



**MAELC**

Minnesota Agricultural Education  
Leadership Council

**Sarah Dornink**  
**Executive Director**

**Senate Agriculture, Broadband & Rural Development  
Finance & Policy Committee**

**January 18, 2023**



## Who are we?

- 16-member legislative council created in 1997
- Mission Statement: MAELC provides leadership to promote and expand agricultural education in Minnesota
- Staff includes Sarah Dornink, Executive Director and Kari Schwab, Program Coordinator



# Agriculture, Food & Natural Resources Education (AFNR)

- Agricultural Literacy
- School-Based Agricultural Education
- Post-Secondary AFNR Education
- Agriculture Teacher Preparation
- Farm Business Management (FBM)

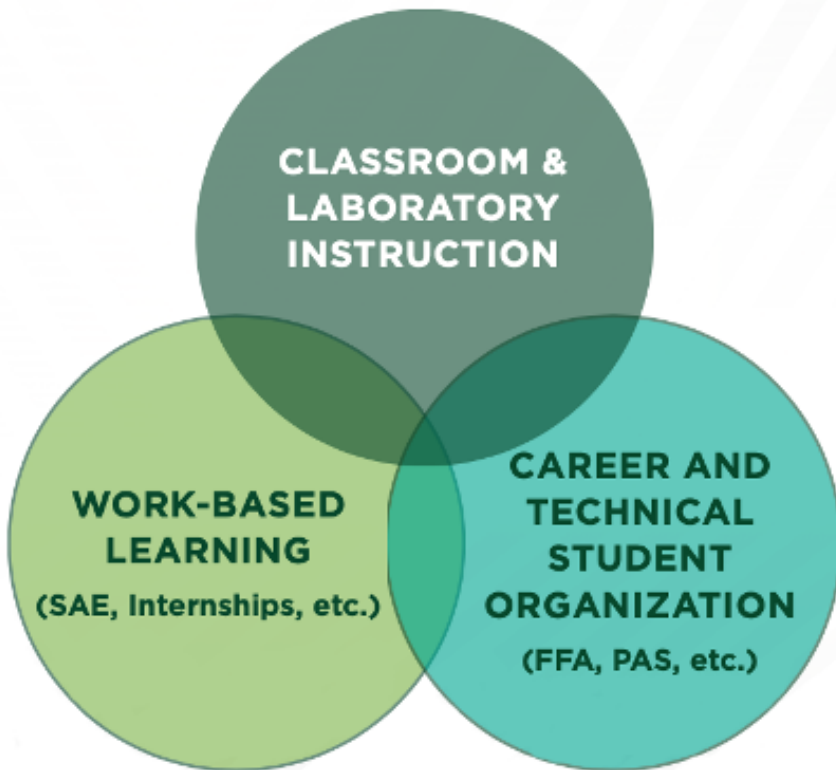


Minnesota annual demand of **18,820** for AFNR employees

Current pipeline of **1,731** AFNR students in higher education

\* RealTime Talent (2021)

# School-Based Agricultural Education



- Formal Classroom Setting
- Nearly 40,000 students grades 7-12 (mainly 9-12)
- 15,800 FFA members
- 226 programs in the state with 331 teachers
- 30 programs in the seven-county metro



# Minnesota Career Fields, Clusters & Pathways

## ■ Marketing

- > Merchandising
- > Marketing Management
- > Marketing Communications
- > Marketing Research
- > Professional Sales

## ■ Business, Management, and Administration

- > Administrative Support
- > Operations Management
- > Business Information Management
- > Human Resources Management
- > General Management

## ■ Hospitality and Tourism

- > Lodging
- > Recreation, Amusements and Attractions
- > Restaurants and Food/Beverage Services
- > Travel and Tourism

## ■ Agriculture, Food, and Natural Resources

- > Animal Systems
- > Agribusiness Systems
- > Environmental Service Systems
- > Food Products and Processing Systems
- > Natural Resources Systems
- > Plant Systems
- > Power, Structural, and Technical Systems

