

Pierson Retires But Keeps Feet Planted

MCFB Announces New Ag in the Class Coordinator

The Mason County Farm Bureau is excited to announce Joli Pierson as the new Agriculture in the Classroom (AIRC) Coordinator. Pierson, who recently retired from her role with the University of Illinois Extension Mason County 4-H program, brings a wealth of experience and passion for youth education to this part-time position.

In her new role, Pierson will continue to support the growth of agricultural literacy among students in Mason County by providing teachers with accessible resources and engaging classroom presentations. Agriculture in the Classroom (AIRC) is a program designed to help educators integrate agricultural topics into their curriculum, offering a variety of lesson plans, activities, and real-world insights to help students understand the importance of agriculture in their daily lives.

"I'm thrilled to be continuing my work with youth and educators in Mason County," said Pierson. "I look forward to helping stu-

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dents develop a deeper understanding of where their food comes from and the significance of agriculture in our community. It's an exciting opportunity to be part of the next generation of agricultural leaders."

Program Offerings

Pierson is available to coordinate a variety of AIRC programs for local schools.

Options include:

- 1. Lesson in a Bucket Program

Teachers can receive all necessary materials in a prepared bucket to teach lessons independently, or they can request the help of high school FFA students or members of the Mason County Farm Bureau Women's Committee to deliver the

lesson. Some materials, such as storybooks, are shared resources and must be returned for continued use.

- 2. Monthly Classroom Sessions

Teachers may schedule 20-30-minute sessions where Pierson will provide all sup-

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