

Field Notes

Growing Opportunities
in Agriculture at Rhodes State

August 2024

Welcome back to Field Notes! We hope you had a wonderful summer. As promised, we are returning with the latest updates, insights, and innovations in agricultural technology to kick off the 2024-2025 school year. This edition marks the beginning of an exciting new chapter, filled with fresh opportunities, groundbreaking projects, and valuable experiences for our students and faculty. We're thrilled to reconnect and share all the remarkable developments on the horizon. Let's make this year one to remember!

Diggin' In



2024 Summer Teacher Institute:

In June, Rhodes State College had the privilege of hosting 11 STEM teachers from 9 different school districts for an enriching week-long program. This initiative was designed to help educators explore innovative ways to integrate agricultural principles into their STEM classrooms

What's on the Horizon?

Upcoming Events!

Students, get ready to 'Lead the Change in Agriculture' on September 13th, 2024! Join us for a thrilling event where you'll connect directly with agricultural employers, immersing yourself in hands-on activities aligned with your course-work. It's not just a career fair – it's a journey of discovery, a chance to explore the vast landscape of agricultural pathways right here at Rhodes State College. Don't miss out on this incredible opportunity to shape your future in agriculture! **Register today!**

[Click for the Form](#)

Throughout the week, the teachers engaged in a variety of hands-on activities and collaborative sessions. They had the opportunity to meet with industry leaders who shared insights on the latest advancements and trends in agricultural technology. Local farmers provided practical knowledge and real-world applications of agricultural concepts, showcasing how these can be seamlessly woven into STEM education.

One of the highlights of the program was a tour of cover crop trials, which illustrated the importance of sustainable farming practices and soil health. The teachers also met with representatives from the Putnam County Soil and Water Conservation District, gaining valuable perspectives on local conservation efforts.

Interactions with Rhodes State College's agriculture faculty were particularly fruitful, as teachers gathered numerous activity ideas to bring back to their classrooms. These interactions fostered a deeper understanding of how agricultural concepts can enhance STEM curricula, making science and technology more relevant and engaging for students.

By the end of the week, the participating teachers left with a wealth of ideas and knowledge, ready to inspire and educate the next generation about the critical role of agriculture in our world.

Women in Ag

Danielle Banks: Empowering the Next Generation of Agriculture

Rhodes State College is excited to host a series of virtual Ag Lunch and Learn events, specifically designed to support and inspire young agriculturalists in the industry. These events provide a unique opportunity for participants to connect with experienced mentors who have successfully navigated their own careers in agriculture.

The first event on September 19th from 11:30 AM to 1:00 pm features Danielle Banks, USDA Grant Project Director at Rhodes State College. With a background in agriculture that led her to obtain degrees in Animal Science and Agricultural Economics, Danielle's passion for the industry has



kept her rooted in her agricultural origins and guided her into the world of agricultural education. Her story exemplifies the diverse opportunities available within the field, making her an inspiring first speaker for this series.

Each session will feature accomplished women who share their personal journeys, including how they entered the agricultural field, the challenges they've faced, and what has driven them to succeed in their current roles. Attendees will gain valuable insights into the wide range of career paths available in agriculture, from farming and agribusiness to technology and research.

The Ag Lunch and Learn series is more than just an educational event; it's a community-building platform that fosters connection, mentorship, and growth among young agriculturalists passionate about shaping the future of agriculture. [Click here](#) to register, and don't miss this opportunity to learn, connect, and grow in your agricultural journey!



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