

Wills Point FFA Policy Handbook

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2023-2024 School Year

Dear FFA Members, Parents, and Supporters,

Welcome to the new school year! We are looking forward to a successful year of many opportunities and great experiences. On our FFA website willspoint.ffanow.org, the year's events are posted and regularly updated. Livestock exhibitors please note that this handbook has information for you and on the FFA website. If you are in need of assistance in selecting an SAE (livestock, poultry, horticulture, ag mechanics or other project), our Advisors will be happy to help and assist you. Our Chapter is very diverse and offers so many different opportunities for our members. We hope that you will take advantage of the FFA and get involved. Our mission is to promote premier leadership, personal growth and career success for all of our members. FFA is an intra-curricular school organization that has something for everyone. Any of our officers or FFA Advisors will be happy to visit with you.

Parents can stay informed with FFA activities and important information by joining the FFA google classroom, the FFA website listed above and signing up to receive our monthly newsletter.

2023-2024 Google classroom code: [u32zhmt](#)

FFA members/Ag Students please return the attached **YEARLY field trip/emergency information forms** and the **WP FFA Handbook acknowledgment form** to be kept on file with the FFA Advisors. If there are any questions contact our advisors @ 903-873-5100 ext 7176. We know this will be a great year!

Sincerely,
Wills Point FFA Advisors

FORMS INCLUDED

- Travel Release Form/Acknowledgement Form

ADDITIONAL FORMS:

- Chapter Officer Handbook & Contract
- Wills Point ISD Ag Barn Contract

Please remember: the only way a student or parent will be notified of our updates, reminders, deadlines, and FFA events outside of the classroom will be done via our REMINDS and on our Website. You will get a lot of information but you will be informed!

Wills Point ISD

Agricultural Science Handbook

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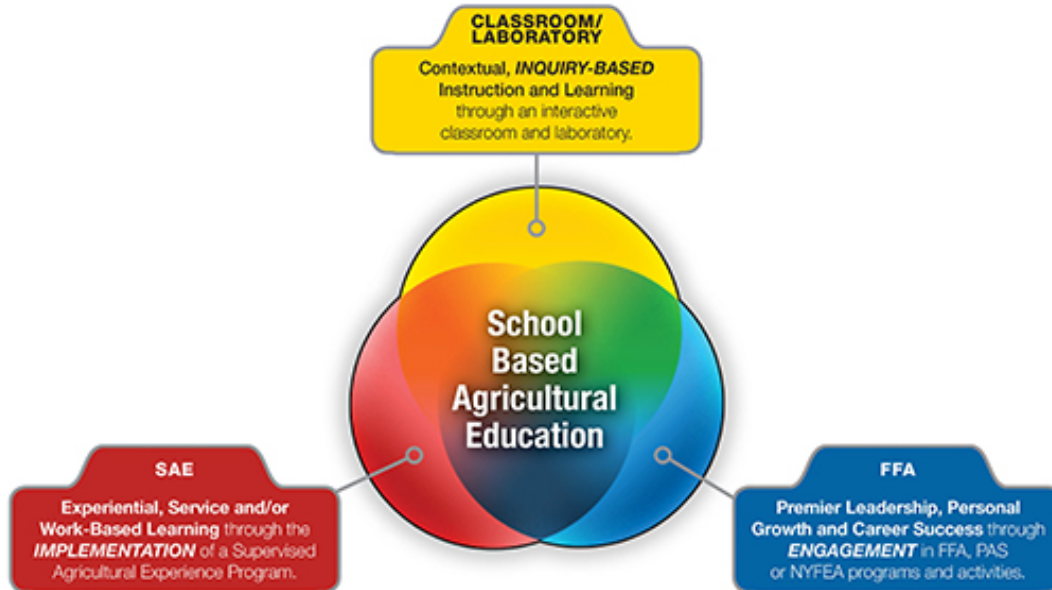
FFA Membership

FFA makes a positive difference in the lives of students by developing their potential for premier leadership, personal growth and career success through agricultural education. **FFA membership today is comprised of 850,823** student members in grades 7 through 12 who belong to one of 8,995 local FFA chapters throughout the United States, Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands.

FFA operates on local, state and national levels. Student members belong to chapters organized at the local school level. Agriculture educators serve as chapter advisors.

The Agricultural Education Mission

Agricultural education prepares students for successful careers and a lifetime of informed choices in the global agriculture, food, fiber and natural resources systems.



