

# Alvord ISD

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## Agricultural Science & FFA

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Student Handbook  
2018-2019

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August 16, 2018

Dear Students and Parents:

Welcome to the 2018-2019 school year and the Alvord FFA and Alvord Agricultural Science Department. It is enlightening to see the new and returning students in our program. This year's program of activities is loaded with a wide array of challenges and activities for your participation.

The Agricultural Science Program consists of three elements, Classroom Instruction, Supervised Agricultural Experience and the FFA. This is a unique program and we believe it will be a life-changing experience for you. There are many opportunities for you to develop leadership skills as well as experience personal growth throughout your participation.

We look forward to each of you attending the plethora of activities and meetings available. It is a great way to make new friends and create camaraderie, which will last a lifetime. Remember, as with any endeavor you pursue, you only get out of this organization what you put into it. We are here to offer guidance and support for each of you. Please do not hesitate to contact one of us if we can be of any assistance.

Sincerely,

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[apearson@alvordisd.net](mailto:apearson@alvordisd.net)

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## 2018-2019 Alvord FFA Officer Team

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President:

Vice-President:

Secretary:

Treasurer:

Reporter:

Sentinel:

Student Advisor:

# Agriculture Facts

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## How does Agriculture affect us all.....

### Today's Farm

- Agriculture is the nation's largest employer with more than 22 million people working in some phase-from growing food and fiber to selling it at the supermarket.
- There are 2.19 million farms in the United States. The average size of U.S. farms in 1999 was 432 acres.
- There are 165,102 farms operated by women in the United States.
- Individuals, family partnerships or family corporations own 99% of U.S. farms with fewer than 10 stockholders. Non-family corporations own only 0.4% of America's farms and ranches.

### Consumers

- Americans spend 10.9% of their income on food, the lowest percentage in the world. India spends 51.3%, Mexico spends 24.5%, South Africa spends 27.5%, Japan spends 17.6%, Italy spends 17.2% and the UK spends 11.2%.
- It takes about 40 days for most Americans to earn enough money to pay for their food supply for the entire year. It takes that same American 124 days to earn enough money to pay federal, state and local taxes for the year.
- The annual per capita consumption of Americans is: 204.5 pounds of milk, 196.8 pounds of flour and cereal products, 186.5 pounds of fresh vegetables, 131.8 pounds of fresh fruits, 115.6 pounds of red meat, 65 pounds of poultry, 65.3 pounds of fats and oils, 28 pounds of cheese, 18.9 pounds of rice and 244 eggs.

### International

- The United States provides food at a lower cost, as a percentage of income, than any other country in the world. We produce sufficient surplus to be the nations leading exporter.
- The United States produces 46% of the world's soybeans, 41% of the world's corn, 20.5% of the world's cotton and 13% of the world's wheat.
- The United States exports \$49.1 billion in agricultural products annually and imports \$37.5 billion. Asia (not including Japan, China or East Asia) imports the most (\$10.5 billion) and Russia imports the least (\$.46 billion).

### Economy

- The American farmer regains 20¢ of every dollar in agricultural products sold, 39¢ goes to labor, 6¢ goes to taxes and interest, 8.5¢ goes to packaging and the remainder goes to fuel, electricity, transportation, advertising, etc.
- Farm receipts total \$208.2 billion dollars each year; most is meat animals (\$46,917,000), least is tobacco (\$2,308,000).

## **Technology and Environment**

- A growing number of farmers and ranchers are using computers and modern technology; 90.7% use a computer, 87.4% own a cellular telephone, 51.3% communicate by fax, 72.2% have access to the Internet and 24.5% make online purchases using e-commerce.
- As of May 2000, farmers enrolled 31.4 million acres of their land in the Conservation Reserve Program to protect the environment and provide habitat for wildlife. Farmers and ranchers provide food and habitat for 75% of the nation's wildlife.
- Erosion rate by water on U.S. croplands has been reduced by 24% in the last 18 years.
- Only 2 labor hours and one acre of land required to produce 100 bushels of corn, with farmer using a tractor, 5-bottom plow, 25-foot plow, 25-foot tandem disk, planter, 25-foot herbicide applicator, 15-foot self-propelled combine and trucks.

\*All information gathered from the American Farm Bureau Federation, "Farm Facts" booklet, updated 2000.

## **Structure of FFA**

The FFA operates on local, state and national levels. Student members belong to chapters organized at the local school level. Agricultural education instructors serve as chapter advisors. Chapters are organized under state associations headed by an advisor and executive secretary, often employees of the state department of education. States conduct programs and host annual conventions.

The National FFA Organization, governed by a Board of Directors and a Board of Student Officers, charters state associations; provides direction, programmatic materials and support; and hosts the National FFA Convention, which draws more than 45,000 attendees each November. The National FFA Alumni Association's more than 40,000 members in 1,200 affiliates assist in the continued growth and development of active FFA programs.

## **Applied Learning**

The agricultural education program provides a well-rounded, practical approach to learning through three components: Classroom education in agricultural topics such as plant and animal sciences, horticulture, forestry, agri-marketing, etc.; hands-on supervised agricultural career experience such as starting a business or working for an established company; and FFA, which provides leadership opportunities and tests students' agricultural skills.

# An Active Member

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Are you an active member, the kind that would be missed?

Or are you just content, that your name is on the list?

Do you attend the meetings and mingle with the flock?

Or do you stay away, and criticize and knock?

Do you take an active part, to help the work along?

Or are you satisfied to be the kind that just belong?

Do you ever go to visit, or call a member who is sick?

Or leave the work to just a few, who call themselves, "the clique?"

There's quite a program scheduled that we're sure you've heard about.

And we'll appreciate it very much if you will help us out.

So come to meetings often, and help us with hand and heart,

Don't just be a member, but take an active part.

Think this over friends, you know what's right from wrong,

Why not be an ACTIVE MEMBER, and do not, "just belong".

~ Author Unknown

# Awards Program

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The Alvord FFA Chapter has several award opportunities for members to participate. Each Spring, the Alvord FFA hosts an Awards Banquet to recognize the achievements of FFA members. Members must complete an application and submit it before the required deadline, which will be announced in the spring semester. An outside panel of Agricultural Science Teachers from the District and Area Associations will judge applications. The following awards will be awarded on the chapter level:

1. **STAR AWARDS**

- Chapter Greenhand
- Chapter Farmer

2. **PROFICIENCY AWARDS**

- Members will be awarded certificates based upon their Supervised Agricultural Experience Program

3. **CHAPTER OFFICER AWARDS**

- Retiring Chapter Officers will receive plaques

4. **SUPPORTER OF THE YEAR/HONORARY MEMBER**

- Members will select community businesses who have given of their time and talents to the FFA during the April Meeting. Recipients will receive this award at the banquet. A business can only receive this award one time.

\*\*Students may apply for Proficiency awards, Lone Star FFA Degree, and Star Awards beyond the chapter level based upon their completed record book for their FFA experience. Requirements for these awards are located in the National FFA Manual and the Texas FFA Degree Selection Procedures. This information is kept on file in the Agriscience teacher's office. Please contact Mr. Abbott or Mrs. Sackett if you wish to apply for advanced awards or for further information.

# Scholarship Opportunities

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## 1 Friends of Alvord FFA Club Scholarship

Graduating seniors must complete an application and submit it to the scholarship committee for consideration. Amounts and numbers of scholarships available will be determined by the Friends of the FFA Club. Applications will be available during the Spring Semester.

## 2. Wise County Youth Fair Scholarship

Graduating seniors must complete an application and submit it to the Wise County Youth Fair for judging. Applications will be available during the spring.

## 3. State Fair of Texas Scholarship

Graduating seniors must complete an application and submit it prior to deadline. More information can be obtained at [www.bigtex.com](http://www.bigtex.com).

