Dear supporters, stakeholders, and friends of Minnesota Agriculture in the Classroom Foundation:

The 2020-2021 year is one for the books. While it may be easy to focus on the negative side of the past year with COVID-19, I want to highlight the positives the last year brought to our organization.

In 2019, Minnesota Agriculture in the Classroom Foundation was approached to take over Farm Camp, a day camp setting with a dynamite idea of connecting kids with agriculture, complementing our Mission and Vision. We saw an opportunity with Farm Camp Minnesota to engage students with those that make up the diverse real world of Minnesota agriculture; a nice counterpart to the classroom work we were already doing and connecting the in-classroom work to agriculture experiences with customized interaction and career lessons. MAITC has been strategic about our roll-out of Farm Camp Minnesota, taking our time to get the format and resources right before fully rolling out. October 2020, we hired Ann Vote, one of our Regional Curriculum Specialists, as the Program Director to pilot Farm Camp Minnesota.

While many may not think of technology as a positive, it sure has been for our team during COVID-19. We relied heavily on technology to connect with teachers, students, and each other. Three standout opportunities we had because of technology were Summer Virtual Teacher Tours, Virtual Field Trips, and Farm and Food Book Week.

With COVID-19 restrictions in place, we didn’t feel we could host our Summer Teacher Tours face-to-face in June/July 2020 and moved to a virtual format. The response was outstanding, with over 100 teachers participating, many attended all four virtual tours and the coordinating resource connection session.

We offered ten virtual field trips taking students to a dairy farm, tree farm, mushroom farm, and turkey farm, and so many more exciting places. We are looking forward to making these virtual field trips a regular monthly opportunity in 2021-2022.

Farm and Food Book Week was held this past February 16th-19th during I Love to Read Month. During the week, classrooms were able to join us on Zoom for virtual agriculture-themed book readings by special guest readers ranging from MDA Commission Thom Peterson to CJ Hamm of the MN Vikings to Olympic Runner Carrie Tollefson. During the week, we had 16 different sessions allowing us to reach over 166 classrooms and 3,084 students!

From analytics data we can get from our website and other technology utilized, we can tell you we’ve engaged with over 3,700 teachers and 132,000 students during the past year. A big goal was achieved in February 2021, as MAITC resources were documented as being used in all 87 Minnesota Counties. Simply amazing!

The Board of Directors and I are very proud of the work this organization continues to do. Looking forward we have an amazing opportunity to teach and engage students with agriculture thanks to your generous support, the important public-private partnership with the Minnesota Department of Agriculture, and the hard work and planning of MAITC’s board of directors and amazing staff, including Education Specialists Sue Knott and Keri Sidle; Regional Curriculum Specialists, Toni Dauwalter (Central MN), Sarah Kuschel (Northern MN), Wanda Patsche (Southern MN/retired Spring 2021), Emily Ponwith (Southcentral MN joined the team June 2021) and Ann Vote (Farm Camp Program Director); and Executive Director, Ann Marie Ward.
The Minnesota Agriculture in the Classroom Foundation began in 2007 to support the MAITC program. The foundation is led by a 15-member Board of Directors that represent agriculture and education communities.

MAITC is a 501(c)(3) not-for-profit charity. Funders are vital to providing free educational resources, grants and outreach to the state’s K-12 community.

Organizational Structure

For three decades, the public and private sectors have pooled human and financial resources to advance agricultural literacy among K-12 students and educators through the Minnesota Agriculture in the Classroom (MAITC) program. This unique public/private partnership model provides program consistency and credibility in Minnesota’s agricultural and educational communities and is known for effectively leveraging resources from both sectors.

The Minnesota Department of Agriculture is the lead for Minnesota Agriculture in the Classroom program development and implementation, while the Minnesota Agriculture in the Classroom Foundation secures and manages private funds to support the overall program. Funds committed to the program from both sectors are leveraged many times over. This partnership has also allowed MAITC to offer educational materials for FREE since program inception in 1985.
Farmfest producers have created the Farmfest Woman Farmer of the Year award to honor hard-working female farmers across Minnesota who selflessly give their time to growing crops and raising livestock on the farm.

Sarah Kuschel received the 2020 Farmfest Woman Farmer of the Year! As the 2020 winner, Sarah moderated the panel proceeding the 2021 award ceremony. Sarah guided the powerhouse panelists through the discussion surrounding women in the ag industry.

The Minnesota Farm Bureau Federation Promotion and Education Committee presented its 2021 Golden Apple Award to Wanda Patsche of Martin County. This award is presented for her work with the Agriculture in the Classroom Program.
The Minnesota Agriculture in the Classroom program (MAITC) seeks to improve student achievement by applying authentic, agricultural-based content as the context to teach core curriculum concepts in science, social studies, language arts, and nutrition. By encouraging teachers to embed agriculture into their classroom and curriculum, MAITC cultivates an understanding and appreciation of the food system that we all rely on every day.

**Curriculum Resources**
Curriculum Matrix - searchable database of over 500 lesson plans and resources.

**K-12 Educator Opportunities**
Workshops and Webinars, Summer Teacher Tours, MAITC Foundation Outstanding Teacher Award, Agricultural Literacy Grants.

