



## *Tonya Marie Chase*

Agriscience and Natural Resources

**Tuscola Technology Center**

Reese High School

Nominator: Craig Searight, Counselor

Tonya enrolled at the Tuscola Technology Center to study small animals to begin to prepare herself to become a veterinarian for cats and dogs. However, her job shadowing experience with a veterinary office, and her exposure to large animal/livestock, has changed her focus to animal science.

FFA has given her experience with general agriculture and the production of large animals and livestock. She worked on a produce farm last summer and plans to return again this year.

In her program, Tonya has successfully raised and marketed six hogs and two lambs. She has become Pork Quality Assurance certified to be better able to raise and market her pigs. Her supervised agriculture experience includes feeder calves and she has taken the lead in the market sheep project at the Tech Center. Her teacher points out that her accomplishments are amazing, considering that she does not come from an agricultural or animal production environment.



Tonya participates in track and field and cross country, is a scholar athlete, member of student council, and a member of the student forum at the Technology Center. She plays on a community softball team and teaches t-ball and ballet to young children. She is a member of the national honor society and has been FFA president for the last two years.

Tonya plans to attend Baker College in Flint to earn a Vet Technician certification. She plans to then attend Michigan State University and major in large animal veterinary or animal science.

“The benefits of being in a career that you love outweigh the challenges that you have to overcome.”

~ Tonya Chase