



OATA Fall Conference Agenda
Deschutes County Fairgrounds, Redmond
October 8–9, 2026
HiLine Homes Hall & Cascade Lakes South Hall

Agenda At-A-Glance

Thursday, October 8 - (Teaching Attire)

9:00am	DELTA Conference <i>(Invite Only)</i>
1:00pm	Extended Boot Camp Early Career Teacher PD <i>(Years 1-2 Teachers)</i> - Cascade Lakes South Hall: Lava
5:00 – 6:00 pm	Social Hour - HiLine Homes Hall
6:00 – 7:00 pm	Dinner - HiLine Homes Hall
7:00 – 8:00 pm	OATA Business Session 1 - HiLine Homes Hall

Friday, October 9 - (Teaching Attire)

7:30 – 7:50 am	Onsite Registration & Continental Breakfast - HiLine Homes Hall
8:00 – 8:30 am	OATA Business Session 2 - HiLine Homes Hall
8:30 – 8:40 am	Break
8:40 – 9:30 am	Delta Group Workshop with Mark Reardon "The X-Factor: How to change students' mindsets about learning." - HiLine Homes Hall
9:30 – 9:40 am	Break
9:40-10:10 am	Committee Meetings <ul style="list-style-type: none">● Mentoring - HiLine Homes Hall: Elk● Professional Development - HiLine Homes Hall: Doris● Advocacy - Cascade Lakes South Hall: Tumalo● Finance - HiLine Homes Hall: Eastlake● Outreach/Marketing - Cascade Lakes South Hall: Lava
10:15-11:15	Workshop Session I <ul style="list-style-type: none">● Ag Teacher Survival Guide: Staying Ahead While Protecting What Matters: Makenna Hanson-Johnson - Cascade Lakes South Hall: Lava● 27-1, Shop Management: Ben Kercher - HiLine Homes Hall: Eastlake● Rx for Success: Preparing Students for the Veterinary Science CDE: Cailey Powell - Cascade Lakes South Hall: Sparks● Navigating State Degree and Award Applications in AET: Brendan Kelley - Cascade Lakes South Hall: Tumalo● FFA Open Office Hours: Oregon FFA, AET & Resources Q&A: Lee Letsch - HiLine Homes Hall: Doris● Navigating "College Now" at LBCC: Clay Weber - HiLine Homes Hall: Eileen



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- Q&A — CTE POS / Perkins / Secondary Career Pathway Funding: Reynold Gardner
- *HiLine Homes Hall: Elk*

11:45-12:45 **Lunch and “Mock Ideas Unlimited” Gallery Walk**

12:45-1:30 **Committee Reports**

1:00pm **Joint FFA Board Meeting (Joint Board Members) - HiLine Homes Hall: Eastlake**

1:35-2:35 **Workshop Session II**

- Fish & Wildlife in the Classroom: Caitie Katzler - *Cascade Lakes South Hall: Lava*
- Exploring the New Intro to Ag & FFA Curriculum & Oregon Ag Ed Resources: Leila Graves - *Cascade Lakes South Hall: Sparks*
- Ag Issues CDE: Ellery Jones - *Cascade Lakes South Hall: Tumalo*
- More Than a Meeting: Make Your Advisory Committee Work For You: Brooklyn & Hayden Bush - *HiLine Homes Hall: Doris*
- Thinking about how we think about our teaching: Teague Teece - *HiLine Homes Hall: Eileen*
- Bone Break: Danielle Bull Wavra - *HiLine Homes Hall: Elk*

2:40-3:40 **Workshop Session III**

- Sanity Savers: Real Tips for a Smoother Classroom: Ericka Lepschat - *Cascade Lakes South Hall: Lava*
- Lead, Delegate, Accountability: Tess & Charlie Hall - *Cascade Lakes South Hall: Sparks*
- Greenhouse Made Easy: Kristin Kostman - *Cascade Lakes South Hall: Tumalo*
- What I Wish I Knew Before Restarting an Ag Program: Melissa Madsen - *HiLine Homes Hall: Doris*
- Junk to Genius: Creative Teaching with Everyday Materials: Brooklyn Bush & Heather Brown - *HiLine Homes Hall: Eileen*
- Q&A — CTE POS / Perkins / Secondary Career Pathway Funding: Reynold Gardner
- *HiLine Homes Hall: Elk*
- Degrees and Awards - Planning with Little Panic: Jeff Papke - *HiLine Homes Hall: Eastlake*