## 4. Career Development Events

Students can win various scholarships at various contests if they win high individual honors. Additionally, colleges scout judging team members and offer those students with exceptional abilities scholarships to judge at their universities or colleges, respectively.

## 5. Texas FFA Scholarships

Graduating seniors must complete AET record book and scholarship application by given date. Applications will be available in the spring.

**\*\*\* Other scholarship opportunities will be announced during class and at FFA meetings as they become available.\*\***



## **Competitive Individual/Team Activities**

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### **Leadership Development Events – Fall Semester**

- Jr. Chapter Conducting
- Sr. Chapter Conducting
- Jr. FFA Skills Demonstration
- Sr. FFA Skills Demonstration
- Jr. FFA Quiz Team
- Sr. FFA Quiz Team
- Sr. Creed Speaking
- Jr. Creed Speaking
- Agricultural Issues Forum
- Radio Broadcasting Team
- FFA Public Relations
- Job Interview
- Ag Advocacy

\*\*\*these are available competitions; our participation will be based on several factors (# of students trying out, preparedness of students, retention of information, etc.)\*\*

### **Career Development Events – Spring Semester**

- Soil and Water Conservation Essay contest
- Land Judging
- Livestock Judging
- Horse Judging
- Homesite Evaluation Judging
- Nursery and Landscape
- Horticulture
- Milk Quality
- Ag Tech and Mechanical Systems

- Farm Business Management
- Food Science
- Wildlife
- Poultry
- Range
- Plant ID
- Tractor Tech
- Vet Tech

\*\*\*these are available competitions; our participation will be based on several factors (# of students trying out, preparedness of students, retention of information, etc.)\*\*

## LEADERSHIP ACTIVITIES

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The following activities are offered to all members in the Alvord FFA. Some activities may have prerequisites based upon leadership achievements.

### Fall Semester

- Greenhand Leadership Camp
- Leadership Development Events
- District FFA Meetings
- State Fair of Texas Ag Awareness Day
- Alvord Friends of the FFA Buckle Show
- District Banquet

\*\*\*activities subject to change\*\*

### Spring Semester

- Career Development Events
- San Antonio Livestock Show and Rodeo
- Fort Worth Livestock Exposition
- San Angelo Livestock Exposition
- Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo
- Alvord – Local Project Show
- Wise County Youth Fair

- District Convention
- Area Convention

\*\*\*activities subject to change\*\*

#### Summer Break

- State Leadership Conference for Area and State Officers
- Area Leadership Conference for Chapter, District and Area Officers
- State FFA Convention for Chapter officers/finalists/award winners

\*\*\*activities subject to change\*\*

## **The FFA CREED**

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I believe in the future of agriculture with a faith born not of words but of deeds - achievements won by the present and past generations of agriculturists; in the promise of better days through better ways even as the better things we now enjoy have come to us from the struggles of former years.

I believe that to live and work on a good farm, or to be engaged in other agricultural pursuits, is pleasant as well as challenging; for I know the joys and discomforts of agricultural life and hold an inborn fondness for those associations which, even in hours of discouragement, I cannot deny.

I believe in leadership from ourselves and respect from others. I believe in my own ability to work efficiently and think clearly, with such knowledge and skill as I can secure, and in the ability of progressive agriculturists to serve our own and the public interest in producing and marketing the product of our toil.

I believe in less dependence on begging and more power in bargaining; in the life abundant and enough honest wealth to help make it so - for others as well as myself; in less need for charity and more of it when needed; in being happy myself and playing square with those whose happiness depends upon me.

I believe that American agriculture can and will hold true to the best traditions of our national life and that I can exert an influence in my home and community which will stand solid for my part in that inspiring task.

## **FFA MOTTO**

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Learning to Do  
Doing to Learn  
Earning to Live  
Living to Serve

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# OPENING & Closing CEREMONY (for all members):

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President States: **FFA members, why are we here?**

Members rise in unison on the third tap and respond:

**To Practice Brotherhood, honor agricultural opportunities and responsibilities and develop those qualities of leadership which an FFA member should possess.**

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: *(please note, there is NO comma after nation. Do not pause.)*

*I pledge allegiance to the flag of the United States of America, and to the republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible with liberty and justice for all.*

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## *When you Look Good ...The FFA Looks Great!*

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### **FFA Code of Ethics**

We will conduct ourselves at all times in order to be a credit to our organization, chapter, school and community by:

- Dressing neatly and appropriately for the occasion
- Showing respect for others and being courteous at all times
- Being honest and not taking unfair advantage of others
- Respecting the property of others
- Refraining from boisterous talk, swearing and other unbecoming conduct
- Demonstrating good sportsmanship
- Attending meetings promptly
- Taking pride in our organization and its functions
- Sharing with others experiences and knowledge by attending state and national meetings

## *Official Dress*

The uniform worn by FFA members at local, district, area, state, and national functions is called official dress. It provides identity and a distinctive, recognizable image to the organization.

### **Female members should wear:**

Black skirt – hem should be below the knee  
White collared blouse  
Official FFA Scarf  
Black Nylon hosiery  
Black dress shoes – closed toe and closed heel  
Official FFA Jacket – zipped to top

### **Male members should wear:**

Black pants or slacks  
White collared shirt  
Official FFA Tie  
Black socks  
Black Shoes (low top dress shoes)  
Official FFA Jacket – zipped to top

### **CDE Dress for contests**

- Buttoned down, collared shirt
- Nice Jeans or Slacks that fit at the waist and are free of fading or holes.
- Closed Toe Shoes are required
- Caps and hats are at discretion of Ag teacher(s) in charge of event

### **Official Dress for Livestock Shows**

- Buttoned Down, Collared Shirt
- Nice Jeans that fit at the waist and are free of fading or holes.
- Closed Toe Shoes are required – NO Tennis Shoes.
- Belt should be worn
- No Caps or Hats
- Hair should be pulled away from face and look orderly.

***In addition to the previous guidelines, the Alvord ISD Student Dress Code is in effect at all FFA activities and competitions. If it is inappropriate to wear to school, it is inappropriate to wear to an FFA activity.***



# 2017-2018 Agricultural Science & Technology Course Offerings

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*\*Courses subject to change depending on class size, scheduling conflicts, etc.*

## **Alvord High School**

- 8<sup>th</sup>/9<sup>th</sup> Grade: Principles of Agriculture, Food, and Natural Resources
- Advanced Plant and Soil Science
- Equine Science
- Small Animal Management
- Metal Technologies and Ag Mechanics
- Introduction to Welding (formerly Welding 1)
- Ag Structures and Facility Design
- Horticulture Production
- Livestock Production

*\* Students must provide materials for personal projects.*

## **FFA FUNDRAISING ACTIVITIES**

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**The FFA provides many activities throughout the year that require money. The entry fees for contests, community service projects, the food and refreshments at meetings, travel/lodging, and supplies for the banquet require a large sum of money. You are asked to participate in whatever fundraising activity that we have. The more money that our group makes, the more activities we can provide to you. We are limited to two major fund-raisers per school year.**

**This year, as in the past, we will be hosting all JV/Varsity home football game concession stands. We will need every member of the agriculture department to do their share in making it a successful fundraiser. Schedules will be posted soon.**

**We will also be selling food products. We will be offering Fresh Country meat items and fruit. These products will be delivered in time for Thanksgiving and Christmas orders. These products are also great for selling to large businesses and families for Christmas presents.**

**In addition, you will be asked to assist our booster club, the Friends of Alvord FFA. They will be raising money to support you and assist with financial obligations you and your family may have as part of the agriculture program. Please take an active role in supporting your chapter.**

**Second Fundraising option to be determined by Advisors and Officers**

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## Friends of Alvord FFA

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Parents of current and former Jr FFA and High School FFA members, community members and former students comprise the Friends of the Alvord FFA. The purpose is to support the Alvord FFA and its members. Money raised from fundraisers supports the scholarship program, assistance to members who may incur expenses with a Supervised Agriculture Experience (SAE), and assistance with chapter programs. Alvord Friends of FFA meetings will be held once per month. Please see calendar of activities for exact dates. Officers are elected at the last meeting of the school year. The meetings begin at 6:30 p.m. and are usually held in the ag shop on the second Monday of the month.

