**High School Youth Forum – Paper Presentation Timeline**

* Continue to promote HSYF Paper Competition in Rangeland Day Brochure with dates and location of SRM meeting, may also consider sending out news releases to ag/livestock papers to promote event mid-May, so students have time to prepare for presentation.
* I think FFA does a good job of sending out to FFA Advisors, but there is some change in personnel at the state level so continue to make those contacts so it gets distributed on the ag teacher e-mail group
* Try to get into the 4-H loop, as a 4-H Leader I find it a challenge to find anything off of I-Grow. The 4-H Leader group is a good network and I believe has been utilized in the past, the contact is Paula Linke [plinke@santel.net](mailto:plinke@santel.net) (Dave O. may have a better idea as to how to get this message out through the 4-H group).

**June**

* High School Forum delegate is selected at Rangeland Days. Most high schoolers/parents do not know what is in store for them at this point, luckily I have been a part of SRM and a former HSYF delegate to adequately prepare my kids. So, to better prepare the selected delegate, at the award ceremony, I would also provide them with a brown manila envelope with a congratulatory letter outlining their expectations to attend as a HSYF delegate to the SRM meeting with the dates listed and location of event. This way if they cannot attend, you will possibly have the 2nd place student to work with. I would also include in the letter the dates and location of the SRM Section meeting in the fall and the invite for them to present at this meeting. Last year, it did not work for our family to attend as there was a conflict with the Western Jr. Livestock Show in Rapid City which is usually the 2nd full week in October. Maybe keep that in mind as you plan the meeting as there are a lot of 4-H kids that also attend that event. In the letter, I would also highlight that the presentation is to be 6-8 minutes and in addition to the power point, they will need to prepare a technical paper. To be honest with you, we put a lot of effort into the technical paper, but the paper is not judged at all, only the presentation is judged. The paper will be due to the committee about mid-January. To aid the student in meeting the upcoming deadlines. I would suggest that South Dakota have it be required that they set a date prior to the October meeting that the technical paper be done then too. This would be outlined in the congratulatory letter they receive in June. This will allow the student time from the conclusion of Rangeland Days to about the time school starts to get it done. You may also want to consider listing contact information for SD Section members who would be willing to review the manuscript and perhaps powerpoint to help make some constructive criticism through this process.

**October**

* Student is adequately notified ahead of time the date/time/location of the Section meeting so they can plan to attend. Student should have their technical paper completed and perhaps looked over before or shortly after this meeting by professionals. Powerpoint is ready to go at this point.

**November**

* Letters start to be sent by Mary Reece, Contact with SRM, to the student on what is expected. Student is given notice about requirements of paper, etc. and that they are to bring items to trade with delegates at the HSYF. The first year, my son took, SD tourism pins “Great Faces, Great Places”. The second year, my daughter took sunflower seeds from South Dakota. The food items are popular (jerky, seeds, etc.) but kids have also traded pins, postcards, etc.

**December**

* Registration should occur and airline travel purchased to avoid high fares. If student does not have a parent affiliated with SRM, then contact should be made to help them through the registration process. It can be quite confusing if the student/parent has no affiliation with SRM.

**January**

* Technical paper and powerpoint will be due mid-January along with several other student agreement forms to SRM. If student has this all completed in October then they will be ready to go. Student should be accumulating items to trade about 25-30 items is needed. Travel arrangements should be made between student and student’s parents. Student attends HSYF meeting.