## ■ Finance

- > Banking Services
- > Business Finance
- > Securities and Investment
- > Accounting
- > Insurance

## ■ Arts, Audio/Video Technology, and Communications

- > Audio/Video Technology and Film
- > Journalism and Broadcasting
- > Performing Arts
- > Printing Technology
- > Communications Technology
- > Visual Arts

## ■ Information Technology

- > Information Support and Services
- > Network Systems
- > Programming and Software Development
- > Web and Digital Communications



## ■ Law, Public Safety, Corrections, and Security

- > Correction Services
- > Emergency and Fire Management Services
- > Law Enforcement Services
- > Legal Services
- > Security and Protective Services

## ■ Human Services

- > Consumer Services
- > Counseling and Mental Health Services
- > Early Childhood Development and Services
- > Family and Community Services
- > Personal Care Services

## ■ Government and Public Administration

- > Revenue and Taxation
- > Foreign Service
- > Governance
- > National Security
- > Planning
- > Public Management and Administration
- > Regulation

## ■ Education and Training

- > Administration and Administrative Support
- > Professional Support Services
- > Teaching/Training

## ■ Health Science

- > Biotechnology Research and Development
- > Diagnostic Services
- > Support Services
- > Health Informatics
- > Therapeutic Services

## ■ Transportation, Distribution, and Logistics

- > Facility and Mobile Equipment Maintenance
- > Health, Safety, and Environmental Management
- > Logistics Planning and Management Services
- > Sales and Services
- > Transportation Operations
- > Transportation Systems/Infrastructure Planning, Management, and Regulation
- > Warehousing and Distribution Center Operations

## ■ Architecture and Construction

- > Construction
- > Design/Pre-construction
- > Maintenance/Operations

## ■ Manufacturing

- > Production
- > Manufacturing Production Process Development
- > Maintenance, Installation, and Repair
- > Quality Assurance
- > Logistics and Inventory Control
- > Health, Safety, and Environmental Assurance

## ■ Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics

- > Engineering and Technology
- > Science and Mathematics

**Contact Us**  
[www.MinnState.edu/System/CTE](http://www.MinnState.edu/System/CTE)

### Legend:

- = Career Cluster
- > = Career Pathway

Explanation provided on reverse side.

# AFNR Pathways

*Learning by Doing – Minnesota students gain relevant industry skills and food and environmental literacy through classes and experiences related:*

## ■ Agriculture, Food, and Natural Resources

- > Animal Systems
- > Agribusiness Systems
- > Environmental Service Systems
- > Food Products and Processing Systems
- > Natural Resources Systems
- > Plant Systems
- > Power, Structural, and Technical Systems



**CAREER FIELD**

Agriculture, Food,  
& Natural Resources

# Post-Secondary AFNR & Farm Business Management (FBM)

## Post-Secondary

- 32 (of 33) Minnesota State institutions plus the University of Minnesota, Twin Cities & Crookston offer degree programs in AFNR
- Over 1,700 AFNR degrees awarded between the Minnesota State and UMN systems (2022)

## FBM

- 62 Farm Business Management Instructors
  - \*\*Added urban and specialty crops
- 7 Minnesota State colleges
- 2,800 students enrolled statewide in the program



MINNESOTA STATE



UNIVERSITY  
OF MINNESOTA



# Agriculture Teacher Preparation

- Current agriculture teacher licensure programs:



- Southwest Minnesota State University, Marshall
- University of Minnesota, Crookston
- University of Minnesota, Twin Cities
- Minnesota State Colleges & Universities (2+2)

- Approximately 40 students enrolled in teacher preparation programs statewide
- 100 openings for the 2022-2023 school-year
- 60 filled by new teachers that were not teaching last year (12 unfilled)







# MAELC Funding

In 1997 the Minnesota Legislature provided a biennial special appropriation to the University of Minnesota base level funding for the enhancement of agricultural education programming.