Our programs are considered intracurricular not extracurricular.

We work under a 3-Circle Model:

Through agricultural education, students are provided opportunities for leadership development, personal growth and career success. Agricultural education instruction is delivered through three major components:

- Classroom/Laboratory instruction (contextual learning)
- Supervised Agricultural Experience programs (work-based learning)
- Student leadership organizations (FFA)

What is an SAE?

The SAE is a required component of an agricultural education program for every student.

To further define the types of SAE programs available to and appropriate for students of school-based agricultural education, refer to the following examples:

Ownership/Entrepreneurship

Students with an ownership/entrepreneurship type SAE own the enterprise, equipment and supplies, make the management decisions and assume the financial risks to produce a product or provide a service. All products or services must be agriculturally related. A few examples would include raising and selling animals or crops, building and selling agricultural equipment, buying and reselling feed, seed or fertilizer, owning a pet care business or a business that programs and installs computer equipment in tractors.

Placement/Internship

Placement/Internship programs involve the placement of students in agriculture, food or natural resources-related businesses to provide a "learning by doing" environment. These experiences may be paid or unpaid. Examples would include working on a farm or a ranch, in a farm supply store or a food testing laboratory or in an agriculturally related non-profit organization.

Research

In a research SAE students plan and conduct major agricultural experiments using the scientific process and discover new knowledge. As part of the research, students verify and demonstrate or learn about scientific principles in agriculture. Research SAEs can be entrepreneurial or placement. Research SAEs can be conducted alone or cooperatively with other students or mentors/employers. Examples would include conducting research on the most efficient feed supplements for livestock or the best fertilization methods in plants. Research could also be done to study consumer reactions to agricultural products or to determine the best method of welding to hold together a plow.

Foundational

Foundational SAEs are appropriate for all agriculture students. This SAE activity is usually beginner level, short term and designed primarily to help students become literate in agriculture and/or become aware of possible careers in the AFNR career cluster. Foundational SAEs should help students create a larger more focused SAE.

School-Based Enterprise

This type of SAE is student managed, can be entrepreneurial or placement and takes place in a school setting outside of regularly scheduled class time. The project needs to provide goods and services that meet the needs of an identified market and should replicate the workplace environment as closely as possible. Examples of school based enterprises may include, but are not limited to, cooperative livestock raising in a school facility; managing or working in a school garden, a land lab or a greenhouse; agricultural research done at the school; agricultural equipment fabrication or equipment maintenance services done using school facilities; or managing or working in a school store.

Service-Learning

A student-managed service activity where students are involved in the development of a needs assessment, planning the goals, objectives and budget, implementation of the activity, promotion and evaluation of a chosen project. It may be for a school or community organization. The student(s) are responsible for raising funds for the project (if funds are needed). A project must not be part of an ongoing chapter project, or community fundraiser. Service-learning SAEs may be individual or a small group effort.

Wills Point FFA Chapter Information

Wills Point FFA Active Membership

As a student in 8th grade thru 12th grade student taking an Agriculture, Food and Natural Resources course at Wills Point Junior High and Wills Point High School, you have the opportunity to take part in the largest youth led organization in the World. The FFA! *Your opportunity for success is wide open! And we have a lot of fun doing it!*

- Wills Point FFA chapter is an affiliate chapter. This means that Wills Point FFA pays the national, state, area, district and chapter annual dues for all students taking a high school credit class in the Agriculture, Food and Natural Resources pathway.
- Membership will be permitted by the Local FFA Advisors in accordance with the guidelines of our WPISD school policies and FFA Handbook.
- Parents and Members will follow all guidelines/rules required by FFA members in the exhibition of projects, at FFA activities and meetings, and when they are representing WPFFA on and off campus.
- FFA members in the 8th grade do not travel overnight to contests or shows with Advisors. They can travel to overnight shows with their parents.
- Ag Teachers are advisors to the students only.

