



Harrisburg FFA Chapter

400 S Ninth St, Harrisburg OR, 97446



Dear Oregon FFA,

The most important qualities you can have as a person and especially as a leader is understanding and compassion. There are many times when we need to rely on others, but how often do we find ourselves lending that same helping hand to the people around us? While in this cycle it can be easy to continue on this one-way street, but all it takes for a change is to look, *truly look*, and consider the person and their situation on the other side of the road. Then maybe we can fulfill that vital need their circumstances call for. Let me tell you about a time where I was challenged to do this.

Three days into the five day camp week and my campers are having the time of their lives! We had just finished dinner and a day full of running around in the sunshine. We were heading to the whole camp gathering as our final event for the night. One of the girls complained. She wanted to do something else. She went on for several minutes about this and gave her usual excuses. She was “tired” and “bored”. Frustrated from this recurring experience I was ready to calmly tell her that “what we do we all do together”. Before I gave my response I observed her behavior. It became clear to me that she truly was overwhelmed and exhausted. I recalled that she was constantly busy all day, and for kids that just spent two years not being in school or having social interactions, being at camp definitely was exhausting. So, I relented, I let the other girls and my counseling partner attend the event. This girl and I instead listened to music and took a break doing nothing else, away from all the noise. Because of this, I saw her relax for the first time. She was ready to do anything we had scheduled for the next day. All she needed was someone to understand that what was easy for the other kids was actually really hard for her; she needed that break. Clearly I did too, because it helped me to realize that being able to assess her needs and provide that break for her was essential to give her the best camp experience that she could have.

Oregon FFA, I would like to be a leader who gives you understanding and compassion through individual interactions and in large scale settings. This year, we can contribute to our high-achieving community by listening to each other and lending our hands to the people around us. So together let's take every opportunity to make it happen. I will contribute to this goal in my candidacy for Oregon FFA's State Officer Team 2023-2024

Lovingly,

**"YOU HAVE THE POTENTIAL TO CHANGE SOMEONE'S
DAY, THEIR WEEK, OR EVEN THEIR LIFE BY LETTING THEM
KNOW HOW MUCH THEY MATTER TO YOU"- JOHN C.
MAXWELL**

Alexis L. Laiblin
Harrisburg FFA Vice President

2019-2020

Greenhand

FFA Activities:

- Scio Ag Olympics
- Chapter Winter Degree Ceremony
- District Beg. Parliamentary Procedure

Other Activities:

- Wrestling Stats
- Kids Camp Counselor

2020-2021

Greenhand

Chapter

Treasurer

FFA Activities:

- 4th of July Float
- State Officer Hike
- Virtual Leadership Camp
- Canned Food Drive
- Wreath Sale Fundraiser
- Park Restoration Project
- FFA Day
- State Horse Evaluation

Other Activities:

- Kids Camp Counselor
- Wrestling Stats
- Equestrian Drill Team Captain

2021-2022

Chapter Degree

Chapter Vice

President

FFA Activities:

- Living2Serve Conference
- 4th of July Float
- Pass the Boot Fundraiser
- Harrisburg Harvest Festival
- Chapter Officer Retreat
- 8th Grade CDE Day
- Chapter Winter Degree Ceremony
- FFA Day Presentation
- FFA Assembly
- District Co-op Quiz 1st place
- Harrisburg FFA Ag Fair
- State Co-op Quiz
- Oregon State Convention
- State Horse Evaluation
- Chapter Banquet

Other Activities:

- Wrestling Stats
- Kids Camp Counselor
- Bible Study Leader

2022-2023

Chapter Degree

Chapter Vice

President

FFA Activities:

- Chapter Banquet
- 4th of July Float
- Harrisburg Harvest Festival
- Upper Willamette District Leadership Camp
- District Rituals
- Chapter Officer Retreat
- Scio Ag Olympics
- 8th Grade CDE Day
- Wreath Sale Fundraiser
- State Degree Workshop
- Chapter Officer Retreat #2

Other Activities:

- Kids Camp Counselor
- VBS Group Leader
- Link Crew Leader
- Varsity Cheer Captain
- Wrestling Stats
- Varsity Wrestling
- Church Worship Leader
- Mr. Eagle Pageant