

FACILITATING COORDINATION IN AGRICULTURAL EDUCATION - 1
July 2019, SUMMARY OF ACTIVITIES FOR JAY SOLOMONSON

I. ON SITE ASSISTANCE – SCHOOLS – 1

COUNTY PARTNERSHIPS - 0

SCHOOLS – Orion

COUNTY PARTNERSHIPS – N/A

II. PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT PROVIDED – 1

PARTICIPANTS – 37

- Beginning Ag Teachers Conference, Springfield, IL

III. MEETINGS/CONVENTIONS/CONFERENCES ATTENDED –

- CASE Agricultural Business Foundation (ABF) BriefCASE Institute, Pontiac
- STAR Program Conference Call
- Onboarding Meeting with Erica and Dean at ISBE, Springfield

IV. MILES TRAVELED – Auto: 1401

V. OTHER ACTIVITIES -

- Unpacked & set up office in new location
- Assisted Schools in Posting Teacher Vacancies and Finding Quality Candidates
- Assisted Ag Teachers and Administrators with Three Circles Grant Questions
- Wrote and Sent Email Messages
- Prepared for Meetings
- Completed Monthly Reports

VI. COMMENTARY

I joined the FCAE team on July 22nd and I am ecstatic about being a part of the Illinois Agricultural Education State Staff. My first week was spent moving the office from Morrison to Moline, completing inventory, and organizing the new office. Also the first week I had the opportunity to spend a couple of days onboarding with Dean and Erica. They both have been extremely helpful as I transition into this new position. I also got to attend the CASE ABF institute and the beginning agriculture teachers conference.

This final week of July has been challenging as we found out that Mr. Ed Curry, River Ridge agriculture teacher, passed away due to an accident. Personally, I have known Mr. Curry for about 15 years and I was in shock of his passing. What amazes me is how the agricultural education community comes together in the face of tragedy. The love and support shown to Mr. Curry's family, community, and program has been truly amazing this past week. We are a family in Agricultural Education and that is something I love about this profession.