Wills Point FFA Junior Membership

Wills Point Junior FFA Membership shall be permitted to students who are at least 8 years old as of August 1st of the current school year, enrolled in 3rd thru 8th grade at a Wills Point ISD campus and meet the following requirements:

- Exhibition of livestock, poultry, ag mech or other projects at Van Zandt County Fair and Major Shows requires 4H or Jr FFA Membership. **Jr Members MUST be 8 years old as of August 1st AND in the 3rd grade for the current school year**, and establish membership through the WPFFA Chapter by October 1st of the current school year.
- Membership will be permitted by the Local FFA Advisors in accordance with the guidelines of our WPISD school policies and FFA Handbook.
- Parents and Junior Members will follow all guidelines/rules required by FFA members in the exhibition of projects, at FFA activities and meetings, and when they are representing WPFFA on and off campus.
- Because Junior FFA members are not in the agriculture classes and Advisors do not have daily contact with Jr members, parents/Jr members should be attentive to all rules, event dates, deadlines, and stay in contact with the Ag Teachers.
- Jr FFA members do not travel to contests or shows with Advisors. Parents will need to provide transportation.

Member in Good Standing

To participate in FFA competitions, livestock shows, ag mechanics shows and any other activities that require an Ag Science Teacher's signature, FFA members must be a MEMBER IN GOOD STANDING. To be a member in good standing:

1. Students will maintain academic eligibility for the grading period in which activities take place.
 - a. In the event that a student is academically eligible but has a current grade below 70 in one or more classes, Advisors reserve the right to refuse student's participation in competitions teams, field trips, conventions, and any other FFA activity (other than livestock and ag mechanics project shows already previously entered).
2. Display conduct consistent with the ideals and purposes of the Texas FFA Association and WP FFA. Being sent home from a FFA event or contest, including home events, may result in suspension from FFA for the remainder of the school year. Inappropriate behavior or actions that result in parent contact while at a FFA activity, either home or away, may result in suspension of participation for 9 weeks or the remainder of the semester.
3. Students must not owe money to the chapter for any entry fees, merchandise, or reimbursements.

4. Eligibility to participate in any activities representing Wills Point FFA will be suspended for the remainder of the current semester if a member receives 1 or 2 days of ISS placement for violating the WPISD Student Code of Conduct. If a student receives ISS placement for 3 or more days in the same semester, suspension from school or DAEP placement, eligibility to participate in any activities representing Wills Point FFA will be suspended for the remainder of the school year.

FFA Chapter Officers

Chapter officers serve a vital function in the FFA organization. By taking a major leadership role, these students grow from the experience and benefit the chapter. It should be the goal of every officer to lead by example and encourage other members to participate in chapter activities. Officer elections are held in April/May prior to the Annual FFA Banquet. If a student is interested in running for a FFA officer position, students should attend the informational meeting, and complete the required application process. See Chapter Officer Handbook & Contract for more information. The following are general duties expected of all officers.

- A commitment to a genuine desire to be a part of a leadership team.
- A willingness to accept responsibility.
- A sincere desire to work with all chapter members in meeting their leadership, personal and Chapter goals.
- A commitment to lead by example.
- A knowledge and understanding of the chapter, state and national FFA constitutions and bylaws.
- A working knowledge of parliamentary procedure.
- An ability to memorize their parts in the official ceremonies.

Official FFA Jacket

The Official FFA Jacket is designed to be worn to leadership contests, banquets, conventions and other places that require professional dress for FFA members. It is worn as an Official Dress and not designed to be worn to keep members warm, worn to stock shows or other outdoor events.

The official dress for boys is as follows: FFA jacket, FFA tie, white dress shirt, black slacks, black socks and black boots/shoes (sole must be black).

The official dress for girls is as follows: FFA jacket, FFA scarf, white dress shirt, black skirt (knee-length), black hose, and black closed-toe shoes (small heel with no clasp).

The approximate price for the FFA jacket and tie/scarf \$65.00. *Price subject to change. Ordering the FFA official dress jacket will be done by advisors in the fall before LDE contests begin and at the end of the school year for new officers, students and anyone attending state convention. Parents can order a FFA jacket at any time throughout the year.

Individual Student Awards

FFA members can compete for many individual awards at the local, district, area, state, and national levels. These include awards in:

- Proficiency in the various project areas; found on www.ffa.org
- Star Awards, must have completed the AET record book and Texas FFA Star application. www.ffa.org

Star Chapter Members:

- Star Greenhand Member (1st year member)
- Star Chapter Farmer Member (2nd Year member)
- Star Lone Star State Member (3rd or 4th year member)

Members:

To receive individual degree pins, students must complete the appropriate degree application, specific degree requirements and an AET record book.

- Greenhand Degree (1st year member)
- Chapter Farmer Degree (2nd year member)
- Lone Star State Degree (3rd or 4th year member)

- American Degree (post high school graduation)

Scholarships:

As a student becomes a junior/senior, he/she is eligible to apply for several scholarships through the FFA: Texas State FFA Scholarship and National FFA Scholarship.