## Wise County Youth Fair

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The purpose of the Wise County Youth Fair is to:

- promote leadership, responsibility, and a proper work ethic.
- to encourage students to produce a product of the highest quality.
- to establish and maintain a friendly spirit between members of the organizations by a friendly exchange of information and ideas on all subjects pertaining to livestock, horticulture, and ag mechanics projects.

Wise County Youth Fair, Inc. is a non-profit organization, 501c3 approved. Wise County Youth Fair, Inc. is dedicated to the Youth of Wise County, Texas.

## Buyers' Association

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The Buyers' Association is the support group for FFA, FCCLA, and 4-H members in Wise County who participate in the Wise County Youth Fair. The Buyers' Association organizes fundraisers to raise money for purchasing projects at the Wise County Youth Fair. Any parent wishing to participate in this organization is encouraged to do so. Please contact the ag teachers or the Alvord FFA Friends for more information.

## FFA Dues

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Membership in Alvord requires the payment of \$20 dues per school year. This includes dues for the local chapter, district, area, and Texas FFA Association, as well as the National FFA Association. According to Texas FFA guidelines, members must be enrolled in an Agricultural Science Class to participate in activities.

## FFA Jackets

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FFA Jackets can be purchased for around \$60.00. Purchasing an FFA jacket is not mandatory. However, active members are encouraged to purchase one. They are available to purchase through the National FFA Organization website at [www.shopffa.org](http://www.shopffa.org) . Please allow 4-6 weeks for delivery. You will need our Chapter Number, which is TX0021 and you will have to put in Ms. Pearson or Mr. Roberts's name as the advisor. Please ask your advisor if you have any further questions about this or other FFA merchandise.

## Alvord Junior FFA

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Junior FFA membership is open to Alvord ISD students in grades 3-7. Dues for Junior members will be \$10. Joining the Junior FFA allows the member to participate in select activities as well as stalling/travelling with Senior FFA members to stock shows. Since they are not enrolled in middle or high school agriscience classes they are not allowed to participate in LDE's or CDE's.

## **Public Notification of Nondiscrimination in Vocational Education Programs**

The Alvord Agriculture Science Program offers career and technical education programs in agriculture. Admission to these programs is based on interest and class space availability.

It is the policy of the Alvord Agriculture Science Program not to discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex or handicap in its vocational programs, services or activities as required by Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 as amended; Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972; and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973; as amended.

The Alvord Agriculture Science Program will take steps to assure that lack of English language skills will not be a barrier to admission and participation in all educational and vocational programs.

For information about your rights or grievance procedures, contact the Title IX Coordinator, Dr. Randy Brown at PO Box 70, Alvord, Texas 76225, (940) 427-5975 and/or the Section 504 Coordinator, at PO Box 70, Alvord, Texas 76225, (940) 427-9645.

## **Notificación pública de No discriminación en Programas Vocacionales**

El programa de la ciencia de la agricultura de Alvord ofrece programas vocacionales en agricultura. La admisión a estos programas se basa en disponibilidad del espacio del interés y de la clase.

Es la política del programa de la ciencia de la agricultura de Alvord a no discriminar por motivos de raza, color, origen nacional, del sexo o impedimento, en sus programas, servicios o actividades vocacionales, tal como lo requieren el título VI de la Ley de Derechas Civiles de 1964, según enmienda; Título IX de las Enmiendas de la Educación de 1972, la ley de Discriminación por Edad, de 1975, según enmienda, y la Sección 504 de la Ley de Rehabilitación de 1973; según enmienda.

El programa de la ciencia de la agricultura de Alvord tomará las medidas necesarias para asegurar que la falta de habilidad en el uso del inglés no sea un obstáculo para la admisión y participación en todos los programas educativos y vocacionales.

Para información sobre sus derechos o procedimientos para quejas, comuníquese con el coordinador del título IX, Dr. Randy Brown, en la caja 70, Alvord, Tejas 76225, (940) 427-5975 y/o el coordinador del PO de la sección 504, en la caja 70, Alvord, Tejas 76225 del PO, (940) 427-9645.

# CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS

## Alvord FFA TX #0021

Revised September 2003

### ALVORD HIGH SCHOOL DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURAL SCIENCE

#### **Article I - NAME AND PURPOSE**

Section A: The name of this organization shall be the "Alvord FFA Chapter " The letters "FFA" may be used to designate the chapter, its activities, or members thereof.

Section B: The purposes for which this chapter has been formed are as follows:

1. To develop competent, aggressive agricultural leaders.
2. To develop an awareness of the global importance of agriculture and its contribution to our well-being.
3. To strengthen the confidences of agriculture students in themselves and their work.
4. To promote the intelligent choice and establishment of an Agriculture career.
5. To stimulate development and encourage achievement in individual agricultural experience programs.
6. To improve the economic, environmental, recreational and human resources to the community.
7. To develop competencies in communications, human relations and social abilities.
8. To develop character, train for useful citizenship, and foster patriotism.
9. To build cooperative attitudes among agricultural students.
10. To encourage wise management of resources.
11. To encourage improvement in scholarship.
12. To provide organized recreational activities for agricultural students.

#### **Article II - ORGANIZATION**

Section A: The Alvord FFA Chapter is a chartered local unit of The Texas FFA Association which is chartered by the National FFA Organization.

Section B: This chapter accepts in full the provisions in the constitution and by-laws of the Texas Association of FFA as well as those of the National FFA Organization.

#### **Article III - MEMBERSHIP**

Section A: Membership in the chapter shall be of three kinds: (1) Active, (2) Alumni, and (3) Honorary, as defined by the National FFA Constitution.

Section B: The regular work of this chapter shall be carried on by the active membership.

Section C: Honorary membership in this chapter shall be limited to the Honorary Chapter FFA Degree.

Section D: Active members in good standing may vote on all business brought before the chapter. An active member shall be considered in good standing if they:

1. Attend local Chapter meetings with reasonable regularity.
2. They show an interest in and take part in the affairs of the chapter.
3. Pay their dues regularly.
4. Are enrolled in an Agricultural Science Class
5. Abide by the FFA Code of Ethics.

#### **Article IV - EMBLEMS**

Section A: The emblem of the FFA shall be the emblem for the Chapter.

Section B: Emblems used by the members shall be uniform and those obtained from concerns officially designated by the national FFA Organization.

#### **Article V - ACTIVE MEMBERSHIP DEGREES AND PRIVILEGES**

Section A: There shall be five degrees of active membership in the Chapter. These degrees are (1) The Discovery FFA Degree (2) The Greenhand FFA Degree, (3) The Chapter FFA Degree, (4) Lone Star FFA Degree, an (5) American FFA Degree. All Greenhands are entitled to wear the regulation bronze emblem pin. Chapter FFA wears the Silver emblem degree pin, Lone Star - gold charm, and American - gold key.

Section B: GREENHAND: MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS FOR ELECTION

1. Be regularly enrolled in a class in Agricultural Education class, and have satisfactory plans for a supervised experiences program.
2. Learn and explain the FFA creed, motto, and FFA Mission Statement.
3. Describe and explain the meaning of the FFA emblem and colors.
4. Demonstrate knowledge of the FFA Code of Ethics and explain proper use of the FFA Jacket..

5. Demonstrate knowledge of the history of the organization, the chapter constitution and bylaws and the chapter program of activities.
6. Personally own or have access to Official FFA Manual.

