

# Tanith A Erikson

**Preferred First Name**

Tanith

**High School**

South Barber High School (7-12)

**Chapter Name**

South Barber

**Chapter Number**

KS0186

**Semesters of Agricultural Education Completed**

7

**Years in FFA**

5

**In what level of education are you currently enrolled?**

High School

**If you will be enrolled in post-secondary education following election to state office, where will you be attending?**

NWOSU - Northwestern Oklahoma State University

**Anticipated College Major**

Chemistry

**Career Objective**

Agricultural Scientist

## FFA and Agriculture Education Experience

**Supervised Agriculture Experience Program and Scope**

My main long-term SAE project and goal has been to develop, breed, and manage a productive cattle herd that could produce future show and sale animals. Over the past four years, I have built skills in genetics selection, breeding records, calving management, evaluating calf quality, and making decisions about keeping or selling livestock. Alongside my cattle project, I also expanded into market/show goat and swine projects in 2025, where I focused on preparing my animals for success.

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

FFA President, Officer Team, 2025-2026

FFA Secretary, Officer Team, 2024-2025

FFA Treasurer, Officer Team, 2023-2024

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

FFA Pals - Chapter

SCD Banquet - District

National Convention - National

Washington Leadership Conference - National

SCD Veterinary Science - District

SCD Milk Quality & Product - District

Chapter Leadership Training - District

Beef Expo Livestock Judging Contest - District

South Barber Banquet - Chapter

South Barber Work Auction - Chapter

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

4-H Vice President - 1 year

4-H Secretary - 5 years

NHS Member - 1 year

Tennis Co-Captain - 3 years  
Basketball - 4 years  
Track & Field Thrower Co-Captain - 4 years  
Forensics Co-Captain - 4 years  
Volunteer at Cherokee Strip Museum, Alva, OK - 2 years  
Volunteer at Woods County Courthouse, Alva, OK - 2 years  
Volunteer at Cedar Grove Wesleyan Church - 2 years

## **Essay Questions**

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

Being put in a position of leadership is both a powerful and invaluable experience for any student in high school. The biggest accomplishment I have to list that I've been afforded through my efforts, experiences, and skills was my position as the South Barber FFA Chapter's President, and I did my utmost not to take it for granted. I remember being just a 7th grader, at the verge of being allowed to join FFA next year, and looking up to the officer team and thinking to myself, "That's where I want to be." Years later, here we are. And yet, the absolute most important and admirable thing I have learned from these experiences in office is actually quite simple: how much change just a little initiative can truly provoke. Coming from a small community like mine, twelve in my graduation class, and less than 1,000 in the town of Kiowa, Kansas, it's easy and in fact almost hard not to feel stuck. With most of our town's traditions being set in stone in the Land Run, it's not only difficult to come up with something new, but more so to actually implement it and start a change. Throughout my term as FFA President this year, I was painfully aware of this fact. And yet, I want to spark a change. My motto for this year in office was to pay our dues to our old traditions and spark new ones to carry on as those younger than us rise to leadership, just as we have before them. Luckily, through hours of planning, plenty of stress, and just a little initiative and drive, this belief was able to come to life. Starting this year, my FFA Chapter has implemented a handful of new Chapter Traditions, including but not limited to: the Annual Pancake Food Drive Feed, Elementary AG Olympics during FFA Week, AG Week for both High Schoolers and Elementary students, and an end-of-the-year petting zoo at the Elementary using FFA members' animals. Many of these are already being planned and budgeted for the next year as well, carrying true to my dream of starting new traditions. As I stated before, in small-town communities it's easy to feel stuck or even useless at times, but one must remember that even just a droplet of initiative can cause ripples within our world, and I do my utmost to carry that form of leadership with me in every aspect of my life.

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

If elected, I guarantee my influence would come in the form of an endless list of goals. Goals have always been a very important facet of my everyday life. And by 'every day', I mean it in the most literal sense. From the second I wake up in the morning, I am following a to-do list on what to pack in my bag and any errands I may have to run before school. Before I rest my head at night, I am following a to-do list I have made of my homework and whatnot for that day. Needless to say, I am no stranger to goals, and as we all know, the future is scary, but one way I have made myself less afraid of the future is by setting a timeline, a plan, a list of goals for myself that I am working on. I am not so optimistic as to state that every aspect of life can be itemized and planned out, but I will say, once again, that the future, even tomorrow, is scary. And being unprepared is truly my biggest fear in this world, so therefore I do my best to protect myself and those I care about, such as this organization, from such a fear. This appears in my never-ending to-do lists and goals to be reached. To me, there is always a brighter horizon to be reached, and with our eyes set on the prize early, anything within sight is game.