MAELC Operations & Scholarships

\$240,109

MAELC Grants, Special Initiatives & New Programming

\$250,000

Farm Business Management & Mentor Program Grants

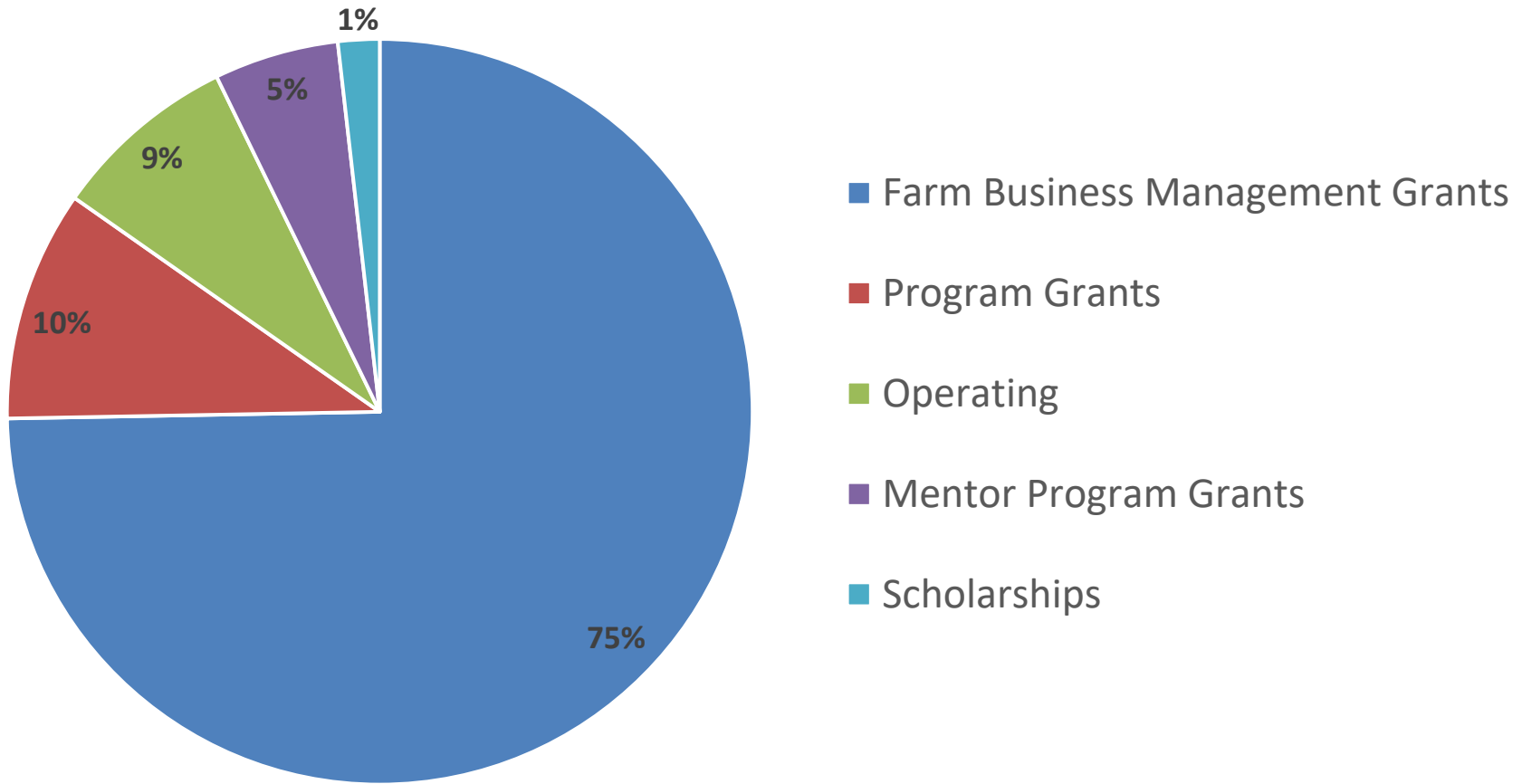
\$2,000,000

**Total Budget:** \$2,490,109/year

MAELC is housed at the University of Minnesota – St. Paul



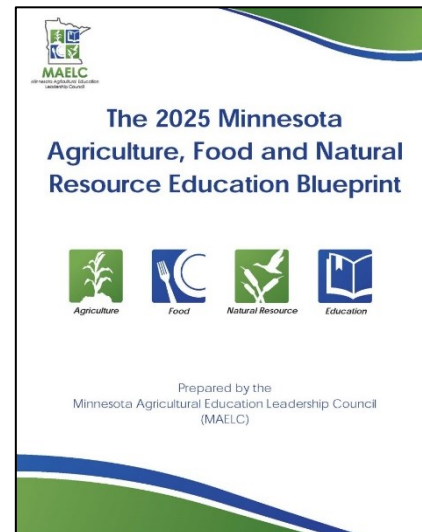
# MAELC Budget Breakdown





# Meeting MAELC's Mission

- Leadership, Engagement & Promotion
- Starting & Supporting AFNR Programs
- Teacher Recruitment & Retention





## Meeting MAELC's Mission

### Leadership, Engagement & Promotion

- **Provide visibility and communications**
- **Organize strategic committees/meetings**
- **Represent Agricultural Education at various functions**
- **Serve as a resource for the legislature and government agencies**
- **Facilitate Minnesota Team AgEd**







## Meeting MAELC's Mission

### Starting & Supporting AFNR Programs

- **MAELC Grant Programs**
  - Program Grants
  - Farm Business Management
  - Mentor Programs
- **Outreach to Schools (New & Current)**
- **Curriculum**
- **Focus on Work-Based Learning & Internships**
- **AgEd for All (Equity, Diversity & Inclusion Efforts)**



