

Russell Steven Alexander

Preferred First Name

Russell

High School

Concordia High School

Chapter Name

Concordia High School FFA

Chapter Number

KS0034

Semesters of Agricultural Education Completed

10

Years in FFA

4

In what level of education are you currently enrolled?

College/University

What college or university are you currently attending?

Fort Hays Tech North Central

Current College Major

Applied Technologies

Career Objective

My goal is to build a career in the heating and electrical trades and eventually own my own business. I plan to complete technical training and gain hands on experience through an apprenticeship. I will also learn business skills to successfully manage and grow my company.

FFA and Agriculture Education Experience

Supervised Agriculture Experience Program and Scope

My SAE is an entrepreneurship woodworking business I started through FFA. I began by designing and building cutting boards for my chapter, which helped me learn tool safety, pricing, and marketing. I then expanded into cornhole boards and other small projects for customers. As my skills improved, I began completing larger and more detailed projects. Through this SAE, I have developed skills in woodworking, budgeting, record keeping, and customer service while growing my business.

FFA Leadership Experience: (Office/Committee Assignment, Organization/Group, Year Held) - List up to 5

Chapter President: Concordia FFA Chapter; 2024-2025

Chapter Sentinel: Concordia FFA Chapter; 2023-2024

State Delegate: 2023-2024

District Delegate: 2025

Concordia FFA Mutton Busting: Committee Chair; 2025

FFA Activities: (Chapter, District or National Events; CDEs; LDEs; Leadership Programs; and other FFA sponsored activities) - List up to 10

Dairy Cattle Judging CDE: 2021-2024

Poultry Judging CDE: 2022-2025

Livestock Judging CDE: 2022-2025

Horse Judging CDE: 2023-2024

Range Judging CDE: 2023

Prepared Public Speaking LDE: 2024

Employability Skills LDE: 2025

North Central District Leadership Lab: 2023

National FFA Convention: 2021-2024

Kansas FFA Convention: 2022-2025

Other Leadership and Service Activities: (Community, School, 4-H, Church, Sports, Clubs, etc.) - List up to 10

Concordia High School Basketball: 2021-2022

Concordia Community Thanksgiving Dinner: 2017-Current

Feeding The Troops: 2024-Current

Essay Questions

What is your biggest accomplishment up until now? How has it shaped you and your leadership style?

One of the biggest accomplishments of my life so far was running for the North Central District FFA Office. Even though I didn't earn the position, the experience changed me in ways I didn't expect. I had to write and deliver a speech, sit through an interview, and put myself in front of people when I wasn't naturally comfortable doing that. Growing up, I was shy and not very outspoken. I didn't always feel confident meeting new people, and I tended to stay in my own lane. Deciding to run pushed me straight into situations that felt uncomfortable at first. But those moments forced me to grow. I learned how to speak with more confidence, carry myself professionally, and connect with people instead of avoiding interaction. Being slated was a huge turning point. It showed me that others saw potential in me, even when I doubted myself. That moment helped me realize I was capable of more than I thought. Because of that experience, my leadership style is rooted in empathy and encouragement. I understand what it feels like to be quiet or unsure, so I try to lead in a way that brings others in instead of putting them on the spot. I focus on listening, supporting, and creating an environment where people feel comfortable stepping up, just like I had to.

If elected, how would you positively influence the Kansas FFA Association?

If elected, I would positively influence the Kansas FFA Association by focusing on building confidence, connection, and involvement among members. I want every member, especially those who are shy or not very outspoken like I once was, to feel that they have a place in FFA. I would be intentional about encouraging students to step outside their comfort zones, try new leadership opportunities, and believe in their abilities. I would also work to strengthen communication and relationships between chapters by being approachable and supportive at events and workshops. By promoting participation in leadership development events, career development events, and SAE programs, I would help members see the full range of opportunities available to them. My goal would be to lead by example, showing that growth comes from taking risks, and to help create an environment where every member feels valued, challenged, and inspired to reach their potential.