



April 2024 Narrative Report

Upcoming Events:

May 2 – NCEA PD mtg.

May 3 – Master Gardener mtg

May 6 – NCEA Board mtg., 4-H Section Diversity mtg.

May 9 – Lead Educator Update, VR Dairy Recording

May 10 – Staff Mtg., ROOTED Ag Ck-In

May 13 – NCEA mtg.

May 14 – STEM update

May 15 – NSF webinar, IYCC orientation

May 19 – Clay Co 4-H Council

May 21 – Environ. Ed update, Mkt Sheep W-In

May 23 – Ag Safety Day

May 30 – Excellence in Ag Sciences Day

Brandy VanDeWalle

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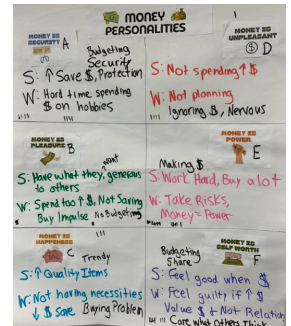
4-H Youth Development

I taught 38 Fillmore Central fifth graders the **Smart Cents** program which met their social studies standards. Youth learned their “money personality”, basic financial goals and how their educational endeavors impact their career paths. The teacher said that after participating in the Smart Cents program, her students have applied the content by talking about entrepreneurship and possible job opportunities for themselves in the future. “There was one student who realized he needed to graduate high school in order to have the job he wants, so he was telling teachers that he needed to pass his classes so he could complete high school to get the job he wants.”

I again taught the **Leadership Summit** lessons to middle school youth. I spent 2.5 hours at both the Sutton and Harvard Public Schools, reaching 14 and 19, fifth graders. One youth said because of the program, “I will not judge others on how they look.” Another said, “I will use the new skills I learned to help be a better leader and I will include everyone.” Half of youth strongly agree they are confident they can build positive friendships and appreciate and value the differences in others.

I taught five Bruning-Davenport youth Real Colors. Because of the program, one youth said, “I will be more open to other people and their perspectives.” The teacher reported that the class looks forward to using this knowledge as they continue throughout their lives and 100% of youth now feel they can create positive change in their community.

I presented 2 **YQCA trainings**, reaching 38 youth in Clay and Fillmore Counties. Youth





participated in a hands-on disease simulation which mimicked the way various diseases spread by animals encountering other animals at events such as progress shows or at county fair. I facilitated our Fillmore County **Livestock Judging** contest in conjunction with the Fillmore County YQCA.

Eleven **Clay County Clover Kids** learned the value of recycling and upcycling at April's program. Youth utilized milk jugs as pots by decorating them and took home soil and seeds to get started.



I offered a **4-H 101 program** in Geneva; while I only had one interested parent attend, we had a good discussion about how to navigate through the 4-H process.

I presented a 3-hour program as a certified Real Colors facilitator to 18 staff within Aging Partners, 4 of whom are employed by Fillmore County Senior Services. One hundred percent of participants agreed or strongly agreed content provided was appropriate for their job, the content would help them in their job, and the program was one of the better professional development programs they've participated. Participant comments included:

- "The program provided interaction from the group and kept everyone engaged."

- "I plan to be more aware of the behaviors of my clients and co-workers and recognize how I can communicate with them and problem-solve."

I taught 2 **PRK lessons on inclusion and mastery** to 14 2nd grade and 10 4th grade Exeter-Milligan students. One teacher reported she had heard youth say they need to have better self-talk because of the lesson and because of the



program, students know that they can master anything if they work on it.

Thirty-three Fillmore Central Biology students learned how electrophoresis is conducted and how it relates to plant genetics through the **ROOTED in Ag** lesson I taught.



Lead Educator & Professional Development

I attended the EZ 10 gathering where we reminded of the importance of mindfulness and learned about community development occurring in Red Cloud.



News Columns: Ag Safety Day, Tractor Safety, Resiliency