**Student Engagement**
Virtual Field Trips, Video Library, Free educational resources. AgMag Series, Farm Camp Minnesota

**FARM & FOOD BOOK WEEK**
Classrooms joined Minnesota Agriculture in the Classroom on Zoom for virtual agriculture-themed book readings by special guest readers during the week of February 16-19, 2021. This was the first ever Farm & Food Book Week and it featured 16 readers, 166 classrooms and 3,084 students!

**FOOD FOR THOUGHT**
The Food for Thought curriculum connects Minnesota Geography with Agriculture. The 17 standards-based lessons, 42 static maps, and additional interactive map layers are designed to engage K-12 students and inspire interest in the geography of Minnesota agriculture.

**TEACHER PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT & OUTREACH**
Customized workshops provide opportunities to gain resources and ideas for embedding authentic agricultural examples within science, social studies, math, language arts and health/nutrition curricula.
- Pre-service teachers reached: 324
- In-service teachers reached: 291

The MAITC Outstanding Teacher Award is given to an educator currently engaged in classroom instruction at the K-12 grade levels for their creative efforts in integrating agriculture in their classroom.

**OUTSTANDING TEACHER AWARD: BRIGID SANDAGER OF BAYPORT**
5TH GRADE TEACHER AT ANDERSON ELEMENTARY

STUDENTS IMPACTED THROUGH AG LITERACY GRANTS
8,850
1,759

MY BINDER (MAITC CURRICULUM MATRIX)
The AgMag is a flagship resource of Minnesota Agri-culture in the Classroom. With the first edition publishing in 1986, the AgMag has grown into a resource that is custom made for each grade level. Each edition contains standards-based curriculum at the center of the stories and interactive features. This popular resource is available FREE to educators and ag advocates across Minnesota.

AGMAG SERIES

K
1
2
3
4
5
6

See the AgMag online! mnagmag.org

COMING SOON

A THREE DAY EXPERIENCE INCLUDING AN AG LESSON, AG TOUR & CAREER LESSON

Farm Camp MN is the newest MAITC program aimed at increasing ag literacy for 5th - 12th grade students. During the 2020-2021 school year Farm Camp piloted 12 experiences and engaged over 700 students in an immersive experience! Farm Camp connects educators with resources to create a customized on-farm experience that works to connect to in-classroom content, deepen student knowledge of agriculture and increase awareness of ag careers. Serving as the communicator between AgHost and Educator, the Farm Camp Program Director simplifies the tour process and provides support.

5th Grade Ag Day (Farm Camp Field Day)
7th Grade Genetics Lesson with Cattle
9th Grade Lind High School

The Redwood Area Chamber Ag Committee from Redwood Falls coordinated a 5th Grade Farm Camp Field Day in May 2021. Over 250 students from 14 different classrooms in Redwood and Renville Counties enjoyed 4 virtual tours of 4 diverse ag operations: corn/soybeans, lambing, swine farrow to finish site and beef cattle.

9th Graders at Lind High School connected with Riverview Dairy to tour their dairy operation in Murdock, MN. Science 9 students were able to connect what they were learning in class and ask questions about the operation and its agricultural impact.

7th Grade Science students from New Ulm, MN were studying genetics and connected with Split Rock Ranch in Morgan, MN. Owner Ashley Kettner shared how important cattle genetics are when raising pastured cows. Dan Kettner moved throughout the ranch with his camera while Ashley provided the commentary.

796 STUDENTS ENGAGED
53 CLASSROOMS INVOLVED
12 FARM CAMP EXPERIENCES
Oakdale Farm is in West Central Minnesota. Erica is a sixth-generation turkey farmer working alongside her father and husband growing corn, soybeans and raising light hens.

New Roots Incubator Farm Coop, which is located near Dilworth, Minn., supports farmers with fewer than 10 years of experience, including New Americans, Native Americans, people of color, veterans, or women.

Oakdale
New Roots
November 2020
https://youtu.be/9MyGyNgK

WHEAT: FROM FARM TO THE PLATE
Did you know that in the United States, there are six main classes of wheat? In this Teacher Tour you will:
- Meet a wheat farmer to see how wheat is grown.
- Visit the Northern Crop Institute to discover unique careers...
- Pop into Minneapolis a bakery to see a stone mill in action
- Join in a virtual cooking class with a professional chef and a MN farmer!

AGRICULTURE: LOCAL TO GLOBAL
Are agricultural products grown in Minnesota exported all over the world? In this Teacher Tour you will:
- Explore a soybean farm where different production practices are used.
- Visit the Northern Crops Institute to see the process of making tofu.
- Experience MN’s local flavor by exploring Featherstone Farm.

‘SOTA GROWN FOOD POD
Can you grow food in a shipping container? In this Teacher Tour you will:
- Witness the technology that allows ‘Sota Grown Food Pod to supply fresh, nutritious food, year-round
- Investigate hydroponic production, its benefits and challenges.
- Discuss needed curricular tools and resources to bring to your classroom!

