach was just under 400,000, our website views were up 38%, and we added 935 teachers to our database. But, we recognize the need to continue this expansion to reach more Kansas educators.

This report is a look back at our growth in 2022 and signals the potential for future growth. Though we have gained some traction in our efforts to increase agricultural literacy, we have great lengths to go to as we strive to reach all 105 Kansas counties. By working together, we can continue the growth and expansion of the agriculture in the classroom program to influence the development of Kansas youth. And in doing so, we’ll create a well-prepared workforce and a knowledgeable generation of well-rounded citizens.

Our donors helped us honor our legacy as we celebrated our 40th year serving Kansans and initiated an endowment to begin to secure a future for our program. We are inspired by the generosity of our donors and pledge to make 2023 our best year yet! Thank you for your commitment to sharing agriculture.

Sincerely,

Nancy Zenger-Beneda
KFAC Executive Director
2022 KFAC Staff

Nancy Zenger-Beneda, Executive Director
Briana Jacobus, Communications Specialist

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Wanda Small, Curriculum Advisory Team

“Farming looks mighty easy when your plow is a pencil, and you’re a thousand miles from the cornfield.”
- President Dwight D. Eisenhower
We are excited about 2023!
We hope that this will be another banner growth year for KFAC and that we will be able to reach more teachers than ever before. We need your help with one particular goal for 2023. We plan to send out 2,023 free classroom kits to educators across the state in 2023. If you would like to support this endeavor, please consider giving using the QR code.

In 2022, we launched two new guides to help a new group disseminate our message to more K-12 students. In 2023, our Pre-Service Guide will be in the hands of all students in Kansas universities with education programs. Our volunteer guide will be available to all Kansas county farm bureau coordinators and conservation district managers.
Kansas Foundation for Agriculture in the Classroom is an affiliate program of Kansas State University and a member organization of National Agriculture in the Classroom.

In 1981, the USDA established Agriculture in the Classroom with the endorsement of all living former Secretaries of Agriculture, the National Association of State Departments of Agriculture, the National Conference of States Legislatures, most of the Governors of the States, and the major agricultural organizations and commodity groups. Significant progress has been made through these partnerships to advance the mission of introducing agriculture in the classroom.

The Kansas Foundation for Agriculture in the Classroom was founded in 1982. In 1985, KFAC held the first summer graduate course for Kansas teachers, marking KFAC’s commitment to providing teachers with agricultural experiences, credible resources and standards-based, hands-on lesson plans. Through the years, KFAC has been able to offer opportunities for teachers and students alike, including the Janet Sims Memorial Teacher of the Year Award and the Bookmark Art contest.

Since 1982, six persons have served as the Administrator/Executive Director, and 10 individuals have served as the Chair of the Board of Directors. Currently, the Board of Directors has 16 members, four of which represent the Kansas Department of Agriculture, the Kansas State Department of Education, and Kansas State University’s College of Agriculture and College of Education.

Kansas Foundation for Agriculture in the Classroom is a 501(c)(3) organization.

What is agriculture literacy?
A person who understands and can communicate the source and value of agriculture as it affects our quality of life.