



SILVERTON FFA

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Dear Oregon FFA,

My science teacher once told me that she could determine the leaders were in her class by watching their reaction to trash. This sounds ridiculous, I know, but once she explained her theory to me, my view on trash was completely changed, and so was my view on leadership. She explained to me that when she notices a piece of trash in her class room she watches it carefully to see how the students respond to it. A few of the students actually leave the trash there in the first place, she calls them the instigators. Many see the trash and walk right past it, she calls them the spectators. A few students actually stop on their way out the door and pick up the garbage and throw it away, she calls them the leaders.



In life we have three options: to be the instigators who contribute to a problem, to be the spectators who watch life go by, or to be the leaders who make things happen. Mohandas Ghandi, a leader I admire, said, "Actions express priorities" and it is my true intention to demonstrate that through my actions and not just in empty words. A true leader doesn't just look at the trash and tell someone else to pick it up; they pick it up themselves to set an example for others to follow.

Through my four years in FFA I have learned many valuable lessons while working with people in competitions such as interview skills and public speaking. My chapter and district leadership positions have ignited a passion, dedication and desire to take on responsibilities that I have enjoyed immensely. I have seen first hand how important it is to lead by example and how to initiate positive change.

Oregon FFA, we cannot be the ones to walk past the trash, we need to be the leaders who get up and make things happen! Let's make great things happen together: one piece of trash at a time. So it is, with great excitement and pleasure, that I announce to you, Oregon FFA, my candidacy for the 2014-2015 State Officer Team. I consider it an honor and a privilege to run for this esteemed position, and I look forward to meeting as many of you as possible in Bend during State Convention!

Sincerely,

Meghan Stadel

*If your actions inspire others to dream more,
learn more, do more and become more, you are
a leader.*

John Quincy Adams

The FFA Mission

FFA makes a positive difference in the lives of students by developing their potential for **premiere leadership, personal growth and career success** through agricultural education.