**Section C: CHAPTER FFA: DEGREE MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS FOR ELECTION**

1. Must have satisfactorily completed at least 180 hours of systematic instruction in Agricultural Education at or above the ninth grade level, and have in operation an approved supervised agricultural experience program and be enrolled in an agricultural science program.
2. Have participated in the planning and conducting of at least 3 official functions in the chapter Program of Activities.
3. Have earned and productively invested at least \$150 by the members own efforts or worked at least forty five hours in excess of scheduled class time, or combination thereof, and have developed plans for continued growth and improvement.
4. Have effectively led a group discussion for 15 minutes.
5. Have demonstrated five procedures of parliamentary law.
6. Show progress toward individual achievement in the FFA Award Program.
7. Have a satisfactory scholastic record.
8. Submit a written application for the Chapter FFA Degree.

**Section D: STATE FFA DEGREE** – Qualifications for the State FFA Degree are those set forth in the Constitution of the State Association.

**Section E: AMERICAN FFA DEGREE** - Qualifications for the American FFA Degree are those set forth in the Constitution of the National FFA Association.

**Article VI - OFFICERS**

Section A: The officers of the chapter shall be as follows: President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer, Reporter, Sentinel, Student Advisor. The advisor shall be the teachers of Agricultural Science in the school where the chapter is located. Officers shall perform the usual duties of the respective officers as listed in the Official FFA Manual.

Section B: Officers shall be elected annually. Officers will be ranked based on scores from application, interview, test and popular vote.

Section C: The officers of the chapter together with the chairmen in charge of the major sections of the annual program of activities shall constitute the Chapter Executive Committee. The Executive Committee shall have full power to act as necessary for the Chapter in accordance with actions taken at chapter meetings and various regulations or by-laws adopted from time to time.

Section D: Honorary members shall not vote nor shall they hold any office in the chapter except that of advisor.

Section E: Chapter officers must be in the process of obtaining or have already received the degree of the Chapter Farmer and have satisfactory scholastic standing and a commendable citizenship and conduct record.

**Article VII - MEETINGS AND CONVENTIONS**

Section A: Regular Chapter meetings shall be held during the school year at such time and place as is designated by the Chapter Executive Committee and the Chapter may hold at least one regular meeting during the summer. Special meetings may be called at any time.

Section B: Standard meeting paraphernalia shall be used at each meeting. All regular meetings shall open and close with the official ceremonies. Parliamentary procedure shall be used in transacting all business at each meeting.

Section C: Delegates, as specified by the state constitution, shall be elected annually from active membership to represent the chapter at the state convention. Other delegates may be named as necessary in order to have proper representation at various other FFA meetings within the state.

Section D: A majority of active members listed on the secretary's membership roll shall constitute a quorum, and a quorum must be present at any meetings at which business is transacted or a vote taken committing the chapter to any proposal or action.

**Article IX - AMENDMENTS**

Section A: This constitution may be amended or changed at any regular chapter meeting by a two-thirds vote of the active membership present providing it is not in conflict with the State Association Constitution or that of the National Organization.

Section B: By-laws may be adopted to fill the needs of the chapter at any regular chapter meeting, by a two-thirds vote of the active members present providing such by-laws conflict in no way with the constitution and

by-laws of either the State Association or the National Organization.

## **BY-LAWS TO LOCAL CONSTITUTION**

### **I. OFFICER ELECTIONS**

- A. The chapter officers will be composed of no less than six (6) nor more than ten (10) active members and will carry out the official business of the chapter.
- B. Chapter officers must apply for the office they seek. The applications must be submitted by stated date.
- C. Officers will be interviewed by a committee and ranked.
- D. Officers will take a written test over the FFA and Parliamentary Procedure.
- E. Officers will be voted upon by the members attending the specially held meeting.
- F. The percentages that the application, interview, test and elections will be determined prior to the election.

### **II. OFFICER QUALIFICATIONS**

- A. All officer candidates are to know and agree to abide by the FFA Code of Ethics.
- B. All officer candidates are to have knowledge of The Mission and Strategies of the FFA Organization.
- C. All officer candidates are to have commendable citizenship and conduct records.
- D. All officer candidates shall have their official FFA dues paid and be enrolled in an Agricultural Science class..
- E. Officer candidates shall meet the following respective scholastic requirements:
  - (a) Chapter officer candidates must have an average of "B" or better in past Agricultural Science courses and have an overall average of "B" or better in courses taken the semester immediately preceding officer elections.
- F. All officer candidates are to have a sincere desire to carry out the duties of the office to which they are elected.
- G. All officers must agree to abide by the FFA Officer Rules as created each year by the Chapter Executive Committee and sign a statement agreeing to abide by them.
- H. To hold the office of President, a candidate must hold the Chapter FFA Degree and must have served as an officer prior to the upcoming year.

- III. Officers are to carry out their duties as outlined in the official FFA Manual and as assigned by the President and approved by the Advisors.

### **IV. TERM OF OFFICE**

- A. The terms of office shall be for one year, ending after the newly elected officers are installed.

### **V. REMOVAL FROM OFFICE**

- A. Officers may be removed from office for failing to meet the qualifications stated in the constitution and chapter officer agreement.
- B. Officers must meet the same qualifications for holding office the second school semester as they did when elected, otherwise their term of office will expire.
- C. An officer will be entitled to a full and impartial review and hearing by the executive committee. They may be temporarily or permanently dismissed from office. A decision will be based upon the facts.

### **VI. GENERAL PROVISIONS CONCERNING OFFICERS AND MEMBERS**

- A. Membership may be temporarily or permanently denied for failure to abide by the code of Ethics.

### **VII. OFFICIAL FFA CLOTHING AND ACCESSORIES**

- A. Each individual member takes upon themselves the responsibility of wearing official clothing and accessories with dignity and pride so as not to reflect any bad criticism upon himself, the school, the FFA Organization, or the Local chapter.

### **VII. OFFICIAL FFA AND SCHOOL EQUIPMENT**

- A. All members will show pride in the FFA Organization in his/her school by properly caring for and using the facility, its equipment, and official paraphernalia in a proper, dignified manner.

### **IX. PUBLIC RELATIONS BY INDIVIDUAL MEMBERS**

Each individual FFA member is to realize that they are a personal representative of their school and FFA Chapter. The image of their school and chapter are reflected through and by them as an individual. Aim for and achieve excellence.

# **Student Officer Discipline**

(a) The Alvord FFA Chapter seeks to establish and maintain standards of officer conduct and supervisory practices which will promote effective operations of the Alvord FFA and the agricultural education family and further the interests of the program and its affiliates. These practices include the administration of fair, consistent, and constructive officer discipline.

(b) A consistent officer discipline process will be used which includes, but is not limited to:

- (1) Constructive efforts by the Chapter Advisors of his designee to help officers achieve fully satisfactory standards of conduct and performance.
- (2) Correction of an officer's unsatisfactory performance or negative behavior.
- (3) Sufficient notice to officers that suspension or discharge will result from gross or continued violation of officer standards of conduct or unsatisfactory job performance.
- (4) Written documentation of problems and disciplinary warnings given with corrective measures to be taken by the officer.

(c) The Alvord FFA Chapter generally recognizes four steps or levels of discipline: verbal warnings, written warnings, suspension, and discharge. Disciplinary action may begin at any step or level of severity and does not have to include each level.

(d) The Advisors and Administration must approve any disciplinary action for a gross or severe violation, as well as any suspension or discharge of an officer, prior to any action.

(e) Disciplinary situations involving student officers should be dealt with by progressive discipline, if appropriate, to assure equitable treatment and acceptable conduct.

(f) In applying disciplinary procedures or action, these factors will be considered: the seriousness of the violation or offense, the officer's past record and the circumstances surrounding this particular incident. These factors are listed as a guide only and may vary as appropriate. The policies and procedures for officer discipline will be reviewed and revised as necessary.

(g) Depending upon the facts and circumstances involved in each situation, management may choose to begin disciplinary action at any step. In general, discipline should follow this pattern.

