

Julie Thelen

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Objective To obtain a position in the teaching field with the intention to serve as an Agriscience educator to make a positive difference in the lives of students.

Education

April 2010 Michigan Teaching Certificate Program, *Michigan State University*, East Lansing, MI
May 2009 Bachelor of Science in Agriculture, *Michigan State University*, East Lansing, MI
Dual-Degree: Agriscience Education and Animal Science **Teaching Minor:** Biology

Certifications

Summer 2010 Secondary Provisional Certificate - Michigan

- Agriscience & Natural Resources (HX) 6-12
- Biology (DA) 6-12
- Vocational Agriscience & Natural Resources (VA) 6-12

Teaching Experience

2010 **Lenawee Intermediate School District**, Student Teaching, Adrian, MI 49221

- Student Teaching at LISD Tech Center from March to April
- Assist with Agri-Tech am and pm classes, FFA Chapters and coach FFA teams
- Co-teach with evening Natural Science course and coach FFA teams

2009-2010 **Dundee High School**, Student Teaching, Dundee, MI 48131

- Student Teaching from August to March from 11:08 am – 3:00 pm
- Focus class in Zoology maintained from August to March
- Lead teaching in Botany from January to March and assist with Agribusiness
- Daily Responsibilities: Instruct and teach students, attendance, correct assignments, enter grades, network with parents and community, constructed unit and lesson plans, work with staff, work with chapter officers, and assist with FFA activities
- Utilize FFA Greenhouse and animal barn for hands-on learning and demonstration
- Balance the coordination of two Agriscience and FFA programs from this site
- Completed National Chapter Application - Gold Chapter with 125 members
- Coached and assisted 14 teams and 12 individuals in FFA Leadership Contests

2009-2010 **Milan High School**, Student Teaching, Milan, MI 48160

- Student Teaching from August to March from 7:30 am – 10:35 am
- Focus class in Zoology maintained from December to March
- Assist with Botany, Ecosystem Analysis, Student Resource Time and Zoology
- Daily Responsibilities: Assist students, attendance, correct papers, enter grades, prepare lesson and unit plans, instruct students, and work with building staff
- Assisted lower performing students with cross-curricular content in learning center
- Completed National Chapter Application – Gold Chapter with 76 members
- Coached and assisted 4 teams and 6 individuals in FFA Leadership Contests

2009-2010 **Professional Education Services Group, LLC (PESG)**, Southeast Michigan

- Substitute teacher for substitute service in Chelsea, Manchester, Milan and Saline
- Display flexibly when given assignments at short notice

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Work Experience

- Summer 2009 **Monroe County MSU Extension**, Monroe, MI 48161
- Created and compiled surveys for research and worked with Youth Farm Stand
- Spring 2008 **BS 110 Biology Teacher Assistant**, East Lansing, MI 48824
- Collaborated and assisted with classroom activities and presentations
- 2007, 2008
Summer **Paulsen Cattle Company**, Preston, IA 52069
- Assistant herdsman and prepared cattle and attended competitive shows
 - Professional Internship with Michigan State University in 2008
- Fall 2007 **Michigan Farm Bureau Promotion & Education Intern**, Lansing, MI 48909
- Editor of quarterly *News & Notes* Farm Bureau publication
 - Promoted Agriculture through activities and programs
- 2006-2009 **MSU Purebred Beef Cow-Calf Teaching & Res. Ctr.**, East Lansing, MI 48824
- Work with cattle to prepare for shows and sales and assist with feeding
 - Networked with state and national cattle producers to gain additional knowledge
- 2005-2008 **MSU Meats Lab**, East Lansing, MI 48824
- Process, fabricate, harvest, and package beef, pork, and lamb products
 - Assist with pre and post-operational cleaning prescribed by HACCP
- Summer 2006 **MSU Extension Farmfest Coordinator**, Jackson, MI 49202
- Planned and organized free public agricultural education event with media relations
- 1992-2010 **Hillside Acres**, Saline, MI 48176
- Raise and sell show cattle and market lambs at state sales and to 4-H/FFA members

Leadership Experience

- 2009-2010
- Region II FFA Regional Officer Assistant Advisor to 8 regional officers
 - Washtenaw County 4-H Livestock Judging Coach – 16 4-H members
 - Lenawee County and Lenawee Tech Center Livestock Judging Coach – 8 members
 - Michigan Angus Auxiliary, Miss Michigan Angus Chairperson
- 2008-2009
- Visitor and volunteer in Agriscience classrooms assisting instructors – 126 hours
- 2008-2010
- Registered Volunteer 4-H Leader for Michigan
- 2006-2010
- State 4-H Livestock Programming Committee
- 1996-2010
- Organized meetings and workshops for 4-H, FFA, and Michigan Jr. Angus Assoc.
- 2006
- Transportation Chairman for MSU Small Animals Day involving 2500 participants
 - 1 of 2 USA representatives for International Student Summit on Ag held in Japan

