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Schertz Cibolo Universal City ISD
Agriculture Science Policy Handbook
2020-2021

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OPPORTUNITIES AVAILABLE
FOR AGRICULTURE SCIENCE STUDENTS
AND FFA MEMBERS

As a student enrolled in the SCUCISD Agriculture Science Program, your child has the opportunity to become a member of the FFA chapter. This is a group of young people who use agriculture to learn leadership, speaking and communication skills, teamwork, responsibility, along with animal science techniques. While the group is based in agriculture, there are many activities to get involved with that do not require working with animals or agriculture in the traditional sense.

In the fall, FFA members compete in leadership development events. Some teams we train are:

- Chapter Conducting
- FFA Quiz
- Radio Broadcasting
- Job Interview
- Creed Speaking
- Skills
- Other Presentation Style teams

*Teams may be added or removed due to member interest.

Most animal projects are also started in the fall months.

As we get to spring time, FFA members start to prepare for career development events. Some teams we train are:

- Milk Quality
- Poultry Judging
- Entomology
- Wildlife
- Nursery Landscape
- Veterinary Technology
- Floriculture
- Food Science
- Horse Judging
- Meat Judging

*Teams may be added or removed due to member interest.

January through March also brings several stock shows for animal project competition
INTRODUCTION

To the Agriscience Student:

We are glad to have you in the Agriculture Science Program and sincerely hope that you enjoy this course. This handbook will answer many questions that concern the coming year. There will be additions to this handbook during the year as the need arises. Remember that FFA is an extracurricular activity and we strongly encourage you to focus on your grades, STAAR, and attendance! Please keep this book and refer as needed.

Parents:

We are well aware that many of you are not quite sure what to expect from the Agriculture Science Program. This booklet was prepared to answer as many questions as possible for the student and parent. We feel the Agriculture Science Program is one of the best programs offered today. We offer not only classroom work, but practical experience as well. We teach leadership, cooperation and responsibility. These traits are all important for our young people to learn and practice.

COURSES AVAILABLE IN THE AGRISCIENCE DEPARTMENT

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Cluster</th>
<th>Program of Study</th>
<th>9th Grade</th>
<th>10th Grade</th>
<th>11th Grade</th>
<th>12th Grade</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Agriculture, Food &amp; Natural Resources</td>
<td>Agricultural Mechanics</td>
<td>Principles of Agriculture, Food, and Natural Resources (1) Texas Beef Quality Assurance</td>
<td>Agricultural Mechanics &amp; Metal Technologies (1)</td>
<td>Agricultural Structures Design &amp; Fabrication (1)</td>
<td>OS1HA</td>
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<tr>
<td>Animal Science &amp; Veterinary Technology</td>
<td>Principles of Agriculture, Food, and Natural Resources (1) Texas Beef Quality Assurance</td>
<td>Small Animal Management (5)</td>
<td>Livestock Production (1)</td>
<td>Livestock Production (1)</td>
<td>Livestock Production (1)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Environmental, Floriculture, &amp; Plant Sciences</td>
<td>Principles of Agriculture, Food, and Natural Resources (1) Texas Beef Quality Assurance</td>
<td>Equine Science (5)</td>
<td>Veterinary Medical Applications (1) * Certified Vet Assistant</td>
<td>Veterinary Medical Applications (1) * Certified Vet Assistant</td>
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**FFA GENERAL RULES**

1. Each student enrolled in Agriculture Science classes is encouraged to join the National FFA organization (FFA). Dues of $25 per year must be paid by September 27th on My School Bucks. Those students who do not join FFA are not eligible to participate in any FFA activity, judging contests, livestock shows or scholarship consideration.

2. All members are encouraged to attend all FFA meetings and activities. Parents are also encouraged to join and participate in FFA Booster Club activities.

3. Scheduling of meetings and workdays will be determined at the beginning of each school year. There is a calendar of events in this handbook. This is done to avoid conflicts. However, other work days may come up if needed.

4. **Students with repeated discipline issues will be dismissed from the Cibolo Creek FFA organization according to district policy. All dues and fees are non-refundable. Repeated discipline issues is defined as:**
   - If a student receives two (2) Agriculture Program Violations on the third (3) violation the member will be removed for the remainder of the school year.
     - **First Agriculture Program Violation**
       - Teacher/Student Conference/Agriculture Program Violation issued by an AST.
     - **Second Agriculture Program Violation**
       - Referral to school administrator for disciplinary action/Agriculture Program Violation issued by an AST
     - **Third Agriculture Program Violation**
       - Immediate removal of project from the Ag. Complex/Cibolo Creek FFA/Agriculture Program Violation issued by an AST
   - First suspension for school is a behavior contract and any following suspension from school is automatic removal for the remainder of the school year.
   - DAEP Placement automatic removal for the remainder of the school year.
   - Three assignments to ISS is removal for the remainder of the school year.