(1) VERBAL WARNING - should be used for minor violations. If the situation does not improve within a reasonable time frame set by the Advisors, the verbal warning may be repeated or the next step used. A written record should be kept to document the verbal warning, its content, and time frame for improvement, as well as date of warning.

(2) WRITTEN WARNING - should be used for repeated violations or for a more substantial violation. A time frame for improvement should be set by the Advisors with the full knowledge of Alvord ISD Administration. A copy of the written warning will be kept on file. If the situation does not improve, the Advisor may repeat the step or use the next step. The written warning notice will be discussed with the officer and his/her parents by the Advisors, and the said officer will be asked to sign the notice to acknowledge receipt.

(3) SUSPENSION - will be utilized for serious violations when immediate action is required while an investigation is being conducted to determine if the officer should be discharged. The length of the suspension depends upon the time necessary to investigate the violation. Suspension may also be used when the officer fails to respond to previous attempts of discipline. The Administration must approve all suspensions. A written notice of suspension and documenting the reasons for the suspension will be provided to the officer, in person or by telephone with written notice to follow in the mail. Suspended officers may not wear the FFA jacket or represent the FFA as an officer in any manner.

(4) DISCHARGE - will be utilized for serious violations, for first offense, with or without the previous use of any of the lesser disciplinary steps. Discharge may also be used for continued failure to respond appropriately to prior disciplinary action and may be deemed appropriate regardless of prior disciplinary actions. The FFA Advisors and Administration must approve all discharges of student officers. If an alleged violation or continued failure to respond to disciplinary action for other violations is reported to or discovered by the Advisors, upon completion of the investigation and adequate due process, the Advisors and Administration may discharge the officer with written documentation to explain the reasons for the discharge. This written notice will become part of the permanent operational record of the Alvord FFA Chapter. The officer will be notified, in person.

(h) The Alvord FFA Chapter shall have grounds for suspending or dismissing a student officer who engages in illegal activities at any time.

(i) Student officers who are arrested for any reason must report such arrest promptly by the following business day. The Alvord FFA Chapter shall have grounds for suspending an officer if arrested for any reason and grounds for discharge if the officer does not report an arrest in a timely manner. Given the nature of the circumstances surrounding an arrest and the alleged offense, the Alvord FFA Chapter, in its sole discretion, may decide the duration of the suspension as well as impose lesser or greater disciplinary action.

(j) A student officer who is convicted of a crime must report such conviction to the Alvord FFA Advisors no later than the following business day. The Alvord FFA shall have grounds for discharging a student officer should he or she be convicted of a crime involving moral turpitude or should the officer fail to report the conviction in a timely manner. For purposes herein, a crime involving moral turpitude shall mean anything done knowingly contrary to justice, honesty, principle or good morals, specifically including a minor in possession of a controlled substance including alcohol or operating a motor vehicle while intoxicated or under the influence of a controlled substance. Given the nature of the circumstances surrounding the conviction, the Texas FFA Association may impose lesser disciplinary action.

(k) A student officer who is suspended or discharged may appeal such disciplinary action within ten (10) business days from his or her receipt of notice of such action. Such appeals must be submitted in writing to the Alvord FFA Advisors and state all grounds the student officer contends should be considered in the review of disciplinary action. Within ten (10) business days of the Alvord FFA Chapter's receipt of such appeal, the officer and his or her representative shall be granted a hearing before a committee consisting of Alvord FFA Advisors and Alvord ISD Administration. Within three (3) days of the hearing, the committee shall inform the student officer of its final decision. Timelines may be extended by mutual consent. The student officer shall remain suspended pending a final decision.

## Officer Expectations

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- I. Attendance at all major FFA functions is required unless permission is granted prior to the function by the advisors.
  - A. FFA Meetings
    - 1. No FFA meetings may be missed unless approved by advisors for family emergency or other extenuating circumstances approved by advisors.
    - 2. The consequence for missing a FFA meeting **without approval** results in a meeting with the advisors to discuss possible resignation of FFA office.
  - B. FFA Functions
    - 1. Officers are expected to attend 90% of all of the chapter's activities (not including stock shows).
      - a. The following are considered approved exceptions: major illness, stock shows, major tests, athletic games, funerals, extreme family emergencies, and graduations. (advisors must be notified, if at all possible)
      - b. The consequence for habitually missing functions without prior approval is a meeting with advisors and officers to discuss possible resignation of FFA office.
- II. All duties of office must be fulfilled.
  - A. Notification by the officer team and advisors for noncompliance of duties will occur.
  - B. The consequences for not fulfilling duties are as follows in order:
    - 1. The first step is a meeting with officers and advisors to give encouragement.
    - 2. The second step is written notification to the officer that is deemed to be not fulfilling officer duties and a reduction in officer duties.
    - 3. The third step is a meeting with the advisors to discuss possible resignation.
- III. Any violation of the FFA and Agriscience Department Code of Conduct established in the FFA Handbook could lead to officer removal.
- IV. Talking negatively about the FFA, members, or advisors will not be tolerated.
  - A. The advisors will make the ultimate decision in determining whether what has been said talks negatively of the FFA, FFA members or advisors.
  - B. The consequences of talking negatively of the FFA are as follows:
    - 1. The first step is a meeting with the officers and advisors to give encouragement to the respective officer.
    - 2. The second step is written notification.
    - 3. The third step is a meeting with the advisors to discuss possible resignation.
- V. Any posting of comments/pictures, etc. on social media (including, but not limited to Twitter, Instagram, Snapchat, Facebook, etc.) that negatively impact others, yourself, Alvord ISD, or the FFA **will not be tolerated** and may result in **immediate suspension** from office (depending on the severity of the incident).

## Supervised Agricultural Experience Program

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A unique aspect of the Agricultural Science Program is the Supervised Agricultural Experience (SAE) program. It enables students to feed and exhibit livestock projects, develop agricultural crop or horticultural enterprises or experience the other aspects of the agricultural industry including shop projects/research/etc. The SAE is a powerful tool that teaches responsibility, time management, commitment, teamwork and sound financial practices.

### Estimated Cost of Livestock Projects

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Species	Time	Duration*	Cost	Feed/Tack	Facility Use***
Cattle	10-12 mo.	Feb.-March	\$1500**	\$1000	\$50/year
Swine	6 months	Oct. -March	\$250**	\$200	\$50/year
Sheep	9 months	July-March	\$200**	\$200	\$50/year
Goats	9 months	July-March	\$200	\$150	\$50/year
Broilers	7-8 weeks	Jan -March	\$1.25/head	\$150	N/A
Rabbits	2-3 months	Feb-March	\$150	\$50	N/A

\*All time durations will vary depending on the shows being purchased for and the locating of the project.

\*\*Cost of this animal may vary depending on quality of livestock and location purchased.

\*\*\*Animals are not required to be kept at the AISD Project Center. Facility use charges include equipment use fees, and pen maintenance costs. ***This charge is assessed on a per head basis.*** The above costs do not reflect any charges that can occur for veterinarian fees, medication, validation, entry fees, bedding, etc. These would be additional expenses for the project.

# Alvord ISD

## Project Center Rules 2017-2018

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The Alvord Independent School District maintains the Alvord FFA Project Centers located both in the town of Alvord and 2 miles north of town. These centers provide for those students who do not have facilities at home to keep their projects. This is an AISD learning facility; all school rules and policies are in effect and shall be enforced. A fee of \$50 (payable BEFORE animals go into barn) will be assessed (see page 25).

This facility is open and available for housing swine, sheep, goats, and cattle. A feeder animal project can be kept only for a period of one (1) school year at the facility. No male animals capable of reproduction will be allowed at the facility. Female animals capable of breeding may stay at the AISD facility provided they are eligible to show. The following rules are currently in force. Any new rules that may become necessary will be effective immediately upon notification of the Agriscience students by the Agriscience teachers.

