

Dear Florida FFA Advisors and Members,

It is a great pleasure to introduce myself as your Area IV State Vice-Presidental Candidate. My name is Raelynn Paniagua, and I proudly represent America's Sweetest Town, located South of Lake Okeechobee also known as the Clewiston FFA Chapter. My town is known for sugarcane, bass fishing, and deep family traditions. I have been blessed to have family members who understand the importance of agricultural education and The FFA Organization. Today when I zip up my jacket, I feel the same warmth you might feel on a perfect sunny afternoon.

My jacket has provided me with infinite opportunities and is a legacy I am honored to uphold. When I first joined FFA to continue my family tradition, I could have never imagined I would be where I am today. Speaking to congressional staff regarding sugar policy, teaching elementary students about honeybee pollination, and traveling the country touring various industry operations are just a few of my favorite things this organization has allowed me to accomplish.

At the core of servant and community leadership lies a heart for service where there is a genuine desire to make a difference in the lives of others. It's about selflessly putting the needs of others before our own, and finding fulfillment in the act of giving. Whether it be cleanups after a natural disaster or packing food for residents of my community, it's this commitment to service that defines the essence of true leadership and sets us apart as FFA members. In agriculture, servant leadership takes on an even greater significance. This past year, I have become intentional about community-wide agriculture advocacy through my local farmers market, elementary classrooms, and even onair at my home radio station. As for me, a heart for service isn't just a nice sentiment; it's the driving force behind every meaningful action creating a ripple effect extending far beyond myself. I understand success isn't measured solely by my individual achievements, but by the collective progress we make together.

Reflecting on my time in the blue jacket, I have experienced tremendous personal and professional growth, made lasting friendships, and an even deeper love and appreciation for the agricultural industry. While the sun may be setting on this chapter of my High School FFA career I look forward to utilizing my experiences and servant leadership to embark on the new horizon ahead.

Florida FFA, Let's Shine Bright Together!

Raelynn Paniagua, Florida FFA Area VI State Vice Presidential Candidate

OBJECTIVE

I plan to attend Santa Fe
College and then transfer to
the University of Florida to
major in Agricultural Education
and Communication. I aspire
to close the gap in agricultural
awareness by educating
consumers on the processes
of how their food gets from
farm to table.

EDUCATION

- Clewiston High School (Clewiston, FL)
- Graduation: May 17th, 2024
- GPA: 4.1
- Norman Borlaug Scholar (2023)

CERTIFICATIONS

- Agricultural Associate, AEST
- Animal Science Specialist, AEST
- Agritechnology Specialist, AEST
- Agricultural Communications Specialist, AEST

SAE

- Clewiston FFA 480 Acre School Land Lab (Sugarcane & Cow-Calf Operation)
- Clewiston FFA Social Media Manager
- Raise and show quality swine at the Hendry County Fair (2013 - 2024)

FFA EXPERIENCES

- Area VI, District XI President (2023 2024)
- Clewiston FFA President (2022 2024)
- Area VI, District XI Secretary (2022 2023)
- Parliamentary Procedure LDE (2021 2023)
- Agricultural Communications CDE (2024)
- State Leadership Summit and Student-Led Workshop (2024)
- Chapter President's Conference (2019 2023)
- Chapter Officer Leadership Training (2019 2023)
- State FFA Convention (2021 2023)
- Washington Leadership Conference (2023)
- National FFA Convention (2022)
- State FFA Degree (2024)

SCHOOL + COMMUNITY EXPERIENCES

- Tiger Cheerleading (2022 2024)
- National Honor Society (2022 2024)
- Glades Lives Matter Ambassador (2023 2024)
- Leukemia and Lymphoma Society Visionary of the Year (2024)
- Voted "Most likely to give back to their community" (2024)
- Miss Hendry County Pageant 1st Runner-Up (2024)
- Miss Sugar Pageant 2nd Runner-Up (2024)
- Florida Youth Institute Attendee (2023)

COMMUNITY SERVICE

- Hendry County Cattlewomen's Annual Dinner (2024)
- Pure Country WAFC Morning Show Host (2023 2024)
- Literacy Day Elementary School (2022 2024)
- Weeks Auction Fundraiser (2021 2024)
- Hendry Regional Medical Center WISH (2022 2023)
- Pink Warriors Walk (2022 2023)
- Hurricane Ian Relief Crew Volunteer (2022)
- Team HOPE Huntington Disease 5K (2022)
- New Harvest Church Kids Church Volunteer (2018-2022)