

# Braeden Luke Stutzman

**Preferred First Name**

Braeden

**High School**

Inman Jr./Sr. High School

**Chapter Name**

Inman FFA Chapter

**Chapter Number**

KS0084

**Semesters of Agricultural Education Completed**

9

**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?**

Kansas State University

**Anticipated College Major**

Agricultural and Natural Resources Communications

**Career Objective**

Lobbyist for USDA

## FFA and Agriculture Education Experience

**Supervised Agriculture Experience Program and Scope**

Dairyman- Dairy Production Placement. I worked as a dairyman at K-BarS dairy outside of Inman. I was tasked with milking the 120 cows twice a day, once at 5am and the other at 4pm. I later granted more responsibility and asked to repair technical systems and train other employees.

Hired Hand- Turf and Grass Management. I was hired by a local farmer named Chris Morrison and was asked to mow around his farm. I also took care of his animals, welded a new fence, and created an automated feeder.

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

Chapter President, Inman FFA Chapter, 1 year (2025-2026); District Treasurer, South Central District, 1 year (2024-2025); Chapter Vice President, Inman FFA Chapter, 1 year (2024-2025); Committee Chair, Inman FFA Barnyard Day Committee, 2 year (2024-2026); Chapter Junior Secretary, Inman FFA Chapter, 1 year (2023-2024)

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

Parliamentary Procedure LDE - 4 years; Ritual LDE - 4 years; Livestock Judging CDE - 5 years; Prepared Public Speaking LDE - 3 years; Extemporaneous Public Speaking - 4 years; Discussion Meet LDE - 3 years; Washington Leadership Conference - 1 year; State Convention - 4 years; National Convention - 1 year; Information Test CDE - 3 years

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

Student Council - 3 years; Class of 2026 President - 5 years; Scholars Bowl Varsity Captain - 3 years; National Barbecue Club - 1 year; Lions Club Volunteer - 4 years; Varsity Football Captain - 1 year; Varsity Golf Co-Captain - 2 years; FCA - 4 years; Choir - 1 year; NHS - 1 year

## Essay Questions

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

My biggest accomplishment up until now is the time I saved someone's life. The time came while I worked as a lifeguard at Salt City Splash Pool in Hutchinson, KS for a summer. Before the summer, I had gone through the training, and was told that a lot of the stuff they taught would rarely

ever be used, but I still paid extreme attention because you never know what could happen at the pool. I made it 1 month into life guarding at the pool, and then it happened. I was just about to go on my 20 minute break when the lifeguard at the station next to me, named Lily, blew her whistle three times in succession, and jumped in the water. I followed protocol and stood up quickly, blowing my whistle rapidly to clear the pool. Once it was clear, I rushed over to aid Lily in the rescue. I got there as she was pulling a young, unconscious boy out of the water. I checked for a pulse and there was none. We were losing crucial seconds, and I let Lily know we needed to start CPR. I yelled for the person behind me to call 911, and began chest compressions to allow Lily to regain her composure. After 30 compressions, to the beat of "Staying Alive" by the Bee Gees, and two breaths into his airways, he regained consciousness and slowly started breathing again. At this point, I was running on autopilot, recalling everything I had learned and using it exactly how I knew how to. After this, I have started to have more focus on how short life is. I really don't take any moment for granted, and I enjoy letting even the shortest of interactions with members be memorable. Within my leadership experience, I often push others to be the best they can be, knowing that life is short and they can accomplish great things if they put their minds to it.

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

If elected, I would positively influence the Kansas FFA Association by being a voice of encouragement and motivation for all members in the state. I do not come from a traditional agriculture background, and I use that as a motivator for other non-traditional FFA members to pursue their dreams within the organization. The corduroy jacket is not only for farmers and ranchers, but it is for everyone who wants to grow as a leader, grow in their knowledge of agriculture, or have a positive impact on the future generations. I moved to the rural community of Inman in 2020, and when I was asked if I wanted to join FFA, I respectfully declined because I wasn't a farmer or raised on a farm. The next year I was asked again to join, the chapter president at the time, Mabel Black, told me that "you don't have to be a farmer to join, you just have to be willing to grow and develop. I see tremendous potential in you, and I think FFA could help you". After joining, I got more and more involved over time, and in my past five years of experience in the Kansas FFA Association, I was able to connect with chapter members who come from a similar background. I was able to be a voice of encouragement and positivity for them, and by being approachable and listening to their stories, I was able to connect with so many members, many of whom I now call my closest friends. Just as Mabel saw potential in me and knew that FFA could develop me into an effective leader, I see so much positive potential in the future FFA members. If elected, I would be able to continue advocating for the members who are non-traditional like myself, as well as advocating for those more traditional members. The FFA is an organization for any and all who are living to serve, and making sure they have a voice and are represented by those who understand them is vital.