**These rules are to be followed by students and parents.**

1. **All projects** to be kept at the facility **must be approved** by the student's Agriscience teacher. The number of animals a student may raise at the AISD facility is limited to the available space. **The teacher will assign a stall or pen where the project animal will be kept.**
2. Each student is responsible for the feeding and caring of his/her project on his/her own time and not during school time. Raising a project animal is to be a learning experience for the student. **The student showing the project is to be the primary care provider for the animal. Parents are allowed to feed from time to time. Other students are NOT allowed to feed your animal unless prior approval is given from Ag teacher(s).**
3. Each project must be cared for in a proper manner (i.e., daily and sufficient feeding/watering/cleaning). **A student's animal may be removed from the facility after the third documented incident of neglect.**
4. Students will be responsible for keeping their individual project stall or pen clean at all times. Make sure that spilled/uneaten feed is cleaned up and manure is scooped daily. This will cut down on flies and rodents. In addition, it is the individual **student's responsibility to keep his/her animal in the assigned pen.** It is OK to turn your animal out in the exercise/tie out area out back, but keep in mind this is temporary and should not be used overnight. You may not change pens without the approval of the Ag teacher(s). Trash is to be placed inside feeds sacks, then into trash barrels on site. Manure/bedding is to be dumped outside in designated areas. **NOTE** that feed sack tops/stitching is **NOT** to be dumped with manure. It is to be placed in trash containers.
5. Persons responsible for intentional damage/vandalism (to the property or equipment) may be held financially responsible for repair of the damage and may have their project removed from the barn.
6. Any visitor taken to the facility is the sole responsibility of the Agriscience student accompanying the visitor.
7. Feed rooms, store rooms, wash rack, walk ways, common areas and facility grounds will be kept clean by the students using the facility. **According to fire code, the walkways must remain clear of tack/feed/equipment.** Please empty wheel barrows at least 100 feet from the ends of the barn (a designated area will be marked). Wheel barrows/shovels/rakes should be parked/stored along the back wall of the barn.
8. A barn fee of \$50.00 / year per pen will be charged to those housing animals at the AISD facility. Money collected from the fee will be used to offset the use of the utilities. Other equipment will be provided by the student. If facilities are not cleaned as approved by the agriculture science instructors, future use of facilities and/or equipment will be forfeited.
9. **The abuse/neglect of any animal will not be tolerated.**

10. State law prohibits the use of alcoholic beverages, use of narcotic drugs or controlled substances, use of tobacco products, and the use of profane or abusive language at any school facility. In addition, all school policies will be in effect and enforced at the Agriscience facility.

11. The student will keep their feed and equipment **locked in a locker, trash can or similar container**. The container will be located in the feed room or locker.

12. Insurance for animals kept at the facility is not maintained by the school district, Agriscience Departments, or FFA Chapter. The loss of animals will not be the responsibility of the school district, Agriscience Department, Agriscience Instructors or FFA Chapter.

13. Due to safety concerns, the students are only allowed to be at the facilities **between the hours of 6 a.m. and 11 p.m. Anyone present during closed hours will be considered trespassing**. It is also highly recommended that no individual (student, parent, or teacher) be at the barn alone after dark. If you must be at the facility after dark, please take someone with you.

14. All project animals, with the exception of first year heifers, and prospect steers are required to be removed from the barn one week after the completion of show season. Heifers in their second year shall be required to be removed from the barn within 10 days after the end of the show season.

15. **Any agriscience student** who does not house his/her animals at the facility **may use the facilities** and/or equipment at anytime **provided he/she has obtained prior approval from the Agriscience Instructors** and all facility rules and policies are followed.

**FAILURE TO COMPLY WITH THE ABOVE RULES WILL BE DEALT WITH IN THE FOLLOWING MANNER:**

1. On the **first offense**, a warning will be issued to the student. A copy will be forwarded to the principal and the parents notified.
2. On the **second offense**, a warning citation will be issued to the student and one sent to the parent and principal. The student will be assigned to an after school detention.
3. On the third offense, the student will be sent to the principal and the parents notified. The student will be assigned to an after school detention and a Saturday school.
4. **After the third offense, the student may be required to remove his/her animal from the Center.**

**NOTE:** If the animal is required to be removed and it is not removed within two (2) DAYS, it will be removed by the school and sold at the auction. Any expenses incurred during the time of neglect will be deducted from the proceeds and the remainder (if any) will be forwarded to the student and/or parent.

# Livestock Show Guidelines

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## **Stock Show Eligibility**

To be eligible to participate in any livestock show, students must meet the following requirements:

1. Be enrolled in an agricultural science class
2. Be a member in good standing of the Alvord FFA Chapter (Dues paid for current year)
3. Meet TEA guidelines for academic eligibility
4. Have paid entry fees on time and meet show requirements
5. Have approval of agricultural science teacher
6. Passing all courses according to UIL rules

## **Show Entries**

- The agricultural science teachers will assist in making arrangements for participation in the Wise County Youth Fair and approved major shows. Entries in all other shows will be the responsibility of the student.

## **Travel to and from Shows**

- Alvord ISD Policy governs transportation procedures. Parents and Students should check with Agricultural Science Teachers for clarification before any livestock shows.

## **Discipline While at Shows**

- Livestock shows are an extension of the Alvord ISD Classroom; therefore students will be responsible for their personal conduct. *All school rules are in effect at these shows.*

## **Animal Care at Shows**

- While at livestock shows, each student will be responsible for all feeding, care and grooming of his/her respective animal(s).

## **Responsibilities to Buyers**

- The student will write, gain instructor approval, and deliver a Thank You note to the individuals who provide premium money or buy their project. An official show photograph should be taken at the show and accompany the note. Proof of delivery of the Thank You note must be given before the premium/auction check will be released to the student.

## **Equipment/Trailer Use**

- Arrangements must be made for the use of any equipment belonging to the FFA. Clippers, blowers, etc. must be returned in a diligent manner so that others may be able to use them. The use of livestock trailers will be limited to the agricultural science teachers and others as deemed necessary. Anyone using a livestock trailer, should have their driver's license and proof of insurance on file in the Superintendent's office. Any equipment lost, stolen or destroyed while in the possession of a student will be replaced at the expense of the student.

## **Specific Show Rules**

- It is the sole responsibility of the exhibitor to be familiar with all rules pertaining to his/her livestock project (this information may include weight limits, entry requirements, age, etc.) This information may be obtained from the Agriscience teachers or by visiting the web sites of the shows you are entering (See Website Reference pages).

## **Medications**

- It is strictly prohibited to administer any type of vaccine, drug, spray, feed additive, or substance internally or externally without first receiving approval of the Agriscience teachers. All substances used on the animal must be approved for use on the animal or be recommended by the Agriscience teacher. All withdrawal dates must be followed. All students are expected to read and agree to abide by the Animal Welfare Agreement that can be found on the pages following.

# Livestock Show Guidelines – cont'd

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## **Recommendations for Feeding and Care of Animals**

- The feeding and care of the animals is a very important aspect of the livestock project. Feeding is responsible for at least 50% of the success or failure of a project. Below is a list of several proven practices which if done consistently, will lead to success in the show ring.

## **Daily Care/Feeding**

- The daily routine of feeding and care is very important. All animals respond well to an organized routine. They should be fed twice daily in most cases. Normally this will require at least 30 minutes in the morning and thirty minutes in the evening (**6:00-7:30 a.m. and 4:30 p.m.-7:00 p.m. at the project center**). Your feeding program will be tailored to your particular animal as recommended by your Agriscience teacher. Your choice of feeds will be up to you based upon your particular situation. It is best to discuss with the Agriscience teachers the feeding program that you are going to use.

## **Halter Breaking or Teaching the animal to lead**

- One of the more important considerations that arise early in the feeding period is teaching the calf, lamb or goat to lead with a halter or collar, or pig to walk with a whip. The animal must be worked daily. This is no easy task and sometimes can be very time consuming. Consistency is the key. Some animals learn more quickly than others do, but normally this can be accomplished in the first several weeks. The animal must also be trained to stand correctly and calmly. This is critical, as in some cases the judge may want to handle the animal. This practice will require several additional hours each week.