# Farm Business Management (FBM) & Mentor Program Grant Funds

**\$2,000,000 / year**

**-FBM Challenge Grants - \$1,730,000**

**-FBM Additional Instructor Grants - \$125,000**

*\*Specialty Crops & Urban*

**-Mentor Program Grants - \$135,000**

**-Evaluation - \$10,000**



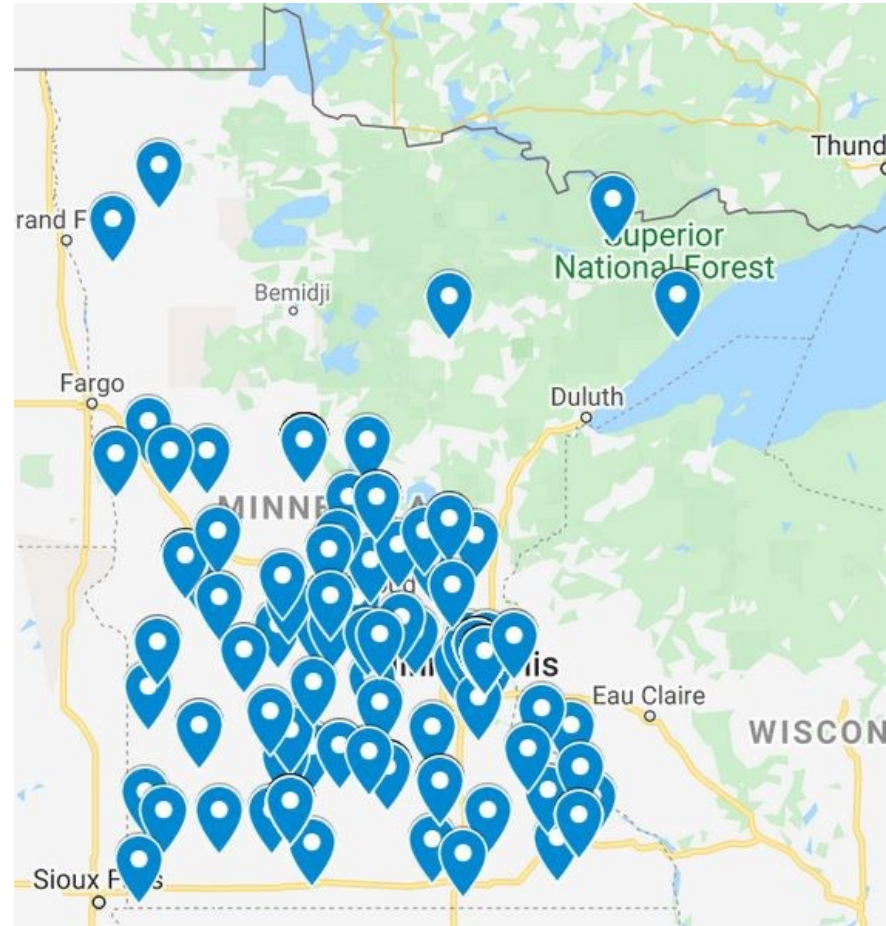


