

Candidate's Information:

First and Last Name: **Amy Harkey**
School Name: **Purdy High School**
State: **Missouri**

Years of experience as a teacher: 7

Years of experience as an FCCLA Adviser: 7

1. What can the candidate contribute to the National Board of Directors as an FCCLA adviser in these categories? (30)

- **Knowledge of the Organization**
- **Career and Technical Student Organizations**
- **Leadership**
- **Program Development**
- **Administration**
- **Finance**
- **Personnel Management**
- **Non-Profit Organization Management**
- **Media and Marketing**
- **Resource Development and Fundraising**
- **Work in Public Policy Development**

As an FCCLA adviser at Purdy R-II School District, I bring extensive experience, proven leadership, and a deep commitment to student growth that would contribute meaningfully to the National Board of Directors.

Knowledge of the Organization:

I have a strong and comprehensive understanding of FCCLA through active involvement at the local, district, state, and national levels. Serving on the Missouri FCCLA State Advisory Board has provided me with valuable insight into the organization's structure, strategic priorities, and long-term vision. Advising a chapter that has developed a State FCCLA Officer further demonstrates my ability to cultivate leadership aligned with FCCLA's mission.

I have also prioritized attending national leadership and professional development opportunities to deepen my understanding of FCCLA and Career and Technical Education at a broader level. These include the Association for Career and Technical Education (ACTE) Vision Conference, the ACTE National Policy Seminar, FCCLA Capitol Leadership, and the FCCLA National Leadership Conference. These experiences have strengthened my knowledge of national initiatives, advocacy efforts, and emerging trends, allowing me to bring informed perspectives and best practices back to my students, chapter, and state association.

Career and Technical Student Organizations (CTSOs):

As the sole Family and Consumer Sciences educator at a rural school, I have successfully integrated FCCLA into my curriculum to ensure all students have access to CTSO opportunities. My program emphasizes real-world application, leadership development, and career readiness, helping students understand the value of FCCLA beyond the classroom. I have grown our membership from 19 students to 55-70 in membership depending on our class sizes. By growing membership, we have grown our involvement in competing in STAR Events, attending both State and National events.

Working with the other two CTE teachers in our district, I have developed a CTE Advisory Board, helping the two new teachers to our district connect with community and business leaders, which is imperative to our success. This has resulted in the CTSO's in our district to work together on several community service projects, leadership training for our officers, attending events together and planning combined events for our students. Both our administrators and Board of Education members recognize the leadership and dependability in the students who are in our programs.

Leadership:

I have a proven track record of developing student leaders, highlighted by mentoring State and Regional FCCLA Officers. I prioritize student voice, ownership, and responsibility, while modeling strong leadership through my service on the Missouri FCCLA State Advisory Board, Missouri Competitive Events Advisory Team, Missouri Association of Career and Technical Educators Board, Missouri Educators of Family and Consumer Sciences Board, FCCLA Region 11 Officer Advisors and Creative Arts Therapy Board. These roles demonstrate my ability to lead both students and contribute at the professional and state levels. I have also had an active role in AAFCS by presenting at their national leadership conference and winning a national award from the HomeBaking Association, by sharing a lesson on entrepreneurship and baking in the classroom. These opportunities have helped me make connections across the state and nation that benefit both FCCLA and FCS.

National Board of Directors Local Adviser Representative Application

Program Development:

I have developed innovative, student-centered programs that address relevant community issues, including service-learning initiatives focused on food insecurity and community outreach. My rotating course structure ensures sustainability and access, while FCCLA programming is intentionally embedded to enhance student engagement and impact.

Administration:

Managing a comprehensive FCS and FCCLA program independently has strengthened my organizational and administrative skills. I effectively coordinate chapter activities, competitions, travel, and compliance while balancing classroom instruction and district expectations.

Finance:

I have experience managing chapter budgets, overseeing fundraising efforts, and ensuring responsible use of funds. I prioritize transparency and strategic planning to maximize opportunities for student participation at the district, state, and national levels. In addition, I have served on the Missouri Association for Career and Technical Education (MOACTE) Budget Committee, where I helped plan and allocate funding for the summer conference. I have also served on the Missouri Educators of Family and Consumer Sciences (MoEFCS) Executive Board, where I contributed to creating and maintaining a working budget to support organizational goals and initiatives.