## **Disease Prevention**

- Your animal's pen must be kept clean on a daily basis. This will help reduce fly problems and help in keeping the animal clean. Regular de-worming for internal parasites and vaccinations for more serious diseases is recommended. A close examination of your animal's feces, appetite, and attitude can help you assess its general health. All medications should follow withdrawal guidelines for market animals.

## **Approved Livestock Surgical Practices**

- Many times it will be necessary to perform surgical procedures on livestock which will improve their general appearance. It is recommended to contact the veterinarian to assist with any de-horning, castration procedures, etc. However, please realize there is always the possibility for complications. The owner must accept all risks of illness or death of the animal.

## **Weighing on a Regular Basis**

- Knowing your animal's weight and weighing on a regular schedule is very important. Weight gain or loss is a good indicator of how well the animal is progressing. Animals should be weighed as often as feasible. It is particularly important near show time, as weight limits and weight classes are sometimes critical to placing the animal. It is also important to know the minimum and maximum weight limits for the species you are showing and the show you are entering. Please post your weights on the charts provided each week.

## **Grooming Livestock for the Show**

- During the latter part of the feeding period, much time must be devoted to grooming the animal. Brushing and combing your animal are important daily routines. Washing and clipping will also be done one regular intervals to get a good view of how the animal is growing and progressing. In most cases, all animals will be clipped prior to the show to meet maximum hair requirements of the show that you are entering. This does not apply to lambs. *Do not wash lambs until it is time to shear or show.*

# Overnight Trips

The opportunity to participate in the Alvord FFA is a privilege extended to AISD students. Participation in the Alvord FFA places a student in a position of recognition and often bestows the position of role model upon the member. Any student who elects to accept the privilege of participating in the Alvord FFA must recognize that he/she is a representative of the school and district, and will be held to a higher standard of conduct than that applied to the general student body. This applies to school related and non-school related activities. The member is subject to state law, school district policies, school rules and regulations, the Alvord FFA Constitution and By-laws, and University Interscholastic League (UIL) rules. Alvord ISD policy governs all trips taken by FFA members. Any student found in violation of these policies will be disciplined accordingly.

- Students will follow directions given by Advisors, as well as adult chaperones.
- Students will conduct themselves in a proper manner at all times.
- Students will stay with the group at all times.
- Students will not leave the hotel or site of activity for any reason.
- Students will follow all curfew times. Lights out will be at the discretion of the advisors.
- Students must stay in the room assigned to them.
- Female students will not be allowed in rooms of male students. Male students will not be allowed in rooms of female students.
- Students will wear official dress, except when notified by the Advisors. Alvord ISD dress code is in effect at all times.

**Violations to these guidelines will not be tolerated.**

## Source List

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### **Livestock Show Feed and Supplies**

- Sullivan's Show Supply Hillsboro, Texas 1-800-588-7096 (will send catalog upon request)
- Alvord Farm Supply (940) 427-5751
- Russell's Feed and Supply Decatur, Texas (940) 627-2312
- Texas Vet Wholesale Paradise, Texas (940) 683-0022
- Tractor Supply Decatur, Texas (940) 627-6167
- Bridgeport Feed Store Bridgeport, Texas (940) 683-5146

### **Veterinarians**

- Decatur Veterinary Clinic Decatur, Texas (940) 627-2158
  - Dr. Waller, Dr. Harrison
- Wise County Animal Clinic Decatur, Texas (940) 627-2133
  - Dr. Reese, Dr. Ables
- Cross Timbers Veterinary Clinic Bowie, Texas (940) 872-2161
  - Dr. Anderson
- Pet Health Center Decatur, Texas (940) 627-8378
  - Dr. Sterle

### **Stock Show Information**

- San Antonio Livestock Show and Rodeo [www.sarodeo.com](http://www.sarodeo.com)
- Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo [www.hlsr.com](http://www.hlsr.com)
- Fort Worth Livestock Show [www.fwssr.com](http://www.fwssr.com)
- State Fair of Texas [www.bigtex.com](http://www.bigtex.com)
- Wise County Youth Fair [www.wcyouthfair.org](http://www.wcyouthfair.org)
- San Angelo Livestock Show and Rodeo [www.sanangelorodeo.com](http://www.sanangelorodeo.com)

### **Universities**

- Texas A&M University [www.tamu.edu](http://www.tamu.edu)
- Texas Tech University [www.canrs.edu](http://www.canrs.edu)
- Ag Consortium of Texas (links to all ag colleges) [www.agintexas.org](http://www.agintexas.org)

### **FFA**

- National FFA Association [www.ffa.org](http://www.ffa.org)
- Texas FFA Association [www.texasffa.org](http://www.texasffa.org)

## Forms

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The attached pages contain forms that need to be returned to the agriscience teachers. If you are going to participate in any FFA activity, we must have the permission slip and emergency information. If you are raising an animal we need the animal welfare agreement. If you plan on using a pen at the barn we need the pen agreement. Finally, the Acknowledgement form indicating you have received the handbook needs to be completed and returned to your Agriscience teacher by September 15, 2018.

## Alvord Independent School District Animal Welfare Agreement

As a student member of the Alvord I.S.D. FFA Chapter who is currently raising an animal project, I know of the importance of the humane treatment of our livestock, poultry, and rabbit projects.

1. I agree that my project(s) will be fed on a daily basis throughout the feeding period with a feed ration and schedule approved for my animal(s) by the Agricultural Science Teachers.
2. I agree that the animal's pen or stall will be cleaned by me daily by removing any manure, trash and any soiled bedding. I will also dump the wheel barrow in designated areas and clean up any messes my animal makes ANYWHERE in the barn.
3. I agree that my animal(s) will be provided with fresh water and fed daily with all watering and feeding equipment remaining clean. Automatic waterers need to be turned off, drained, and cleaned at least once every two weeks.
4. I agree that my project(s) will be de-wormed regularly and be provided with veterinary attention when deemed necessary.
5. I agree not to abuse or use excessive force on my project, especially when training or exercising my animal.
6. I agree not to use any drugs (or unnatural alteration techniques) on my animal without the approval of a veterinarian or my advisor.
7. In the event that I am feeding with a group of other students, I agree that I will share the feeding and cleaning responsibilities when it is my turn.
8. I am and will be passing all courses at the time of show.

I know that failing to meet the standards set by my FFA advisor(s) and those listed in steps 1-8 above, will be grounds for removal of my project following the third verbal or written warning from my advisor. The animal(s) will then be *sold at the current market value at a local livestock exchange* if applicable; I will then receive the sale money.