Proficiency Awards:

FFA AWARDS GIVEN ABOVE THE LOCAL LEVEL: The Agricultural Proficiency Awards honor FFA members who, through their [SAEs](#), have developed specialized skills that they can apply toward their future careers. Students can compete for awards in 47 areas covering everything from Agricultural Communications to Wildlife Management. Each award area has two categories, placement and entrepreneurship. For a list of awards go to <https://www.ffa.org/programs/awards/proficiency/Pages/default.aspx>

Chapter Activities

Fundraisers

The Wills Point FFA Chapter has two annual fundraisers to help raise money for affiliate dues, contests entry fees and materials, project supplies, chapter meetings, food and any other items provided by the chapter throughout the school year. The Wills Point FFA Chapter Fundraisers are:

1. Fall Meat and Dessert Sale: The meat sale fundraiser will be distributed to all FFA members in class and students will be given instructions on how to collect orders and money. This fundraiser takes place in August/September of each year. Students must sell the minimum items listed to be able to participate in each category of FFA activities:
 - a. Officers - 15 items
 - b. LDE, CDE, SDE, Judging & Individual Contests - 15 items
 - c. Livestock Show Exhibitors - 15 items
2. FFA Project Auction: The FFA Project Auction is held in the spring. Projects built by the Ag Mechanics students will be auctioned off and sold at the Annual Auction & Dinner. Ag Mechanics students who have a project are required to attend and assist in the auction. Other FFA members are encouraged to attend and assist in the Project Auction.

Community Service

The Wills Point FFA Chapter participates in several community service projects throughout the school year. A few of the service projects are:

1. Community Food Drive hosted in October/November each year. Donations are delivered to the Shining Light Food Ministry in Wills Point, TX or the food pantry.
2. National FFA Week Community Service: In February during National FFA Week, Chapter Officers select a community service project for the chapter to participate in.
3. Cooperative projects: Along with other organizations in the school and community, our FFA members are encouraged to assist and participate in other community service events in order to develop a sense of accomplishment in meeting needs.

Camps and Conventions

FFA members are provided opportunities to attend and participate in leadership events throughout the year.

1. Greenhand Camp is a 1-day leadership camp in December for 1st year FFA members. Greenhand members who are Greenhand Officers and participate in LDEs in the fall are eligible to attend. Registration is limited (per Area VI FFA policy), therefore registration is dependent on teacher recommendation.
2. Mineola District Leadership Camp is a 1-day camp held in the summer that Wills Point FFA officers attend.
3. Texas State FFA Convention is held each July. Attendance is limited to Chapter FFA Officers. Award recipients and other members will be allowed to attend as space permits. Registration for extra spots, if available, is on a first come-first serve basis.

4. Area Leadership Camp and State Leadership Camps are held in the summer and limited to District and Area officers.

Throughout the year, other activities take place that are too numerous to list. Each FFA member is encouraged to take part in as many of the activities as possible in order to feel a part of the total FFA experience.

Leadership Development Events (LDE), Career Development Events (CDE), Speaking Development Events (SPE), Judging Contests, Ag Mechanics Shows & Other Individual Contests

There are multiple types of FFA Competitions that students in FFA can compete in, such as Leadership Development Events, Career Development Events, Speaking Development Events, Judging Contests, Ag Mechanics Shows, and other Individual Contests. These contests require hours of practice and preparation.

1. LDE, CDE, SDE and other FFA contests are limited to FFA members in 8th thru 12th grade. Jr FFA members are not permitted to participate in competitive events per Texas FFA policy. Jr FFA members can participate in practices and invitational judging contests, if they attend practices and participate with the teams.
2. Team member numbers are set by Texas FFA rules or individual contest rules. Students who make the teams will travel to invitational, district, area, and state competitions as they qualify. Students will receive a School-Related (excused) absence for contest date(s) only if they are competing, therefore only students competing can attend.
3. Students participating on teams are required to sign up by the deadline given by Advisors prior to the contest date. If a student signs up to attend and does not participate by failing to show up, unsatisfactory grades or deciding not to participate, they are required to reimburse Wills Point FFA for their portion of the contest entry fee(s).
4. Students who wish to participate in FFA competitive events MUST sell a minimum of 15 items in the fall meat and dessert sale fundraiser. These 15 items do not include any requirements for selling items for other activities (i.e. officers, livestock exhibitors, etc). This fall fundraiser assists the chapter in covering entry fees, contest materials, study materials, and other extra supplies needed throughout the year to be successful. *Exceptions: Ag mechanics project teams are not required to sell in the fall meat sale fundraiser to participate in Ag Mechanics Shows.*
5. Each teams' requirements for participation is determined by the Advisor/Coach of that team. Team requirements will be distributed on the first date of that team practice. Team requirements include but are not limited to: practice schedules, practice absences, team dress code, team member behavior and contest deadlines. Failure to abide by team requirements may result in not being able to participate in a contest up to removal from team for the remainder of the contest season.