   The Ag Teacher (AST) reserves the right to create a behavior contract with any student who exhibits repeated discipline issues.

5. **Chain of Command: All questions and concerns for the FFA program should be addressed with the AST of that activity. If that does not satisfy your needs the following chain of command must be followed.**
   - **Step 1:** Address the issue with the AST of that activity
   - **Step 2:** Address the issue with the Lead AST
   - **Step 3:** Address the issue with the Assistant Principal.

   **If the chain of command is not followed it could result in removal from the organization.**

6. School dress code will be followed at all FFA functions including but not limited to FFA meetings and stock shows. Students not in dress code, will not participate in FFA activities.

7. **The school district reserves the right to ban any individual from the Toby Connor Complex at any time to protect the integrity of the organization and safety of its students and employees.** All district policies will be followed at the Toby Connor Complex.

8. Livestock rules and regulations will be found in the current species handbook and the Toby Connor Agriculture Complex handbook given by that species advisor.

9. All CDE Contest will have a tentative schedule to be distributed at the first practice. The AST reserves the right to cancel any contest due to lack of participation. ASTs may also add contests at their discretion. Any contest that is registered through Judging Card has to have the AST of that team in attendance.

10. Individual contestants cannot make an entry solo into a team contest, entries must be made in the name of a chapter and compete as a team.

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**CODE OF ETHICS**

Agriculture Science students will honor the National FFA Code of Ethics. Failure to comply with the code of ethics may result in removal from the FFA program. They will conduct themselves at all times in a manner befitting their organization, chapter, school and community by:

1. Dressing neatly and appropriately for the occasion.
2. Showing respect for the rights of others and being courteous.
3. Being honest and not taking unfair advantage of others.
4. Respect property of others.
5. Refraining from loud, boisterous talk, swearing, and other unbecoming conduct.
6. Demonstrating sportsmanship in the show ring, judging contests and meetings.
7. Attending meetings promptly and respecting the opinion of others in discussions.
8. Taking pride in their organization.
9. Sharing with others experiences and knowledge gained by attending National and State meetings.

**SOCIAL MEDIA**

- Students, parents and teachers are expected to follow the same rules for good behavior and respectful conduct online as offline.
- No defaming Cibolo Creek FFA, another FFA member, fellow peer, adult, AST, etc. on social media websites such as Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, Snapchat, TikTok, or other social media sites. Failure to act appropriately may result in a write up and or removal from the FFA program.

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TYPES OF STUDENT MEMBERSHIP

ACTIVE MEMBERS
To be eligible for active membership in this chapter, a student must meet the membership eligibility requirements of the National FFA Organization and the Texas FFA Association. Active members in good standing may vote on all business brought before the chapter. An active member shall be considered in good standing when he or she:

- While in school, be enrolled in at least one agriculture, food and natural resources course, as defined in Texas FFA Association membership policies, during the school year and/or follow a planned course of study. Either course must include a supervised agricultural experience program, the objective of which is preparation for an agriculture, food and natural resources career.
- Shows an interest in the affairs of the organization by attending meetings, striving for degrees of membership, and participating in other organized activities of the chapter.
- Pays all current local, district, area, state and national dues by the date determined by the chapter.
- Displays conduct consistent with the ideals and purposes of the National FFA Organization, Texas FFA Association and with the school district’s code of student conduct.
- Participates in Local Chapter Fundraiser.

JUNIOR FFA MEMBERSHIP
The Junior FFA is a statewide organization with the purpose of enhancing and encouraging the education of younger students who are interested in the future of the agriculture industry. The organization of the Junior FFA is entirely optional, with the need of such an organization to be determined by the local FFA chapter advisors.

- To be eligible to participate in Junior FFA, the student must at least be in the 3rd grade and 8 years old enrolled in SCUC ISD. They must meet both of these requirements.
- Students initiate junior membership by participating in local functions designated by the advisors. Junior FFA members must meet the same requirements and follow the same rules as FFA members.
- Junior FFA members are not eligible to participate in events in which the Texas FFA Association has direct oversight including but not limited to leadership development events, career development events, state FFA rodeo, and agriscience fair. Junior membership activities shall include exhibition of livestock projects.
- Junior members are not eligible to cast a vote or participate in the discussion related to the official business of the Texas FFA or any district, area association, do not count toward membership totals for delegate allocation and should not be listed on the active Texas FFA membership roster.
- All junior members have the same expectations as regular members. All members must attend mandatory FFA activities to include barn clean ups and county show clean up.
- Upon entering the 9th grade, junior membership will cease. Students must enroll in an Agricultural Science course and join FFA to maintain membership.

