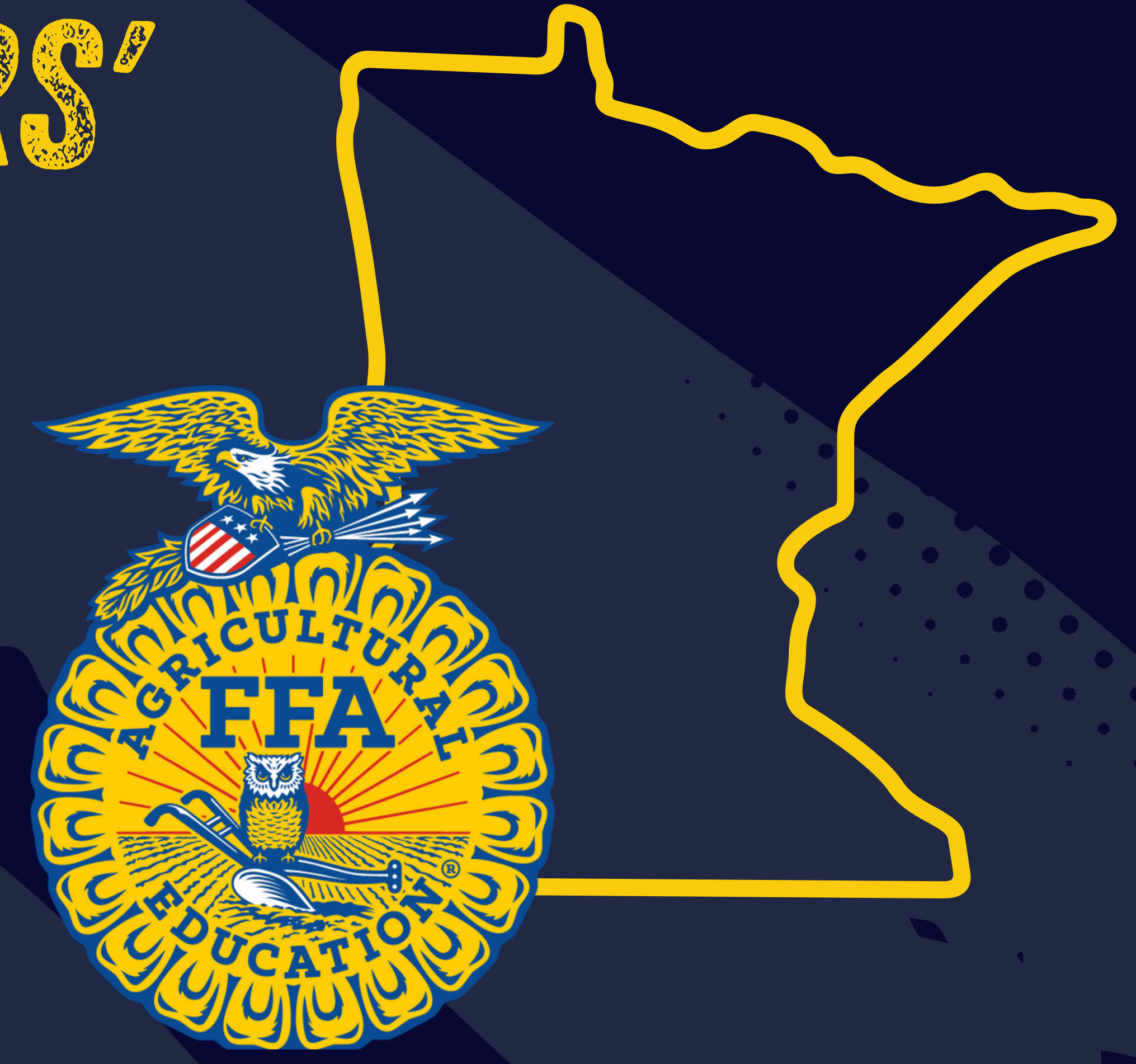


EXPLORING MINNESOTA FFA REGIONAL OFFICERS' MOTIVATING FACTORS TO LEAD

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INTRO & FRAMEWORK

- MN utilizes regional officers to provide local leadership experiences (Anderson & Kim, 2009).
- There is limited work examining officer perceptions and experiences for those holding positions between the local and state levels.
- With demographic shifts in FFA, it is critical to understand the backgrounds and motivating factors of these key leaders.
- “Ready, Willing, and Able” (Keating et al., 2014) to lead model guided the study. Students must possess:
 - Leadership self-efficacy
 - Motivations to lead
 - Leadership skills
- Regional officers receive training to maximize these 3 tenets.

PURPOSE & OBJECTIVES

PURPOSE

The purpose of this study was to examine perceptions and FFA-related leadership activities, referred to as motivating factors, which contributed to regional officers' decision to serve as a 2024-2025 MN FFA regional officer.

OBJECTIVES

- To identify student perspectives and backgrounds relating to leadership.
- To evaluate student perceptions related to their potential to influence as a regional officer.

METHODS

- Descriptive survey design with 55 MN FFA region officers (98.2%).
- Experts reviewed the instrument for content and face validity (Creswell & Creswell, 2018).
- Data analysis on Qualtrics and Excel.

RESULTS

DEMOGRAPHICS

- Female: 83.6% ($n = 46$)
- Male: 16.4% ($n = 9$)
- Age: 16.65 years
- Years in FFA: 4.24 years
- Prior Region Officer: 29.1% ($n = 16$)

MOST IMPORTANT TRAITS OF A LEADER

- Ranked 5 traits from the National FFA Officer Selection Process as most (1) to least (5) important.
- Character ($\mu = 2.06$) and communication ($\mu = 2.35$) were ranked as most important.
- Knowledge was ranked as least important ($\mu = 4.20$).

PERCEPTIONS OF INFLUENCE POTENTIAL

	Strongly Disagree	Somewhat Disagree	Neutral	Somewhat Agree	Strongly Agree	μ
I recognize a need for leadership in my region	0	0	3	27	24	4.02
I can make an impact within my region	0	0	0	14	39	4.74
Leadership is intimidating to me	10	25	17	2	0	2.20
I am a follower	6	12	30	6	0	2.67
I am a leader	0	0	8	28	18	4.19

CONCLUSIONS

- Regional officers see value in their prior FFA experiences.
- Regional officers value traits such as communication and character more than content knowledge.
- Regional officers more commonly identify themselves as leaders as opposed to followers.
- Regional officers recognize their potential to have an impact with their leadership role.

RECOMMENDATIONS

RESEARCH

- Conduct study on larger sample size and in other states.
- Conduct study at different points throughout the year of service.
- Utilize a qualitative approach.

PROFESSIONAL PRACTICE

- Develop additional training materials for regional officers.

REFERENCES & PROPOSAL



Scan the QR code to access the list of references and to read the full proposal.