# Program Grant Funds

**\$250,000 / year**

- **Common Fund (Statewide)**
- **Strategic Initiatives**

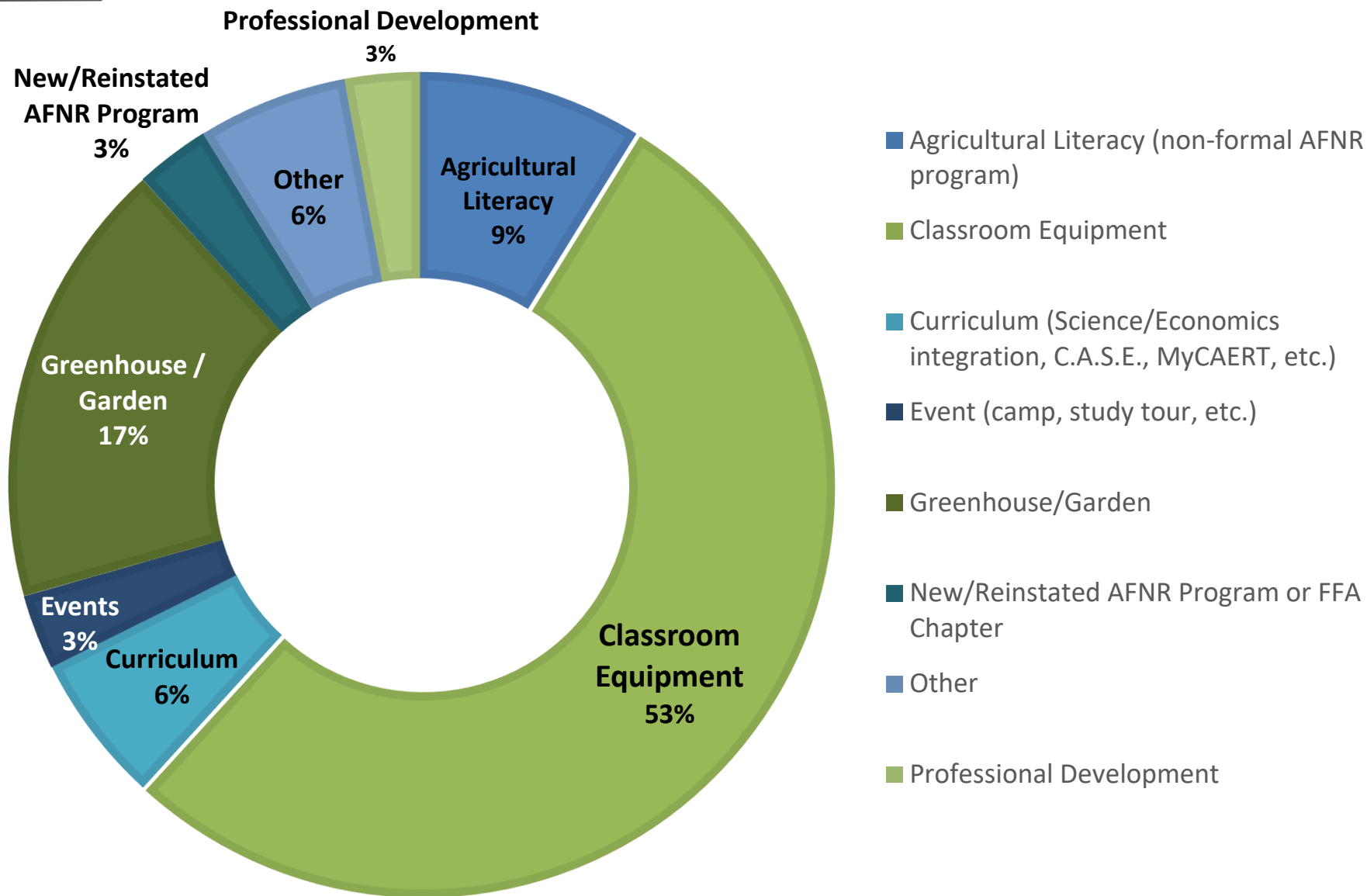
- **47% - School-Based Programs**
- **23% - Post-Secondary**
- **17% - AFNR Education Support Organizations**
- **13% - Agricultural Literacy**