SOIL FUELS SUCCESS
What resources is at the heart of almost all agricultural production? Soil! In this Teacher Tour you will:
- Dig in to soil components and their value.
- Explore the evolution of conservation tillage on the Ponwith Family Farm.
- Investigate the environmental benefits of conservation tillage practices.
**30+ YEARS**

- Compeer Financial
- Minnesota Corn Growers Association
- Northarvest Bean Growers Association
- Midwest Dairy Association
- MN Soybean Research & Promotion Council
- Minnesota Farm Bureau Foundation
- Minnesota Livestock Breeders Assn.
- Minnesota Beef Research & Prom. Council
- Minnesota Pork Board

**25+ YEARS**

- Minnesota Farmers Union
- Minnesota Grain and Feed Association
- Minnesota Honey Producers Association
- Minnesota Assn of Agricultural Educators
- Minnesota Wheat Research & Prom. Council
- Rosen Family Foundation

**15+ YEARS**

- AgCountry Farm Credit Services
- Steele-Waseca Co-op Electric
- Minnesota Agri Growth Council
- Southern Minnesota Beet Sugar Cooperative
- Jennie-O Turkey Store
- Minn-Dak Farmers Cooperative
- Midwest Food Products Association

**5+ YEARS**

- Carver County Farm Bureau
- Ed Frederick
- Mary Larson
- Randy Mathiowetz
- Joel Mathiowetz
- CoBank
- Charles & Yvonne Erickson
- Gerald & Connie Mulder
- Walter Munsterman
- SE Grains & Feed Dealers
- Minnesota CattleWomen
- Lac Qui Parle County Farm Bureau

**1-4 YEARS**

- Bayer
- Benton County Fair
- CFS - Truman
- Martin County Corn & Soybean Growers
- Martin County Youth Foundation
- Mcleod Cty Corn & Soybean Growers
- NuWay - K&H Cooperative
- Protein Alliance
- Rock County Farm Bureau
- Brown County REA
- Fairmont Veterinary Clinic
- Miles & Sarah Kuschel
- Mark & Mary Davis Foundation
- Martin County Pork Producers
- MN Cultivated Wild Rice Council
- Redwood Area Cattlemen
- Absolute Energy LLC
- Vernon Cardwel
- Ahnna & Kyle Compart
- Steven & Kathleen Geis
- Mcpherson Crop Management
- National Agriculture in the Classroom Organization
- Vicky & Scott Singlestad
- David & Bonnie Mathiowetz
- Kari Schwab
- Glen Schmidt
- Ann Marie Ward
- Redwood Area Chamber Ag Committee
- Keri Sidle
- Greta Tank
- Riverview LLP
- Jennifer Wagner-Lahr
- Deanne Nelson
- Dakota County Farm Bureau
Minnesota Agriculture in the Classroom Foundation is lead by Executive Director, Ann Marie Ward, under the direction of a 13 person Board of Directors.

Meet the Board of Directors

1. Ahnna Compart, Chair
   Compeer Financial, Nicollet

2. Miles Kuschel, Vice Chair
   Farm Bureau, Sebeka

3. Tom Walsh, Secretary/Treasurer
   Riverview Dairy, DeGraff

4. Glen Schmidt
   Farmers Union, St. Paul

5. Jen Wagner-Lahr
   AURI, Cold Spring

6. Scott Winslow
   MN Corn Growers, Fountain

7. Josh Kukowski
   Educator, Waconia

8. Lori Cox
   Roots Return Heritage Farm LLC, Carver

9. Jenna Davis
   Midwest Dairy Association, Cokato

10. Katie Davis
    MN Beef Council, Maple Plain

11. Dr. Steven Geis
    North Trail El, Farmington

12. Tiffany Kortbein
    Greenvale Park Elementary, Northfield

13. Pam Debele
    MN Turkey Growers Association, Buffalo

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT WITH DR. TREUER

Native Americans are often imagined but infrequently well understood. This professional development opportunity for Minnesota Agriculture in the Classroom staff and stakeholders helped to build understanding.

We joined celebrated author and racial equity advocate, Dr. Anton Treuer, for a deep look at how race is impacting all of our learners and how to connect more meaningfully. This workshop addressed systemic racial advantages and disadvantages for learners and was attended by 117 stakeholders of Minnesota Agriculture in the Classroom.

ABOUT DR. TREUER

Anton Treuer (pronounced troy-er) is Professor of Ojibwe at Bemidji State University and author of 19 books. His equity, education, and cultural work has put him on a path of services around the region, the nation and the world.

Learn more at antontreuer.com.
MINNESOTA AGRICULTURE IN THE CLASSROOM FOUNDATION

FARM CAMP

2020-2021 Expense by Type

2020-2021 Income by Type
Meet your Minnesota Agriculture in the Classroom Team:
Emily Ponwith, Keri Sidle, Sarah Kuschel, Sue Knott, Toni Dauwalter, Ann Marie Ward, Ann Vote

OUR MISSION:
AGRICULTURE IS VALUED BY ALL

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