Personnel Management:

I collaborate effectively with administrators, community partners, and fellow educators to build strong support systems for my program. I also develop student leadership teams that practice delegation, accountability, and teamwork, preparing them for future leadership roles. I believe one of the most important aspects of growth comes from making connections with colleagues and I work to instill this in both my students and new teachers that I mentor across the state.

Non-Profit Organization Management:

My service on the Missouri FCCLA State Advisory Board, MoACTE Board, and MoEFCS Board has provided me with valuable experience in nonprofit governance, strategic planning, and organizational decision-making. I understand the importance of mission-driven work and effective board collaboration. I also serve on Creative Arts Therapy Board of Directors, governing three counties in Southwest Missouri, as the Treasurer. This has provided me experience in the public sector working with professionals to secure funding through local and national grants, planning and creating events to showcase and recognize our clients.

Media and Marketing:

I actively promote FCCLA and Family and Consumer Sciences programs through social media, school communications, community engagement, and local newspapers. I highlight student achievements, increase program visibility, and advocate for the importance of FCCLA in developing future leaders.

In addition, I manage my district's website and oversee three district social media accounts across multiple platforms. I also manage and create content for our regional FCCLA website and social media accounts, as well as social media platforms for the Missouri Association for Career and Technical Education (MOACTE) and Missouri Educators of Family and Consumer Sciences (MoEFCS). Promoting and publicizing both students and educators is a priority to me in order to showcase the value and impact of Career and Technical Education and CTSOs. Beyond maintaining these platforms, I intentionally create engaging, relevant content tailored to each audience to strengthen communication, increase engagement, and elevate program awareness at the local, regional, and state levels.

Resource Development and Fundraising:

I have successfully organized fundraisers and built partnerships within the community to support FCCLA initiatives. My work ensures equitable access for students while sustaining program growth in a rural district. I also have written and received several grants to purchase equipment and items for my classroom. Being in education, learning how to strategically find money to keep your program relevant to the real world is a must.

Work in Public Policy Development

Through my involvement with the Missouri Association for Career and Technical Education (MOACTE) and Missouri Educators of Family and Consumer Sciences (MoEFCS), I stay actively informed on educational policy and advocacy efforts impacting Career and Technical Education. I intentionally integrate advocacy into my program by encouraging students to engage in leadership opportunities that help them understand the importance of their voice in shaping policies that affect families, careers, and communities.

I prioritize providing real-world advocacy experiences by taking students to Jefferson City and Washington, D.C., where they meet with lawmakers and share their experiences as participants in Career and Technical Education courses and CTSOs. These opportunities empower students to become confident advocates for their education and future careers.

My commitment to advocacy extends beyond the classroom. I regularly engage with local, state, and national lawmakers to share my perspective as an educator and advocate for funding and support of CTE programs. For several years, I have attended the National Policy Seminar with the Association for Career and Technical Education, where I meet directly with legislators to advocate for Perkins funding and continued investment in public education and CTE initiatives.

2. What experiences does the adviser have in developing a local chapter program of work? What projects and programs has the adviser been facilitating at the local level? (15)

Each year, I work closely with my chapter officers to intentionally develop a comprehensive Program of Work that aligns with FCCLA's mission and includes chapter activities, community service, national programs, competitive events, and fundraising. This collaborative planning process empowers student leaders to take ownership of the chapter while ensuring a well-balanced and meaningful year of programming.

Together, we map out monthly meetings and activities that intentionally incorporate leadership development, service, and FCCLA national programs. Each meeting typically includes a focus such as a community service project, guest speaker, leadership activity, or exploration of a national program, helping students make connections between classroom learning and real-world application.

At the local level, I have facilitated a wide variety of impactful projects and programs. Our chapter is deeply committed to community service, with initiatives including hosting a car seat safety clinic, partnering with Parents As Teachers for Parent Involvement Nights, creating recycled dog toys for a local animal shelter, and organizing efforts to address food insecurity. These efforts include preparing and distributing free meals to students, collecting canned goods for local food pantries, and organizing Thanksgiving baskets for families in need.