\*Nearly \$300,000 per year of grant requests go unfunded



# Which Category Best Describes Your Grant Project?

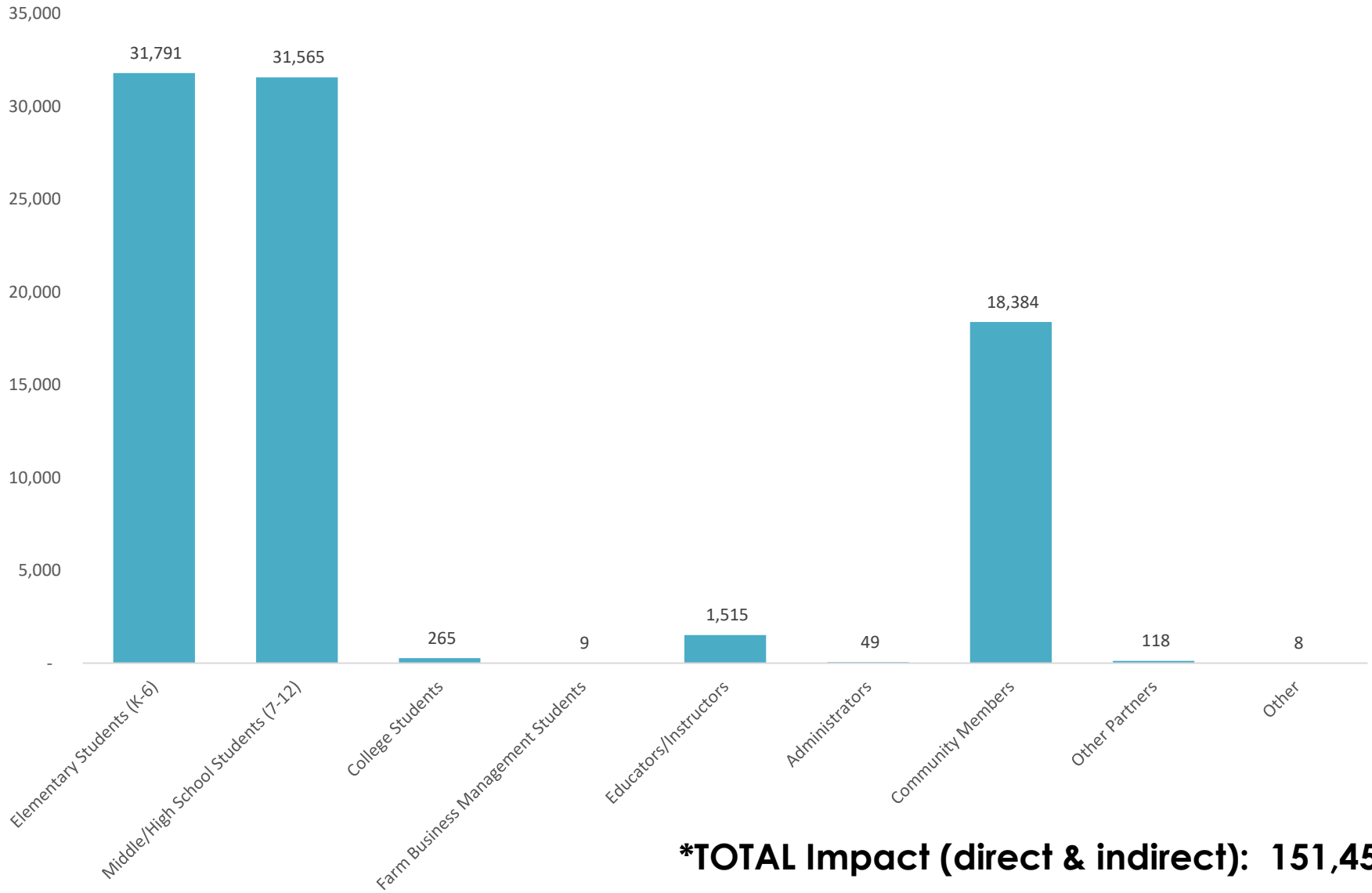




# MAELC Grant Impact – One Year Example

*\*All information is self-reported by grantee*

## Total Direct Impact: 83,704



**\*TOTAL Impact (direct & indirect): 151,455**





# What is the greatest impact this grant has had in your school/community?



“I think that the greatest impact is in **career awareness and student curiosity** because it makes science more interesting and relevant.”

“I also feel with the lack of state funding for equipment to technical programs, grants like the **MAELC grant will become increasingly important** for programs to survive.”





## Meeting MAELC's Mission

# Teacher Recruitment & Retention

- **State Teach Ag Results (STAR)**
- **MAELC Scholarship Programs**
  - **Undergraduate, Graduate & Diversity**
- **Collegiate Internship Program**
- **Mentor Programs**
- **Professional Development**



# Minnesota's STAR Committee



*The State Teach Ag Results (STAR) was created by the National Teach Ag Campaign & is designed to assist states in creating sustainable and effective recruitment and retention plans to help fulfill the agriculture teacher shortage.*

- **Chaired by MAELC**
- **A few of our strategies**
  - Website/Social Media Presence (Communications Intern)
  - Current and Future Teacher Recognition/Celebration