3:50-4:00 **Closing Networking**



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Workshop Descriptions

Workshop Session I

- Ag Teacher Survival Guide- Staying Ahead While Protecting What Matters: Makenna Hanson-Johnson - Balancing classes, FFA, events, and life outside school takes intentional planning. This interactive workshop explores practical strategies for managing time, preparing for busy seasons, sharing responsibilities, and protecting personal priorities. Participants will leave with planning tools and an action plan to help them stay ahead while making room for what matters most.
- 27-1, Shop Management: Ben Kercher - 27 years in 1 hour, here we go. We will discuss procedures and processes for an organized and productive class and share project plans for welding and wood shop projects.
- Rx for Success: Preparing Students for the Veterinary Science CDE: Cailey Powell - Preparing students for the Veterinary Science CDE can feel overwhelming, but effective training can be incorporated right into your classroom. This workshop will explore practical strategies for preparing students for each component of the Veterinary Science CDE, including identification, practicums, written knowledge, and team activities. Attendees will leave with useful classroom activities, study strategies, and team-training techniques that can be adapted for students at a variety of experience levels. Whether you're building a team for the first time or looking to strengthen an established program, you'll gain ideas and resources you can put to work right away.
- Navigating State Degree and Award Applications in AET: Brendan Kelley - This workshop is geared toward folks who are not as familiar with our state degree application/award applications. We will discuss basic requirements of the state degree, how to fit the requirements into curriculum, and where they get put into AET. Bring questions with you!
- FFA Open Office Hours: Oregon FFA, AET & Resources Q&A: Lee Letsch - Have questions about Oregon FFA? Trying to figure out something in AET? Looking for a form, resource, deadline, or a better way to manage your FFA program? Bring your questions to this open Q&A session with Oregon FFA staff. There's no set presentation or agenda—we'll let your questions guide the conversation. We can dig into AET, Oregon FFA programs and processes, state events, resources available to advisors, or those random "I've been meaning to ask..." questions. Come with questions, listen to what others are asking, and hopefully leave with a few answers, resources, and ideas that make your job a little easier.
- Navigating "College Now" at LBCC: Clay Weber - Informative workshop for those instructors with an interest in offering college level credit to their students and discussion/continuous feedback loop for instructors already in the program. Will focus on student learning outcomes, syllabi and aligning assessments.



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- Q&A — CTE POS / Perkins / Secondary Career Pathway Funding: Reynold Gardner - This workshop is an informal question and answer session with Dr. Reynold Gardner. There will not be a presentation and/or script. Drop in and get your questions answered then attend another workshop.

Workshop Session II

- Fish & Wildlife in the Classroom: Caitie Katzler - Implementing fish in aquaponics, hatching salmon and trout, and more into your ag classes!
- Exploring the New Intro to Ag & FFA Curriculum & Oregon Ag Ed Resources: Leila Graves - Looking for fresh, ready-to-use resources for your ag classroom? Come explore the newly completed Intro to Agriculture & FFA Curriculum, designed to give teachers engaging lessons, activities, guided notes, assessments, games, and hands-on resources that can be used throughout an introductory agriculture course.
- Ag Issues CDE: Ellery Jones - "'Cause I got issues, but you got 'em too" Learn some ways to prep an Ag Issues team!
- More Than a Meeting: Make Your Advisory Committee Work For You: Brooklyn & Hayden Bush - Stop checking the box and start making your advisory committee work for you! Explore practical strategies for building meaningful industry connections, asking better questions, gathering useful feedback, and turning advisory committee conversations into action. Leave with tools and ideas you can use at your very next meeting.
- Thinking about how we think about our teaching: Teague Teece - We pick up teaching strategies, adapt them, and let go of the ones that don't fit, sometimes without realizing it. We beg, borrow and steal. Let's slow that process down and practice it on purpose. Let's celebrate what we already do well, then look at a few strategies from Teach Like a Champion, and focus on making strategies work for us and our students. It's very meta.
- Bone Break: Danielle Bull Wavra - In this hands-on workshop, you will learn how to use Plaster of Paris to create a long bone and recreate a bone break. You will choose a fracture, create it on your plaster bone, and label the type of break and major parts of the bone. This is a great activity for Veterinary Science or Animal Science!



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Workshop Session III

- Sanity Savers: Real Tips for a Smoother Classroom: Ericka Lepschat - This fast-paced, practical workshop is designed for both new and veteran teachers seeking to streamline classroom management and save time. You will explore realistic, ready-to-use tool; including Late Work Forms for student accountability, Mustache Question Cards for efficient communication, and a practical Teacher To-Do List system. Attendees will leave with actionable templates and strategies to reduce stress and improve daily classroom organization.
- Lead, Delegate, Accountability: Tess & Charlie Hall - Great chapters aren't run by one person; they are led by unified teams. In this session, let's discover how to transform your officers into a more efficient leadership team. Learn practical strategies for intentional delegation, shared ownership, and constructive accountability so you can elevate your chapter while mitigating student and advisor burnout.
- Greenhouse Made Easy: Kristin Kostman - Take the guesswork out of greenhouse management! Explore practical scheduling tips, must-have supplies, and helpful resources to keep your greenhouse—and your students—growing strong all year long.
- What I Wish I Knew Before Restarting an Ag Program: Melissa Madsen - What do you do when you inherit a struggling program—or have to build one almost from scratch? This interactive workshop explores practical strategies for rebuilding an agriculture program, establishing your place within a school community, engaging students, developing industry and community partnerships, and creating a strong FFA/SAE foundation. Drawing from experiences rebuilding programs at multiple Oregon high schools and working within a new work-based-learning, co-taught school model, participants will examine what to prioritize, what to avoid, and how to turn a struggling or new program into a sustainable one.
- Junk to Genius: Creative Teaching with Everyday Materials: Brooklyn Bush & Heather Brown - Think you need a big budget to create engaging, hands-on learning experiences? Think again! In this workshop, we will explore creative, low-cost ways to turn simple materials into memorable learning experiences. Come ready to get creative, steal some ideas, and leave with practical activities you can use in your classroom tomorrow.
- Degrees and Awards - Planning with Little Panic: Jeff Papke - Student success through the FFA awards and recognition programs is a process. It starts with SAE development and growth, continues through accurate record keeping, relies on advisor knowledge, and depends on time management and student motivation. Learn strategies, tips, and ideas to help you be more effective and your students achieve more success through their FFA applications.
- Q&A — CTE POS / Perkins / Secondary Career Pathway Funding: Reynold Gardner - This workshop is an informal question and answer session with Dr. Reynold Gardner. There will not be a presentation and/or script. Drop in and get your questions answered then attend another workshop.