

Navigating Your Destiny



Cooper Davis

Florida FFA Area V State Vice Presidential Candidate



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Dear Florida FFA Area V Members,

“Destiny is not fate, it’s navigation.” -Richie Norton. This quote suggests that our future isn't something fixed or predetermined (as "fate" implies), but rather something we actively shape through our choices and direction (like navigation). It emphasizes personal responsibility and intentional action, indicating that we steer our lives rather than being passengers in them. Once I began to embrace this quote it changed my life. My name is Cooper Davis, and I am honored to be selected as an Area V State Vice Presidential Candidate for the upcoming year.

As a shy sixth grader attending middle school, I knew I had to quickly navigate and find my path to guide me through life’s adventures. With a lack of belonging and the thought of the long school year ahead, I realized that waiting for something to change on its own wasn’t an option—I had to take the first step. I remembered my brother had previously been a member of our middle school's FFA chapter. Reminiscing about the memories, friendships, and lessons he had gained, I decided to have a conversation with the FFA advisor at my school. While I’ll admit that the mention of snacks and drinks helped, it was ultimately my choice to attend a club day meeting that became my turning point. After my first meeting, I felt an immediate sense of community and belonging. From that moment forward, I began to steer my own course—proving that destiny isn't something you wait for, it’s something you create through action and courage.

Over the next few months, I hope to help FFA members like you find your way through this incredible organization—just as others once helped me. I want to inspire you to discover your “why,” the reason you show up and choose to be part of this journey. Sometimes, we all need to pause and reflect on what drives us. My goal is to help each of you realize that with a little direction and your true north focused on your purpose, you can navigate challenges and achieve whatever you set your mind to. Destiny isn’t something that just happens—it’s something you build, step by step, with intention and heart. I look forward to seeing you at this year’s 97th Florida FFA State Convention and Expo. I encourage you to attend the Delegate Business Session and the Third General Session, where together we can navigate our destiny.

Sincerely,

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FFA EXPERIENCES

- Extemporaneous Speaking: 2021-2025
- Agriculture Communications: 2024-2025
- Land Evaluation: 2024-2025
- Parliamentary Procedure: State Champion-2023, 3rd in the Nation-2023
- Veterinary Science: 2022-2025
- Prepared Public Speaking: 2022-2023
- Conduct of Chapter: 2021-2022
- Ornamental Horticulture Demonstration: 2019-2025
- Forestry: 2019-2025
- Livestock Evaluation: State Champion-2019; 2018-2025

SUPERVISED AGRICULTURE EXPERIENCES

- Davis Livestock: 2022-2025- Agriculture Services Agribusiness: Showmanship, Fitting and Grooming, and Show Day Preparation throughout Florida.
- Market Goats: 2022-2023- raised the Chapter market goat at the inaugural County Fair Market Goat Show.
- Breeding Sheep: 2021-2025- 6 head of crossbred wether dams and ewes.
- Market Lambs: 2019-2025- raised market lambs to be shown and sold at the Hillsborough County Fair.
- Market Swine: 2019-2025- raised market swine exhibited at the local County Fair.



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Presidential Candidate

OBJECTIVE

My future plan is to serve as a State Officer for the members of Area V and the entire Florida FFA Association. Then I plan to attend the University of Florida and eventually become a large animal veterinarian.

FFA LEADERSHIP EXPERIENCES

- Florida FFA District IX President: 2024-2025
- Durant Sr. FFA Chapter President: 2024-2025
- Hillsborough County FFA Federation Vice President: 2024-2025
- Durant High School Senior Council: 2024-2025
- National and Science Honor Society: 2024-2025
- Durant Sr. FFA Chapter Vice President: 2023-2024
- Hillsborough County Fair Junior Lamb Committee Chair: 2023-2025
- Durant Sr. FFA Chapter Treasurer: 2022-2023
- Hillsborough County Federation Parliamentarian: 2021-2022
- J.F. St. Martin FFA Chapter President: 2021-2022
- Barrington FFA Chapter President: 2020-2021

SCHOOL/COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES

- GPA - 5.24
- Suwannee Valley County Fair Showmanship Clinic: 2023-2025
- Tools for Schools: 2021-2025
- Operation Bike Drop: 2021-2025
- Florida State Fair Lamb Show: 2021-2025
- Hillsborough County Fair Lamb Show: 2020-2025
- Florida Strawberry Festival Lamb Show: 2020-2025
- Baldemaro Lopez State Veterans Home-Operation Patriot Christmas Gift Drive: 2018-2025

AWARDS, ACHIEVEMENTS, AND HONORS

- Florida FFA Star Agribusiness Finalist: 2025
- Florida FFA Agriculture Services Proficiency Finalist: 2025
- Florida FFA Sheep Production Proficiency Finalist: 2025
- Florida FFA Outstanding District Officer Finalist: 2025
- Florida Strawberry Festival Grand Champion Senior Swine Showman: 2025
- AP Scholar with Distinction: 2025
- Hillsborough County Fair Grand Champion Senior Swine Showman: 2022