We also focus on student well-being through projects such as collecting health and hygiene items and assembling kits for students to take home during extended breaks. In addition, my students have led educational outreach efforts, such as teaching elementary students about the importance of family mealtime and healthy habits.

Our chapter participates in service projects with a broader global impact as well, including collecting fabric to create clothing items for children in developing countries and organizing shoe recycling drives. These experiences help students understand their role as leaders both locally and globally.

In addition to service, we actively participate in FCCLA national programs and competitive events, including STAR Events at the regional and state levels, and we incorporate fundraising efforts to support student participation and chapter sustainability.

Through the intentional development and implementation of our Program of Work, I strive to create meaningful, student-led experiences that build leadership skills, foster community connections, and promote the mission of FCCLA in impactful ways.

3. What experiences does the adviser have in regional, state, or national events and programs? (20)

I have been actively involved in FCCLA at the regional, state, and national levels through a variety of leadership, event management, and student development roles. As an adviser, I consistently prepare and support students to participate in regional, state, and national events, ensuring they are equipped for success in competitive events, leadership conferences, and program participation.

At the state level, I have extensive experience with STAR Events. I have worked with STAR Events for the past eight years, serving both as a Lead Consultant and as part of the headquarters room staff at state competitions and have been called upon by state staff to serve as an Adult Room Consultant at national competition for two years. These roles have provided me with a comprehensive understanding of event operations, including coordination, evaluation processes, and troubleshooting to ensure events run efficiently and professionally. I have also served as a STAR Events evaluator and have organized STAR Events recognition sessions to celebrate student achievement. Additionally, I have helped organize and implement regional STAR Events for the past six years, further strengthening my experience in event planning and execution at multiple levels.

Advising a State FCCLA Officer has provided me with the opportunity to work closely with the state adviser and leadership team to help plan and execute major events such as the Fall Leadership Conference and State Leadership Conference, as well as other smaller-scale state events. This experience has given me valuable insight into large-scale event planning, leadership development, and statewide program coordination.

At the national level, I have attended the National Leadership Conference and Capitol Leadership multiple times, which has allowed me to deepen my understanding of FCCLA's national initiatives and connect those experiences back to my local program. My students have also actively participated in several FCCLA National Programs over the years, reinforcing the connection between classroom learning and national-level engagement.

Beyond FCCLA-specific events, I have been engaged in broader Career and Technical Education and Family and Consumer Sciences events through my work with the Missouri Association for Career and Technical Education (MOACTE) and Missouri Educators of Family and Consumer Sciences (MoEFCS), including serving as president of both organizations. These experiences further strengthen my ability to support leadership development, program growth, and advocacy efforts aligned with FCCLA's mission.

Through these experiences, I bring a well-rounded perspective on event coordination, leadership development, and program implementation across regional, state, and national levels. My involvement reflects a strong commitment to creating high-quality, impactful experiences for students and supporting the continued growth of FCCLA programs.

4. What experiences does the candidate have on any community Board/or community involvement or other leadership opportunities working with organized Boards of Directors? (10)

I have developed meaningful experience working with Boards of Directors through my service on several state, community, and professional organizations. I currently serve on the Missouri FCCLA State Advisory Board, where I collaborate with fellow educators, stakeholders, and leaders to provide guidance on programming, leadership development, and the overall direction of FCCLA within the state. This role has strengthened my understanding of board governance, strategic planning, and the importance of aligning decisions with an organization's mission.

In addition, I serve on the Missouri Association for Career and Technical Education (MOACTE) Board and the Missouri Extension Family and Consumer Sciences (MoEFCS) Board, and I have previously served as president of both organizations. In these leadership roles, I guided board operations, facilitated strategic initiatives, and worked collaboratively with members across the state to advance Career and Technical Education and Family and Consumer Sciences programs. These experiences have allowed me to lead diverse groups of professionals, engage in high-level decision-making, and advocate for programs that positively impact both educators and students.

At the community level, I serve as Treasurer for the Creative Art Therapy Center Board, which serves multiple counties in Southwest Missouri. In this role, I help oversee financial processes, contribute to strategic planning, and support the sustainability of the organization. I am actively involved in planning fundraising events and seeking grant opportunities to expand access to art therapy services for individuals ranging from children to adults. This experience has further strengthened my skills in nonprofit financial management, resource development, and community outreach.

