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Northside Middle National Top 5 Finalist for FFA Award



HOUSTON COUNTY, GA – Northside Middle School’s FFA chapter has been named a top five finalist for the 2019 National FFA Middle School Model of Excellence award. This is the highest honor that the National FFA organization bestows upon a middle school chapter.

Four members of Northside Middle’s 2018-2019 FFA chapter will represent the school at nationals. Riley Mitchell, Lacey Weddington, Molly Crabb and Gracie Bananto will travel with their advisor,

Christina Sanders, to Indianapolis, Indiana Oct. 30 – Nov. 2, 2019.

Pictured (from left) are members of the 2018-2019 FFA chapter: Josie Duckworth, Sierra Fransioli, Morgan Card, Gracie Bananto, Molly Crabb and Gabriel Turner.

The National FFA Middle School Model of Excellence award recognizes outstanding chapters that actively implement the FFA mission and strategies. Middle school chapters had to earn a high three-star rating during judging to be considered for eligibility. Northside Middle’s students are one of only five teams that will compete at the 92nd National FFA Convention and Expo, and all five finalists are from the state of Georgia. For the competition, the students will do a presentation and an interview. The winning chapter will be announced during the convention’s closing ceremony.

John Deere is the corporate sponsor for FFA. “Feeding some 9 billion people by mid-century brings with it unprecedented challenges for today’s farmers,” said Amy Allen, manager, national corporate contributions for John Deere. “The skills and experiences learned through the National Chapter Award Program will help meet the critical needs.”

Schools improve their chapter operations using the National Quality FFA Chapter Standards and a Program of Activities that emphasizes growing leaders, building communities and strengthening agriculture. Chapters are rewarded for providing educational experiences for the entire membership.

The National FFA Organization provides leadership, personal growth and career success training through agricultural education to 669,989 student members who belong to one of 8,630 local FFA chapters throughout the U.S., Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands. Currently, 459,514 alumni members in 2,236 alumni chapters throughout the U.S. also support the organization.

Northside Middle School is located at 500 Johnson Road in Warner Robins. Jan Melnick serves as principal. For more information about Northside Middle's FFA program, contact Sanders at 478-929-7845 or Christina.Sanders@hcbe.net. Please visit <https://convention.ffa.org/> for information about the National FFA Convention and Expo.

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