  - Midwest Regional Future Agriscience Teacher (FAST) Symposium
  - Teach Ag Signing Day for committed future teachers
  - Statewide Teacher Community Building Efforts
  - Inclusion & Diversity Efforts
  - Teach Ag Booth & Workshop
  - Agricultural Education Internship



[teachagmn.org](http://teachagmn.org)



## Scholarship Funds

**Undergraduate (Juniors & Seniors)**

**\$15,000**

**Graduate (Additional & Initial Licensure)**

**\$10,000**

**Diversity (Undergraduate & Graduate)**

**\$5,000/scholarship (MAELC/donor match)**

*Since 2000, MAELC has provided 781 scholarships for over \$797,000 to students studying Agricultural Education at the post-secondary level*



# AFNR Education Challenges & Opportunities

- Increasing access to programming and FFA membership
- Matching industry workforce needs and having accurate employment data
- Ensuring flexibility in curriculum to fulfill credits and provide students choice in their schedules
- Increasing opportunities for concurrent enrollment, work-based learning/internship, and summer programming
- Maintaining equipment to be industry aligned and current
- Ensuring we meet the demand for quality agriculture teachers in the classroom





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Leadership Council

**Thank you.**

**For more information, contact Sarah Dornink at:**

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612-624-6249

[www.mn.gov/maelc](http://www.mn.gov/maelc)