At the local level, my role as an FCCLA adviser also involves working closely with school and community stakeholders to plan events, develop partnerships, and implement service-learning projects. I regularly collaborate with administrators, community organizations, and local leaders to support initiatives such as addressing food insecurity and promoting student leadership. I have also worked to establish a CTE Advisory Board for our school district made up of parents, students, community leaders and local businesses owners.

Across all of these experiences, I have gained a strong understanding of how effective boards operate, including the importance of communication, collaboration, fiscal responsibility, and long-term vision. I value the opportunity to contribute to mission-driven work and bring a perspective grounded in both classroom experience and statewide leadership.

5. What experiences does the candidate have in their FCCLA State Association or state events? (10)

I have been actively involved in my FCCLA State Association through a variety of leadership, service, and event-based roles that have allowed me to support both student success and statewide program implementation. As an adviser, I have mentored students who have served as State FCCLA Officers, demonstrating my commitment to developing high-level student leaders and preparing them for leadership beyond the local chapter.

I have extensive experience supporting state events, particularly through my involvement with STAR Events. I have worked in the headquarters room during state competitions, assisting with the coordination and execution of events to ensure they run efficiently and professionally. Additionally, I have served as a STAR Events evaluator, providing constructive feedback to students while upholding the integrity and standards of the competitive process. In addition to working at the state level, I have worked in the regional headquarters room for STAR events as the regional coordinator assistant.

My leadership experience also includes serving as a Lead Consultant for STAR Events, where I supported event management, guided evaluators, and helped ensure consistency and quality across competitive categories. This role strengthened my ability to lead teams, problem-solve in real time, and maintain a positive experience for participants.

Beyond event execution, I have contributed to the overall direction of the state association through my service on the Missouri FCCLA Advisory Board. In this capacity, I collaborate with other leaders to support strategic planning, program development, and the continued growth of FCCLA across the state.

I have also taken initiative in enhancing the student experience by organizing STAR Events participant recognition sessions, ensuring that students feel valued and celebrated for their hard work and accomplishments.

Through these experiences, I have developed a comprehensive understanding of FCCLA at the state level, including event management, leadership development, and organizational operations. I bring a hands-on perspective and a strong commitment to supporting both students and advisers in meaningful and impactful ways.

6. List professional association memberships and include any offices held in these associations. (5)

AAFCS Member, member since 2018.

MoACTE Member, member since 2016

Offices held:

2023-24: President-Elect

2024-25 President

2025-26: Past-President

ACTE Family & Consumer Sciences Division, member since 2016

MoEFCS Member, member since 2017

Offices held:

2021-2022 Secretary

2022-2023 President-Elect

2023-24 President

2024-25 Past President

MSTA, member since 2015

7. Describe the candidate's involvement as a teacher; include programs and implementation at the local level as well as any state involvement in developing programs, etc. (10)

As a Family and Consumer Sciences educator at Purdy R-II School District, I have been deeply involved in developing, implementing, and expanding programs that support student success at the local and state levels. As the sole FCS teacher in a rural district, I have created and implemented curriculum for 14 different courses, structured on a three-year rotation to ensure students have access to a wide range of content and career pathways. My programs are designed to be hands-on, relevant, and aligned with real-world skills, while also integrating FCCLA to enhance leadership development and student engagement.

At the local level, I have taken an active role in addressing barriers to student success. As part of a Title I schoolwide development plan, I helped implement programs focused on student health, hygiene, and food insecurity, serving as a liaison to connect students and families with needed resources. These efforts have strengthened student well-being and created a more supportive learning environment.

I have also developed innovative, recognized curriculum. One example is a lesson centered on baking and selling cupcakes, which integrates entrepreneurship, food science, and financial literacy. This lesson earned me the Educator of the Year Award from the Home Baking Association and was published as part of their national curriculum resources.

