Partnerships with NCTA

Our partnerships with agricultural industry, communities, educators and our college community are very helpful to the success of our students here at the Nebraska College of Technical Agriculture. Thank you!

This week NCTA is celebrating an exciting new venture with York Public Schools, Central Valley Ag Coop and Reinke Manufacturing, Inc., as we kick off the “Agricultural Work Certification and Ag Career Track” program for students at York High.

Irrigation technology and agriculture chemical technology are the emphasis for training high school students in the classroom, laboratory and in-field experiences for a career in agriculture.

On Thursday, Governor Pete Ricketts will help in saluting this four-part consortium in training high school students with high school and dual credit curriculums offered by York High and the Nebraska College of Technical Agriculture.

We are excited about this innovative approach to agricultural workforce readiness, a first of its kind to be offered by NCTA and a Nebraska high school.

By following a three-year curriculum as sophomores, by the time these York High Duke are graduating seniors, they can earn a college certificate. Their workforce training will have them ready for jobs in diversified agriculture, as irrigation technicians for Reinke irrigation systems throughout Nebraska or out of state, or gainfully employed as agricultural chemical applicators for CVA in central Nebraska.

These work certifications should provide a readily employable workforce for Nebraska agriculture. Or, it will put students on the pathway to further their college education here at Curtis in obtaining an associate degree from NCTA.

We are proud to be a part of this program, offering cutting-edge training for the most significant industry in the state – production agriculture and the many ag-related industries which support crop and food production.

I appreciate the commitment by YPS Superintendent Mike Lucas and his team of instructors at York High, including ag teachers Jason Hirshfeld and Cal Williams. This partnership is one of several that NCTA has forged this last year with Nebraska high schools.

More details about this ag consortium of high schools – Cambridge, Cozad, Elm Creek and York - will be shared on Oct. 22 when NCTA hosts the Rural Futures Conference here in Curtis. Mark your calendars now to join us!

Another partnership we value is the Curtis Community Garden and Farmers Market. Our NCTA horticulture club sponsors this activity, now in its second year, thanks to support from the Rural Futures Institute at the University of Nebraska.

Farmers Markets start Saturday, Sept. 5 at the Curtis Park. Contact Tee Bush at 308-367-5226, for details or to obtain booth space.
NCTA Mission:
The Nebraska College of Technical Agriculture is devoted to a statewide mission of preparing students for successful careers in agriculture, veterinary technology, food and related industries. The college provides open access to innovative technical education resulting in associate degrees, certificates, diplomas and other credentials.

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