

# I've discovered 'magic' of vo-ag

I have been a member of Vo-ag program at Killingly High School for three years.

As a freshman coming into a new school, without the comfort of a few familiar faces (I was the only student from my eighth-grade class to attend Killingly), I was completely petrified. The only person I really knew in the school was my brother.

As I went through my freshman year, I discovered the "magic" of vo-ag. To me, vo-ag is a school within a school. It's so easy to connect with all the other students as well as participate in all regular school activities.

We take all the necessary classes, such as English, math and science, in addition to our double vo-ag class. The students in the program come from 10 surrounding towns and, for some of us, the commute to school is 15



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*First Person*

miles or more. At Killingly High, there are vo-ag students involved in sports, band, color guard, drama and a multitude of other extracurricular activities.

Along with the vo-ag classes, we are members of the Killingly Future Farmers of America chapter. I have had the pleasure of seeing the National FFA Organization in full swing twice at national conventions.

The magnitude of the FFA and the sea of 50,000 blue-and-gold jackets and competing against people from throughout the country is an amazing experience. Our chapter has competed in many areas, including poultry, livestock,

horse and dairy product judging, as well as forestry, environment sciences, agricultural mechanics, floriculture, parliamentary procedure and public speaking. To earn the honor of competing at the national level, a team must win the state competition.

As FFA members, we learn about everything from the history of the FFA to animal and plant science, natural resources, aquaculture, forestry, parliamentary procedure and public speaking. The biggest driving force behind our program, which makes it so successful, is, as students, we look forward to attending class every day. It is all of these things together that make the Killingly High School Vo-ag Center truly outstanding.

*Georgia Williamson is a student at Killingly High School*