FFA BOOSTER CLUB MEMBERSHIP/ACTIVITIES
The FFA Booster Club Association is responsible for raising funds to help agriculture students in many ways. The primary fundraising is done to provide scholarships for outgoing senior FFA members and support the agriculture program. If the money is available, the Booster Club will also help fund the following activities:

1. Help to defray travel expenses for conventions and contests.
2. Purchase of equipment or items needed by the chapter to compete or attend shows and contests.
3. Other items as the club deems them necessary.

While participation of parents in this club is not mandatory it is highly encouraged – the more people involved the better it becomes. It also allows the parents to have a say in club activities and gives them valuable information about their children’s activities in the FFA. Information about fundraisers is given at the regular monthly meetings and maximum participation is encouraged by students and parents. Students will be given specific assignments for the purchasing of drinks, food, and other required items and will be given in the weeks preceding the FFA Booster Club events.

For more information on Cibolo Creek Booster Club visit: www.cibolocreekffa.org

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**FFA OFFICERS**

High school members may run for office following completion of one year in the ag program and of FFA membership. In order for a member to run for office, the following requirements must be met:
1. Must have been academically eligible throughout the entire current school year.
2. Must have participated in 2 chapter activities in the past year.
3. No discipline problems or office referrals.
4. Must have participated on a Leadership Development Team or a Career Development Team during the past year.

**Once elected, officers must:**
1. Must sign and agree to an officer contract and demerit system.
2. Must remain academically eligible.
3. Must attend all chapter meetings and executive functions.
4. Attend Officer Planning.
5. Must have official dress available for official FFA activities.
6. Must attend the following activities. Be aware these are summer, school day, evening and weekend activities:
   a. State FFA convention
   b. Area leadership camp (must attend if accepted)
   c. Guadalupe Valley FFA District Leadership Lab
   d. Guadalupe Valley FFA District Banquet
   e. Area Convention
7. Must attend or participate in all of the following activities:
   a. Cibolo Creek FFA Booster club fundraisers
   b. Participate in **ALL** Cibolo Creek FFA fundraisers
   c. At least one Leadership Development Event and one Career Development Event
   d. Chapter FFA Banquet
   e. Participate in **ALL** Cibolo Creek FFA Barn Clean ups
8. It is required that student officers participate in at least one day of recruitment during their school’s Prep Days as well as their school’s electives fair.
9. Officers will also lead various committees and see that all committee assignments are carried out.

**Election Process:**
Officer elections are conducted at the April meeting each year. Applications are due to the AST no later than 4:00 pm on the date listed each year. Chapter officers will be selected based upon scores earned in the following categories:
   a. Interview
   b. Written Test
   c. Resume and Application
   d. Popular vote of the membership

The written test will be administered on the day of interviews and will be over parliamentary knowledge and knowledge of the FFA. Information may be found in the parliamentary guide, Texas FFA website and National FFA Manual.

Officers are encouraged to remember they are serving in a leadership role and ALWAYS represent the Cibolo Creek FFA. They are the face of the organization in and out of school and FFA Activities. The ASTs reserve the right to remove officers for inappropriate behaviors in and out of school. Officers and officer candidates should be reminded that all social media interactions are a reflection of the school and organization. Inappropriate behavior on social media may result in a demerit, Agriculture Program Violation and or removal from office.

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CIBOLO CREEK FFA AWARD SELECTION CRITERIA

Chapter awards for the Cibolo Creek FFA Banquet will be determined by a rubric grading system of the award application. An application must be submitted to be considered for the award. If an award area does not have a minimum of one application then the award will be removed for that banquet. The following criteria will be used when selecting award recipients.