Beyond the classroom, I have worked to build strong partnerships and leadership pipelines for students. I serve on the Parents as Teachers Advisory Committee, helping implement developmentally appropriate activities while incorporating high school students as leaders and mentors. I also created Purdy's "Grow Your Own" program to encourage students to pursue careers in education. Through this initiative, students are placed in classrooms to gain hands-on experience, which has already resulted in multiple students becoming paraprofessionals in our district, as well as supporting current graduates with scholarships as they pursue education degrees.

At the state and postsecondary level, I have contributed to program development and educator preparation through my involvement with the University of Central Missouri and the Missouri Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE) Curriculum Workgroup in Food Science. I have also served on advisory committees and focus groups at Missouri State University, including the Department of Education Accreditation Focus Group and the Student Advisory Council for the Dean of Education. These roles have allowed me to provide input on curriculum development, teacher preparation, and program improvement across multiple years.

National Board of Directors Local Adviser Representative Application

Through all of these experiences, I bring a comprehensive understanding of program development—from classroom implementation to state-level collaboration. I am committed to creating meaningful opportunities for students, supporting educators, and strengthening programs that prepare learners for success in careers, families, and communities.

PURDY R-II SCHOOL DISTRICT

~ Excellence is the Standard ~

Dr. Travis Graham, Superintendent/9-12 Principal
Mrs. Kristy Cook, Business Services Director
Mrs. Julie Keeler, District Operations Director
Mrs. Emily Kooi, Technology Director

Mrs. Julie Dalton, PK-8 Principal
Mrs. Jennifer Cornelius, Asst. Principal/Athletic Director
Mrs. Misty Hall, Asst. Principal
Mrs. Darcy Brown, Special Education Director

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April 28, 2026

Dear Selection Committee,

I am pleased to write this letter of recommendation for Amy Harkey for the position of National Board of Directors Local Adviser with FCCLA. Amy is an exceptional educator and adviser whose knowledge, leadership, and commitment to student success make her highly qualified for this role.

Amy demonstrates a deep and comprehensive knowledge of FCCLA and its mission. She consistently aligns her work with the organization's values, ensuring that students gain meaningful experiences that support both personal growth and career readiness. Her understanding of Career and Technical Student Organizations allows her to effectively bridge classroom instruction with real-world application.

As a leader, Amy is both inspiring and strategic. She fosters a positive, student-centered environment while also guiding programs with clear vision and purpose. Her strengths in program development are evident through the innovative and sustainable initiatives she implements, which consistently engage students and enhance participation. Her students are often successfully competing in competitions. The last few years she has proudly had a student serve as a state officer for FCCLA. This demonstrates her passion for students and her leadership to push students to strive for excellence.

Amy's administrative and organizational skills are exemplary. She manages responsibilities efficiently, maintains compliance with program standards, and demonstrates strong financial stewardship through careful budgeting and responsible resource allocation. She does a great job using grants and other financial resources beyond what the school district allocates, to help grow her program. Her ability to oversee operations while maintaining attention to detail is a significant asset.

Additionally, Amy excels in media and marketing, promoting programs with clarity and professionalism to increase awareness and engagement. She has also demonstrated success in resource development and fundraising, securing support that strengthens program opportunities for students. Her students will often be found in class brainstorming their own unique ideas to fundraise. This allows for student ownership of not just their ideas but also ownership in the successful FCCLA chapter here at Purdy.

Amy brings valuable insight into public policy development, advocating for Career and Technical Education and student leadership programs. Her ability to communicate effectively with stakeholders and represent FCCLA with professionalism further distinguishes her as a leader. Amy has spent time on the state board of directors which allows her to have a vast knowledge of CTE's and the importance that they hold in schools today.

Amy Harkey's dedication, integrity, and passion for empowering students make her an outstanding candidate for the National Board of Directors Local Adviser position. I am confident she will make a meaningful contribution at the national level.

Please feel free to contact me if additional information is needed.

Sincerely,



Jennifer Cornelius

Purdy R-II Assistant Principal

417-850-0981 or jcornelius@purdyk12.com



MISSOURI
STATE ASSOCIATION

April 27, 2026

Dear Selection Committee:

It has been my privilege to work with Amy Harkey through Family Consumer Sciences & Human Services (FCSHS) Education and Family, Career, and Community Leaders of America (FCCLA) for four years, in multiple capacities. Amy plays vital roles in regional and state level FCCLA management and consistently serves as a “go-to” teacher and adviser in Missouri.

