

**Jason Davis**

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**College of Agriculture & Life Sciences**

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North Carolina State University is a land-

grant university and a constituent institution

of The University of North Carolina

January 8, 2019

**MEMORANDUM**

To: FFA Advisors

From: Jason Davis, State FFA Coordinator

Re: Capital Connections/Legislative Day

The North Carolina FFA Capital Connections/Legislative Day will be held Tuesday, February 19th, 2019 at the State Capitol (1 E. Edenton Street, Raleigh, NC 27601) and the Marriott Raleigh City Center (500 Fayetteville St., Raleigh NC 27601). The purpose of this event is to expose and educate students on state government, current issues, citizenship, public policy, and civic engagement. Registration for the event is $41 per participant and advisor, which includes lunch. You will be emailed an invoice upon completion of your online registration.

The tentative schedule for the day is as follows:

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| 9:00 am -11:00 am | Representative visits/photos at the NC Capitol on your own |
| 11:30 am | Group photo at historic Capitol steps |
| 12:00 pm | Lunch: Marriott Raleigh City Center (4-block walk) |
| 1:00 pm | Program: Various NC public officials |
| 2:00 pm | NC SPIN |
| 3:30 pm  | Dismissal  |

You must pre-register for the event online by February 1, 2019.
To register, please visit: <https://goo.gl/forms/7UVHpR7DqxxFtcY12>

Participants MUST bring/wear the following to take part in scheduled activities:

* Photo ID (driver license, passport, or school ID) for security at the Capitol
* Official Dress as outlined in the Official FFA Manual (Encourage students to wear comfortable shoes, as the Marriott is a 4-block walk from the Capitol. Heels are not required as official dress.)

You will be provided with access to:

* NC FFA Ag Facts sheet
* Press releases

Please note that all visitors entering into the North Carolina State Capitol are screened prior to their entrance. Students and advisors should be prepared for security screening and additional wait times. Backpacks or large purses are discouraged.

Parking for personal vehicles or vans can be purchased at the Marriott deck or several other public parking venues around the downtown area. <https://www.godowntownraleigh.com/get-around/parking>

For large groups, bus parking, including 15-passenger vans, is located at the corner of Blount and Jones Streets (enter from Jones Street). No cars, vans smaller than 15-passenger, or trucks are allowed in this lot.

A highlight of the conference will be a panel produced and directed by Mr. Tom Campbell based on the TV show, NC SPIN. Tom and his cast of political panelists will debate current issues on youth, education, and agriculture. At the conclusion of their discussion, students will be allowed to weigh in and even provide the panelists with questions.

The day will begin with visits at the capitol. While you are at the capitol, you are encouraged to visit your local representatives in the North Carolina House and Senate. Remember that this day is focused on civic engagement and responsibility. Please take the time to thank your representatives for their service to our state and ask them for a photo to be placed in your local paper commemorating your visit.

Your representatives are very busy. Please take a moment to correspond with your representatives before the event to ensure that they will be available to visit. To locate your representatives at the North Carolina General Assembly, please visit: <http://www.ncleg.gov>.

An example letter is below.

If you or your students require any special modifications or meal requirements, please notify our office before February 1, 2019.

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January 03, 2019

XXth District Representative

NC House of Representatives/Senate

300 N. Salisbury Street

Raleigh, NC 27603-5925

Dear Honorable,

FFA student leaders from across North Carolina will meet in Raleigh, North Carolina for a civic engagement, leadership, and citizenship development conference on February 19, 2019. Being America’s top agricultural youth organization, the FFA hopes to give these students an opportunity to interact with lawmakers and learn more about the policy-making side to the agricultural industry and America’s food source.

Time has been allotted for these student leaders to meet with their representatives and senators on Tuesday, February 19, 2019, from 9:00 to 11:00 am. We respectfully request to meet with \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ for approximately 10 minutes during this time as an opportunity to learn about policies impacting agriculture, education, and North Carolina in general.

Thank you for your time and consideration. Your support of North Carolina Agricultural Education and the FFA is appreciated. Please feel free to contact me at \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_for any additional information that you may need. I look forward to your reply.

Sincerely,

Name

XXXXXXXX FFA Chapter