Collegiate Activities and Awards

- 2009
- **MSU College of Agriculture & Natural Resources** Outstanding Senior Agriscience Student and Agriscience Highlight Student
- 2007-2010
- **MSU Sigma Alpha Professional Agricultural Sorority**, House Manager, House Accountant, Alpha Nu Rush Class President, and Alumni member
- 2006-2009
- **MSU Bailey Scholars Program**, Community member
- 2005-2009
- **MSU Block and Bridle Club member**, (06-08) Executive Council, Banquet committee (07-09) and attended National Block & Bridle Convention (08,09)
 - **MSU College of Agriculture & Natural Resources Ambassador**, member
 - **MSU College of Agriculture & Natural Resources Student Senate**, Representative and Vice President
- 2008
- **MSU Collegiate Livestock Judging Team**, Competitive member
 - **MSU Block and Bridle Club Little International**, Champion Showman
 - **American Farm Bureau Federation**, Discussion Meet Contestant and Finalist

Industry and Educational Associations

- 2009-2010
 - National Association of Agricultural Educators member
 - Michigan Association of Agriscience Educators member
 - American Farm Bureau Federation member
 - Michigan Farm Bureau member and Young Farmer active participant
 - American Angus Association member
 - Michigan Sheep Breeders Association member
- 2009
 - Masters of Beef Advocacy Program graduate through National Cattlemen's
- 2007-2010
 - American Angus Auxiliary member
- 1995-2008
 - Michigan Junior Suffolk Breeders Association member
- 1990-2009
 - National Junior Angus Association member
- 2004-2006
 - Michigan Junior Club Lamb Association member
- 2006-2007
 - National Junior Shorthorn Association member
- 2003
 - Certification for the Five State Beef Initiative Program and Beef Quality Assurance

FFA Activities and Awards

- 2005-2006
 - Michigan FFA Association State Vice President
- 2001-2005
 - Saline FFA Chapter, President, Vice-President and Reporter
- 2006
 - State FFA Sheep Production Entrepreneurship Proficiency State Winner
- 2005
 - State FFA Beef Production Entrepreneurship Proficiency State Winner
 - State FFA and 4-H Livestock Judging Individual Overall & Oral Reasons Winner
 - State FFA Degree recipient and Star State Farmer
- 2004-2005
 - Region II FFA Vice President
- 2004, 2005
 - State FFA Beef, Sheep, & Diversified Agriculture Production Proficiency Gold
- 2004
 - State Runner-up FFA Outstanding Junior in Michigan

Other Activities and Awards

- 1990-2009
 - **Michigan Junior Angus Association**, Director (01-02, 05-08), Secretary (02-05), Historian (00), Representative to the Michigan Angus Association Board (06-08)
- 1998-2007
 - **National Junior Angus Show**, Exhibited cattle, Team Sales, Essay, Graphic Design, Public Speaking, Poster, and Beef Cook-Off Contest Winner
- 2001-2006
 - **Washtenaw County 4-H Junior Livestock Committee**, Founding member
- 1996-2006
 - **Livestock Judging Team**, Washtenaw 4-H (96-06), Saline FFA (02-05), State (06)
- 1994-2006
 - **Townline Workers 4-H Club**, President (98-04), Teen leader in beef, sheep, dairy
- 1997-2005
 - **Saline Lamb Club**, President, Vice President and Secretary (97-04)

Other Accomplishments

- 2008
 - Michigan Farm Bureau delegate at American Farm Bureau Federation Conference
- 2006, 2007
 - Richard L Spader NJAA Extemporaneous Public Speaking Contest Senior Winner
- 2007
 - American Angus Auxiliary Girls Crystal Award Winner of Educational Contests
- 2005, 2007
 - Michigan Farm Bureau State Discussion Meet Semi-Finalist
- 2005
 - American Angus Auxiliary Girls 1st Place Scholarship
 - Miss American Angus Contestant
- 2004
 - National Make It Yourself With Wool Junior Division 4th Runner-Up
- 2003-2004
 - Miss Michigan Angus

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Teaching Philosophy

I believe in teaching with passion. I believe in using my life experiences and bringing in the outside world to prepare students for their futures, whatever that might be. I believe in having compassion and being dedicated to my students while exhibiting the six pillars of character: Trustworthiness, Respect, Responsibility, Fairness, Caring, and Citizenship.

Ultimately, I am an adviser and life coach for my students. I will strive to teach to their needs, while still fulfilling the requirements set by the school, district, state and federal mandates. Because no two students are the same, it is important for me to get to know each and every one of my students to better teach to their needs and keep them engaged in the learning environment.

I believe in teaching students through hands-on learning. This is accomplished by expanding the classroom to be a learning laboratory that is broad in its focus. Much of this can be the individual student's particular focus through Supervised Agricultural Experiences (SAE). The student is better able to learn by experiencing first hand the activity as well as learning how to continually improve their experience.

I believe in the future of agriculture, as well as the National FFA Organization. I believe that students have a wonderful opportunity to learn and apply leadership skills as well as agricultural practices. Students have the potential to gain life skills as well as participate in well-run, student led meetings and chapter events.

I demand excellence of myself in everything that I do. I strive to keep students motivated and engaged. At the same time, I offer flexibility to my teaching and want the students to experience student led learning and to gain knowledge from their fellow classmates. Students will leave my classroom with a better understanding of the agricultural industry and natural resources fields.

References

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