Phone Calls, Remind and Text Messages Between Advisors and Students

During the course of the school year, it may be necessary for a FFA Advisor to message your child individually through personal cell phone to apprise him/her of important information and vice versa. Remind & text messaging is an easy way to send and receive information fairly quickly.

As a rule, all phone calls, Remind and text messaging should occur between the hours of 7:00 AM and 7:00 PM Monday thru Thursday, unless it is an emergency situation. However, there may be situations that require a school employee to message outside of that time frame. For instance, if students are scheduled to leave prior to 7:00 AM and there is a schedule change (i.e. rain delay or cancellation), an Advisor would notify the student as soon as information becomes available. Advisors will send messages through the Remind app or text message. Text messages sent from an Advisor to a student will include another Advisor or that student's parent (and other students as applicable).

When on overnight trips such as State Convention, Advisors will have a group text message with all students and advisors for notification of meeting times, curfew, directives, etc.

Should you ever be concerned about the nature of any messages, please contact the campus principal immediately. If you have any questions about this matter, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Remember, for non-emergency contact and information, you can email any Ag teacher and you will receive a response as quickly as possible.

SUPERVISED AGRICULTURAL EXPERIENCE PROJECTS

The **SAE** seems to be an area in which both students and parents have questions. Hopefully, some of the basic questions will be answered here.

One of the first questions to be asked is...“**Do I have to raise an animal to be in Ag and/or the FFA?**”
The answer is...“**No, you do not have to have an animal project, but you must have an SAE**”.

We understand that not all students are able to raise an animal project and many do not want to. There is so much more to do in FFA than just raise a livestock project. Having a SAE Project is important and will enable students to receive a more complete concept of the total program. Students enrolled in an Ag Science class are provided a list of activities related to that class which can be used as a supplement or in place of an animal project. There are many ways to accomplish an SAE.

Frequently asked questions include:

- **What kind of animal?** Students are able to exhibit the following animals at the Van Zandt County Fair: Beef cattle (market steers & breeding beef), Swine (market & breeding gilt), Sheep (market & breeding ewes), Goats (market & breeding does), and broilers.
- **How much does a livestock project cost?** Steers cost more than a pen of broilers to raise. For this reason, we have developed informational packets for each species that will be distributed at the livestock exhibitor meeting at the beginning of the school year.
- **When do I purchase my animal?** This will depend on two factors: 1) The type of animal chosen and 2) what terminal show do you want to participate in. Steers for Van Zandt County Fair need to be purchased in the summer/fall prior to validation (tag-in). Market lambs & goats need to be purchased in July-September and prior to validation. Market hogs need to be purchased October-November and prior to validation. Validation = Tag in their ear for a show.
 - June validations - Major Show steers and heifers. State Fair of Texas lambs, goats and hogs.
 - October validations - Spring major show heifers, lambs and goats.
 - November/December validations - Spring major show hogs.
 - December - order VZCF broilers.
 - January Validation - Van Zandt County Fair all market species.
- **What kind of facility/pen do I need for my animal?** This will depend on the type of animal that you raise. Once you have made this decision, contact one of the Ag Science teachers and we will be glad to assist you in planning your facility at home. Students who do not have a place at home to raise a livestock project have the opportunity to raise a livestock project at the Wills Point ISD Ag Barn.
- **Where is a good place to buy my animal?** There is a definite need to understand that you are raising **SHOW ANIMALS**, not commercial grade animals. Animals that are exhibited in livestock shows are not ordinary “farm animals”. They are bred to be of a higher quality, specifically for shows. We will be happy to assist you in locating a reputable breeder and selecting quality show stock. At no time will Ag Science teachers purchase an animal for a student or become involved in payment to breeders. You are responsible for the cost and care of your livestock project. All broiler projects are purchased through Van Zandt County Fair from one hatchery. All poultry projects for major shows (broilers and turkeys) are purchased from Texas A&M University. We can help the student acquire the animals or you can secure them yourself.
- **What shows can I show my project at?** We have a list of shows that WP FFA members can attend. We are glad to help and support our youth in these positive and rewarding youth shows. The Van Zandt County Fair (VZCJLA) show is our county livestock show held the last week of March/first week of April every year and it is our chapter’s main focus for livestock projects and ag mechanics projects. VZCJLA Rules will be distributed to FFA members at the livestock exhibitor meeting and posted on the WPPFFA website.