\_\_\_\_\_  
FFA Member Signature      Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Parent or Guardian Signature      Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
FFA Advisor Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Sponsor Signature      Date  
(if applicable)

*(Return to Ag Dept)*

# FFA OFFICER COMMITMENT PLEDGE

## AS A FFA OFFICER, I WILL:

- (1) Be dedicated and committed to FFA, the total agricultural education program, and the officer expectations on page 24.
- (2) Be willing to commit the entire year to FFA activities.
- (3) Become knowledgeable of agriculture, agricultural education and the FFA.
- (4) Through preparation and practice, develop myself into an effective public speaker and project a desirable image of FFA at all times.
- (5) Regularly and on time write all letters, thank-you notes, reports and other correspondence, which are necessary and desirable.
- (6) Accept and search out constructive criticism and evaluation of my total performance.
- (7) Be willing to take and follow instructions as directed by those responsible for me.
- (8) Use the Alvord FFA Chapter's resources and assets responsibly and only to the benefit of the Alvord FFA Chapter.
- (9) Obligate the Alvord FFA Chapter to a contract, debt or commitment only if I have been expressly authorized in writing to do so and acknowledge that I will be personally liable for any contract, debt or commitment I enter into in violation of this pledge.
- (10) In a timely manner, accurately report activities and expenditures with all supporting documentation.
- (11) As a representative of the Alvord FFA Chapter, not publicly take positions which compromise the FFA's position of neutrality in local issues or in state or national political affairs.
- (12) Comply entirely with the Officer Code of Ethics. (As adopted by the 2005-2006 State FFA Officer team)
  - (a) To forgo all tobacco while involved in official and unofficial FFA activities and at all times refrain from consumption or possession of alcohol or any substance which is not legal for me to consume or possess.
  - (b) To treat all FFA members equally by not favoring one over another.
  - (c) To conduct myself in a manner that earns respect without display of superiority.
  - (d) To maintain dignity while being personable, concerned and interested in my contacts with others.
  - (e) To avoid places or activities which in any way would raise questions as to my moral character or conduct.
  - (f) To consider FFA officer activities and school as my primary responsibilities.
  - (g) To use wholesome language in all speeches and informal conversation.
  - (h) To maintain proper dress and good grooming for all occasions.
  - (i) Work in harmony with fellow FFA officers, and not knowingly engage in conversations detrimental to other FFA members, officers, advisors and other adults.
  - (j) To serve as a member of the officer team always maintaining a cooperative attitude.
  - (k) To keep myself up-to-date on current items.
  - (l) To maintain and protect my health.
  - (m) To be a professional and be on time.
  - (n) Follow a curfew of 11:00 p.m. at all FFA activities, unless otherwise noted by Advisors.
- (13) Be mindful of the impact that I will have during my year as an officer and always act or behave accordingly.
- (14) Respectfully adhere to board policy and treat all students, teachers and state staff with proper deference.
- (15) Use social media (i.e. Snapchat, Twitter, Facebook, Instagram, etc.) in a responsible manner and not post derogatory or negative comments/pictures.
- (16) Must attend Area Convention, Leadership Camp, and State Convention

## CERTIFICATION

I have read, studied, understand and accept the above provisions. As a Alvord FFA or Advanced Officer, I will carry out my responsibilities in accordance with these statements and understand that I will be warned, suspended or discharged from office by the Alvord FFA Advisors and Administration in accordance to Alvord FFA Policy if I do not satisfactorily follow these established standards for Alvord FFA chapter, district, or area officers. Furthermore, I have read and do understand the provisions of the student officer job description, and the student officer discipline policy and commit myself to full compliance these provisions.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

## PARENTAL CERTIFICATION

I have reviewed this pledge with my son or daughter, understand all policy provisions, support the Alvord FFA Chapter in the enforcement and fulfillment of these policies and all other relevant policies and have witnessed his/her signature.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Parent/Legal Guardian Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

*(Return this form to Agricultural Department)*

# Alvord FFA Project Center Rules and Regulations

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**I ACKNOWLEDGE THAT I HAVE READ THE PROJECT CENTER RULES AND  
AGREE TO COMPLY WITH EACH ONE OF THEM FULLY.**

STUDENT  
SIGNATURE: \_\_\_\_\_ DATE: \_\_\_\_\_

PARENT  
SIGNATURE: \_\_\_\_\_ DATE: \_\_\_\_\_

ADVISOR  
SIGNATURE: \_\_\_\_\_ DATE: \_\_\_\_\_

*(Return this form to Agricultural Department)*

# ALVORD FFA / AGRISCIENCE DEPARTMENT PARENT TRAVEL PERMISSION FORM

FOR PARTICIPATION IN SCHOOL SANCTIONED EVENTS DURING THE 2018-2019 SCHOOL YEAR AS A MEMBER OF THE ALVORD FFA/ AGRISCIENCE DEPARTMENT.

FACULTY SPONSORS: Ashley Pearson and Clayton Roberts

STUDENT: \_\_\_\_\_ GRADE LEVEL: \_\_\_\_\_  
PARENTS' NAME \_\_\_\_\_

The above named student has my consent to travel to and/or from each event participated in by this organization during this school year beginning the date signed and continued through the first day of school of the following year, including all errands and activities related to duties and assignments made to members enrolled in the FFA / AGRISCIENCE CLASS. The mode of transportation will be Alvord ISD provided transportation.

1. All students must abide by state, district and campus policies at all AGRISCIENCE/FFA sponsored events, whether held during normal school hours, after school hours, or on weekends and holidays.
2. I understand that students who violate said policies will be subject to disciplinary consequences in accordance with the STUDENT CODE OF CONDUCT, including possible removal from future participation in FFA events.
3. I understand that infractions to any of these said policies which include theft, vandalism, possession of illegal substances will result in notification of parent/guardian and my child being returned to school at the parent's expense with no reimbursement of funds.
4. I agree to, and hereby, release Alvord Independent School District and its trustees, employees, sponsors and volunteers from all legal responsibility from liability resulting from any activities of this organization, including liability caused by or related to the negligence of any such party.
5. I **agree** or **do not agree** (please circle one) to allow my child to swim at any events that swimming opportunities available.

This form must be signed and returned to the sponsor before the student will be permitted to participate in any activities of this organization.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Student                      Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Parent                      Date

Date Received \_\_\_\_\_  
(Return to Ag Dept)

**Alvord FFA  
Emergency Information**

This form must be completed by the parent/guardian of each member. This form is required of all members of the FFA/ participants of the Agriscience Program. This form must be updated yearly or in the event that any of the information should change. **WITHOUT THIS COMPLETED FORM, YOUR CHILD MAY NOT PARTICIPATE IN THE FFA ACTIVITIES.**

STUDENT'S NAME \_\_\_\_\_ GRADE \_\_\_\_\_

DATE OF BIRTH \_\_\_\_\_ SOCIAL SECURITY # \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_

FFA ACTIVITIES \_\_\_\_\_

PARENT OR GUARDIAN'S  
NAME \_\_\_\_\_

HOME ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_ CITY \_\_\_\_\_

ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

TELEPHONE # \_\_\_\_\_ PARENTS HOME # (IF DIFFERENT) \_\_\_\_\_

MOM'S WORK # \_\_\_\_\_ DAD'S WORK# \_\_\_\_\_

Parent's Email Address \_\_\_\_\_

INSURANCE CARRIER \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE # \_\_\_\_\_

NAME OF INSURED \_\_\_\_\_

ID NUMBER \_\_\_\_\_

GROUP # \_\_\_\_\_

PLAN # \_\_\_\_\_

Name and phone number of relative or friend who can be contacted in case of emergency when parent/guardian are unavailable.

NAME \_\_\_\_\_ PHONE # \_\_\_\_\_

RELATION \_\_\_\_\_

NAME \_\_\_\_\_ PHONE # \_\_\_\_\_

RELATION \_\_\_\_\_

FAMILY DOCTOR \_\_\_\_\_ PHONE# \_\_\_\_\_

DENTIST \_\_\_\_\_ PHONE# \_\_\_\_\_

IF, IN THE JUDGEMENT OF ANY REPRESENTATIVE OF THE SCHOOL, THE ABOVE STUDENT NEEDS IMMEDIATE CARE AND TREATMENT AS A RESULT OF ANY INJURY OR ILLNESS, I DO HEREBY REQUEST, AUTHORIZE, AND CONSENT SUCH CARE AND TREATMENT AS MAY BE GIVEN SAID STUDENT BY ANY MEDICALLY QUALIFIED REPRESENTATIVE. I DO HEREBY, AGREE, TO INDEMNIFY AND SAVE HARMLESS THE SCHOOL AND ANY SCHOOL REPRESENTATIVE FROM ANY CLAIM BY ANY SUCH PERSON OF SUCH CARE AND TREATMENT OF SAID STUDENT.

\_\_\_\_\_  
STUDENT'S SIGNATURE      DATE  
(Return to Ag Dept)

\_\_\_\_\_  
PARENT/GUARDIAN'S SIGNATURE      DATE