Amy is a fierce advocate for FCSHS, FCCLA and all CTE, providing support to FCSHS teachers across Missouri through her leadership in FCSHS education committees through the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education, FCCLA, and multiple professional organizations, as well as developing student leaders and mentoring new teachers and advisers. Additionally, she works to build partnerships with business and industry professionals, legislators and elected officials, and other community and state stakeholders, always touting the accomplishments of students and teachers.

Amy’s dedication to kids is apparent in all aspects of her career and life. She never hesitates to jump in to serve on committees, work on policy and advocate for education and CTE at all levels of government, and she consistently goes above and beyond to provide invaluable real-world learning experiences for students. As evidenced in her narratives included in the National Board of Directors Local Chapter Adviser Application, Amy’s dedication to FCS education and FCCLA, CTE, education, and kids in general is expansive and unmatched.

There is likely not an FCS educator and FCCLA adviser in Missouri that wouldn’t say that Amy is a leader for our field in the state of Missouri and her impact can be felt in all parts of the state and at all levels of education in our state. She truly embodies the focus of FCSHS and FCCLA and forms the core of Missouri FCSHS education and the Missouri FCCLA organization. It is without reservation that I support Mrs. Amy Harkey for membership as a local chapter adviser on the National FCCLA Board of Directors. If you have further questions regarding her background or qualifications, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

Ashley Witte
Supervisor | FCCLA State Adviser
Family Consumer Sciences and Human Services
Missouri Department of Elementary and Secondary Education

Eric Roller
Director

Leslie Mareth
Student Career Advisor

Kailee Mallory
Career Services Coordinator



Learn a Living

Aurora Monett
Billings Mt. Vernon
Cassville Pierce City
Exeter Purdy
Marionville Southwest
Miller Verona
Monett Wheaton

April 27, 2026

To Whom It May Concern;

It is my distinct honor to submit this letter on behalf of Ms. Amy Harkey, for selection to the National FCCLA Board of Directors. I have had the pleasure of working with Ms. Harkey in CTE the last six years and the opportunity to interact with her as she has served as the mentor for the FCS instructor/FCCLA Advisor in my building the last two years.

I can say without hesitation, that Ms. Harkey has the model FCS program/FCCLA chapter that administrators and community members alike long to emulate. Her passion, dedication to students, innovative approach, commitment to network with all stakeholder groups, empathy, creativity, fearlessness to try new things, and high expectations are truly unrivaled.

If I took the time to talk about all of the accomplishments of Purdy's program under her guidance and the opportunities she provides to all of her students, this letter would be longer than anyone has time to read, so I will attempt to limit it by focusing on the FCCLA Chapter under her guidance. Ms. Harkey has continually dedicated a tremendous amount of time building Purdy's program and has successfully utilized FCCLA to the fullest extent to consistently market the program through various channels in her community, region, state and nation. Under her leadership, the Purdy FCCLA Chapter has become a model of excellence in multiple categories. As the director of a Career and Technical Center that receives Purdy students, we can identify Purdy FCCLA members due to Ms. Harkey's leadership development program and high expectations. Purdy continually has tremendous success in STAR events, community service activities in our region, regional officers and multiple state FCCLA officers. She has instilled a servant leadership mentality in her students which is evident by multiple community service activities which involve a large percentage of her membership.

Ms. Harkey's worthy credentials are hardly limited to what she does in the classroom. In today's world, the need for strong advocacy for education and students are paramount to our success. Ms. Harkey has stepped up when others could or would not by serving not only as the Missouri FCS President, but the Missouri ACTE president as well. This dedication has led her to spend countless hours on phone calls, emails, as well as multiple trips to Jefferson City and Washington, DC to advocate for CTE, FCS, and FCCLA with state and federal legislators. These are all obviously volunteer hours that she has dedicated all while maintaining and building what I consider the strongest program in our state.

Again, this letter of reference is a tremendous honor to submit on behalf of Ms. Harkey. I can think of no one more deserving for this selection and no one better for speaking on behalf of student interests.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Eric Roller', written over a white background.

Eric Roller

Director, Scott Regional Technology Center