Star Greenhand
The chapter’s most active first-year member who has a strong SAE program and has demonstrated leadership is selected to win the Star Greenhand award. Selection Criteria:
● Participation on Leadership Development Event teams
● Participation on Career Development Event teams
● Completion of a Supervised Agricultural Experience program
● Student Initiative- Student takes initiative to become an active participant in the program
● Student Responsibility- Student takes responsibility for their projects and activities
● Student Leadership- Student acts as a team player and role model for others

Star Chapter
The chapter member who has an outstanding SAE and demonstrates the most involvement in all phases of the chapter’s activities is awarded the Star Chapter award. Selection Criteria:
● Must have earned the Greenhand degree
● Participation on Leadership Development Event teams
● Participation on Career Development Event teams
● Completion of a Supervised Agricultural Experience program
● Student Initiative- Student takes initiative to be an active participant in the program
● Student Responsibility- Student takes responsibility for their projects and activities
● Student Leadership- Student acts as a team player and role model for others

Outstanding Junior Member:
The Junior member who has an outstanding SAE and demonstrates the most involvement Selection Criteria:
● Must be a Junior Member
● Completion of a Supervised Agricultural Experience program
● Student Initiative- Student takes initiative to be an active participant in the program
● Student Responsibility- Student takes responsibility for their projects and activities
● Student Leadership- Student acts as a team player and role model for others

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**Star Lone Star:**
The chapter member who has an outstanding SAE and demonstrates the most involvement in all phases of the chapter’s activities is awarded the Star Chapter award. **Selection Criteria:**
- Must have earned the Chapter degree.
- Must have completed their AET record book and Lone Star application from AET by the chapter set due date.
- Participation on Leadership Development Event teams
- Participation on Career Development Event teams
- Completion of a Supervised Agricultural Experience program
- Student Initiative- Student takes initiative to be an active participant in the program
- Student Responsibility- Student takes responsibility for their projects and activities
- Student Leadership- Student acts as a team player and role model for others

**Outstanding Senior (12th Grade) Award:**
The Senior (12th Grader) who has an outstanding SAE and demonstrates the most involvement in all phases of the chapter’s activities is awarded the Outstanding Senior award. This student should have shown leadership and contributed to the chapter in a positive manner throughout their FFA career. **Selection Criteria:**
- Must be a Senior in High School
- Participation on Leadership Development Event teams
- Participation on Career Development Event teams
- Completion of a Supervised Agricultural Experience program
- Student Initiative- Student takes initiative to be an active participant in the program
- Student Responsibility- Student takes responsibility for their projects and activities
- Student Leadership- Student acts as a team player and role model for others

**Feeder Proficiency Awards:**
The student in each species who has an outstanding SAE and demonstrates the most involvement in all phases of the SAE activities is awarded the Feeder Proficiency Awards. This student should have shown leadership and contributed to the chapter in a positive manner throughout their SAE.

**Selection Criteria:**
- Must be a current Cibolo Creek FFA Member in good standing
- Must have completed a Supervised Agricultural Experience Program in the specie awarded
- Student Initiative- Student takes initiative to be an active participant in the program
- Student Responsibility- Student takes responsibility for their projects and activities
- Student Leadership- Student acts as a team player and role model for others

All awards are ultimately chosen by the Agriculture Teachers and decisions are final.

Applications for Degrees and Awards can be found on the Cibolo Creek FFA Web Page. An application must be filled out and turned in to the Ag. teachers no later than the date declared on the chapter calendar for the member to be considered for the award.

http://www.cibolocreek.ffanow.org
CAREER & TECHNICAL EDUCATION LETTERMAN JACKET GUIDELINES

Letter Jacket Applications will be accepted in September and February. There will only be two orders placed a year.

Students should completely fill out the application and return it to the Career & Technical Student Organization Sponsor/Advisor by ________________________.

Career and Technical Education Letterman jacket requirements are as follows:

1. Be enrolled in a Career & Technical Education class.
2. Students must have completed or be enrolled to complete a coherent sequence of at least 3 courses, one of which MUST include the junior or senior level capstone course. All credits cannot be earned in the same academic year.
3. Compete at and attend Career & Technical Education club competition sanctioned by a state or nationally affiliated organization.
4. Participate outside of the regular school day in at least 30 hours of a CTE club sponsored community service project.
5. Participate in a project to promote Career & Technical Education. (Example recruitment nights, electives fair)
6. Students are disqualified from receiving an Academic letter jacket if they have lost credit due to attendance.
7. Students are disqualified from receiving an Academic letter jacket if they have been assigned to: DAEP during their high school career.
8. The student must be recommended by the Career & Technical Education Teacher/advisor from whom he/she is using credits to qualify.

Students must qualify under 2 of the following:

1. Competed at National level of a CTSO (places top three)
2. Competed at the State level of a CTSO (place the top five in state)
3. Competed at Regional/Area level of a CTSO (place 1st -3rd at Regional/Area)
4. Competed at District level of a CTSO (placed top three teams)
5. District or State or national CTSO officer

*Clubs may not purchase or sponsor the purchase of letterman jackets for those students who do not qualify for a jacket under these regulations.

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