



Santa Maria Joint Union
HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT
NEWS * NEWS * NEWS
PRESS RELEASE

Friday,
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2025

Santa Maria FFA has been named the Number 1 FFA Chapter in the State of California for the second consecutive year.

Each year, more than 360 California FFA chapters are evaluated and ranked based on member achievement by the California FFA Association. Areas of evaluation include the number of American and State FFA Degrees earned, state-winning proficiency awards, state champions in Career Development Events, and representation on the FFA Executive Team.

In 2025, Santa Maria FFA members earned 11 American FFA Degrees and 26 State FFA Degrees, two State Champion Titles in Poultry Evaluation and Agriculture Pest, two State Winning Proficiency Awards, two National Proficiency Gold-Finalist and a National Finalist Team in Poultry Evaluation.

Mr. Campbell, SMHS Principal stated, "It is hard to say enough about Santa Maria High School's FFA team. These teachers and their students continue to reach such amazing heights that it's hard to give them enough accolades. To be named the #1 chapter in the state of California, for two straight years is unheard of. Great job teachers and students, so proud!! And.....Go Saints!!"

"Being named #1 FFA Chapter for 2025 is a reflection of the hours of dedication and hard work our members have done. Serving as the Santa Maria FFA President this year and receiving this honor is something I'll never forget." - Melanie Castillo, Senior.

"As result of the dedication from our members, we have been able to be awarded this title two years in a row! It's truly so rewarding to see our hard work pay off." - Adeline Cruz, Senior.

Shannon Powell said, "We have amazing students in our program that work hard both in the agriculture classrooms and in the FFA organization. To be recognized as the number one FFA program in California for the second year in a row is a testament to the passion for agriculture and FFA that we see in our students, the dedication of our teachers, and the support from our community and school district."

Also recognized as a Top 10 agriculture program in California is Pioner Valley FFA.

Santa Maria FFA currently has nine Agriculture Teachers and 1,000 FFA members.

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