The Mission of Agricultural Education at Freedom High School is to challenge students to explore and prepare for the diversity of the agriculture industry and careers that it provides.

Program Objectives:
- Provide current information on the agricultural industry and its 7 soon 8 career cluster areas
- Enhance academic “core standards” within the curriculum of agriculture-6 Elective Science Credits
- Provide top flight technology access to students
- Engage students in “hands on” learning – Rigorous, Relevant
- Engage students in community activities with FFA
- Enhance student learning with SAE projects

2015-2016 Course Offerings Running:
- Ag. Science 1
- Ag. Science 2
- Animal Science and Pet Care
- Aquaculture & Advanced
- Aquaculture Lab & Advanced
- Food Science
- Forestry
- Leadership for Life
- Horse Science
- Veterinary Science
- Wildlife Management 1
- Wildlife Management 2


Professional Involvement of Instructors:

Kevin Champeau
Wisconsin Association of Agricultural Educators (WAAE) since 1985
Section 8 Vice President: 2010-12
Section 8 Alternate Vice President: 2008-10
National Association of Agricultural Educators (NAAE) since 1985
Region III Conference Attendee since 2006
Wisconsin Aquaculture Advisory Council
Agriculture/Science Integration Committee
Sea Grant Review Panel
Presenter at US Fish and Wildlife Conference & World Aquaculture Conference

Paul Larson – National Assoc. of Agricultural Educators, Outstanding Teacher - 2015
National Teacher of the Year Finalist, Assoc. of Career & Technical Education - 2012
Wisconsin Agricultural Education Foundation (WAEF, Inc.) 2010-present
Chairman – 2011- present
Founding member
Wisconsin Agricultural Education and Workforce Development Council (WAEWDC) 2006-present
Chairman, 2012-13, Executive Committee member – 2006-present
Council member – WAEF Representative
Founding member
National Council for Agricultural Education – Quality and Growth Initiative
National Advocacy Chair - 2007-present
Wisconsin Association of Agricultural Educators (WAAE) since 1987
Outstanding Service Award - 2008
President-Elect, President, Past President – 1994-97
Section 8 Vice President - 1992-94
Section 8 Alternate Vice President - 1990-92
National Association of Agricultural Educators (NAAE) since 1987
Outstanding Service Award - 2008
Region III Vice President – 2003-05

In 1950, the 81st Congress of the United States, recognizing the importance of the FFA as an integral part of the program of vocational agriculture, granted a Federal Charter to the FFA. In 1998, the 105th Congress of the United States reviewed and passed technical amendments. This shows through the revisions as Public Law 105-225. Because of this law all students enrolled in agriculture education classes are considered FFA members.
Agriculture Education Highlights:

Through agricultural education, students are provided opportunities for leadership development, personal growth and career success. Agricultural education instruction is delivered through three major components:

**Classroom Instruction:**

The Freedom High School Agricultural Education Department features the following:

- 2- 20 computer mobile carts
- 20’ x 30’ animal lab
- 10’ by 60’ greenhouse – 24’ by 24’ Rolling Rail High Tunnel Production House
- Wisconsin’s premier aquaculture lab facility – 1000’ square feet
- Curriculum utilizing the MyCAERT programs; includes online text and testing materials
- SMART Board Technologies
- 2- Science ready classrooms with equipment and supplies
- Hands-on Education: greenhouse operation, aquaculture production tanks, aquaponics teaching station, taxidermy, fishing lure construction, feed formulations, microscopic investigations, genetic studies, animal evaluations, animal grooming & care, and much more.

**Supervised Agricultural Experience (SAE):**

All students in agricultural education are required to conduct an SAE during their time in class. SAE projects are designed to be tailored to the interests of the student. Here are some examples:

- Owning animals: beef, swine, dairy, dogs, cats, etc.
- Working for local businesses: cheese store, ag service companies, meat locker, etc.
- Improving wildlife; trapping animals, thinning tree stands, food plot developments, etc.
- Working with plants: working for local greenhouses, planting and harvesting crops, etc.
- General Farm-hand work: milking dairy animals, crop field work, etc.
- Veterinary Care: working for local veterinary clinics in the animal housing areas
- Students are eligible to complete an award application through FFA for their work on their SAE
- There are over 40 areas students can choose from!!!

**FFA:**

The Freedom Agricultural Education Program is now an affiliated program which means all students enrolled in agricultural education are FFA members. There are no dues to pay and the level of involvement will vary with the student’s desires. The FFA chapter has accomplished the following items in 2015-2016:

- Gold Rated Chapter (highest rating) in the State of Wisconsin out of 250+ chapters
- 3-Star Chapter at the National Level (one of 231 chapters out of 7,700+ chapters in the nation)
- Students earned different levels of FFA degrees: Greenhand Degrees (First Year Members in High School), Chapter Degrees (Sophomores & Juniors), State Degrees (Seniors & Graduates), American FFA Degree (Graduates)
- 1 State Gold Rated Proficiency Awards
- Community Donations: Over 1000 lbs. of food collected for the Freedom Food Pantry
- Volunteering: 9-11 Walk, Sorting food for the Food Pantry, Breakfast on the Farm, Adopt-A-Highway on Hwy. 55, school landscape maintenance, 2nd Grade Agricultural tour, 8th Grade Career Day.

**Science Equivalency Courses:**

The DPI has approved the elective science credits for students of the agricultural education program who take the following courses. These elective science credits are eligible for use at all Wisconsin Technical Colleges and all Wisconsin’s 4-Year Universities.

- Ag. Science 1 – ½ credit  *
- Ag. Science 2 – ½ credit 
- Plant Science – 1 credit 
* Animal Science & Pet Care – ½ credit 
* Veterinarian Science – ½ credit 
* Biotechnology – ½ credit

The Freedom Ag. Education Program is supported by a very active and generous FFA Alumni Affiliate.