When you begin your search for animal projects, here are some important things you need to do:

1. Read the rules for the show you are buying an animal for. Ag teachers know a lot of rules for various shows, but it is impossible for one person to know ALL the rules for multiple shows. So, READ THE RULES. Although, other exhibitors are a wealth of knowledge too, rules can change or they may tell you wrong.
2. Select and purchase a quality animal from a **reputable** breeder. We will gladly help you find a breeder.
3. Feed consistently the nutritional requirements for your animal's age and condition. Stay consistent. Do not switch feeds just because you forgot to get to the feed store before they closed or because you got advice from multiple people. That can upset their digestive system and cause a problem.
4. Always offer free choice, clean, cool water.
5. Develop a relationship with a veterinarian in the area. Make sure your animal is up-to-date on all recommended vaccinations. Know the vet's emergency and after-hours number to call in the event your animal needs treatment in the evening, on weekends, or during holidays.
6. Keep them healthy by deworming on a regular schedule recommended by your vet.
7. Go to as many prospect shows as you have time to get to for practice. Watch other exhibitors that are successful.
8. Have fun and make as many friends as you can.

Livestock Project Rules

Parents/exhibitors need to stay current with stock show rules and deadlines. Each year, shows distribute Premium Books that detail their show's rules and regulations. If a parent or exhibitor is found to be in violation of the stock show rules, they can be disqualified and banned from showing at that show (by the show officials). If an Ag teacher finds that an exhibitor/parent is in violation of any stock show rule, they may be given one written warning by the Ag teacher. The second violation will result in the disqualification from any livestock show through WPPFA under the discretion of the Advisor.

Parents will be responsible for overseeing their child's livestock projects. Ag teachers are there to advise and guide with raising livestock projects. Parents must maintain contact with the FFA Advisors for livestock and poultry entries, deadlines, feeding and care of the animal. Parents need to join the FFA Google classroom for FFA Updates and livestock species specific information. This is our MAIN form of regular communication with parents and students.

All exhibitors and parents/guardians must adhere to the following rules:

1. All livestock exhibitors must complete Quality Counts prior to entry deadlines. Instructions for Quality Counts is on the Wills Point FFA website. Failure to complete Quality Counts may result in students not being able to enter the requested show.
2. All livestock exhibitors state validated and county validated sign an Ethics Policy. Read the Ethics Policy and understand the guidelines.
3. All livestock projects MUST be raised and cared for by the student DAILY from the date of validation to the date of show. If the animal is to be housed at a different location other than the address listed on the Ethics Policy, it is the responsibility of the student and parents to notify the Ag Teacher of the exact location of the animal. It is the responsibility of the parent and student to secure transportation to the location of the animal to provide daily feeding and care. If daily feeding and care is not provided by the student, the student will be given 1 written warning. A second violation will result in disqualification from showing livestock for the remainder of the school year.
4. Exhibitors will remember any show attended by Wills Point FFA and/or they attend as a WPPFA exhibitor is a school-related activity. All rules in the Wills Point Student Code of Conduct/Student Handbook will be adhered to including but not limited to NO PASS NO PLAY, dress code, no alcohol and tobacco/vaping use. Violation of the Student Code of Conduct/Student Handbook while attending a stock show as a Wills Point FFA member will result in disciplinary action by the Ag Science teachers and Wills Point ISD administration.

5. At a show where students have traveled with the school, exhibitors will not be allowed to leave the show grounds without permission from Ag Teacher(s). Students will only be permitted to leave the show grounds with a parent. If a parent is present, please notify the Ag Teacher that the student is leaving.
6. For the Van Zandt County Fair, Ag Teachers are available to assist in transportation of livestock projects to the Van Zandt County Fairgrounds. Please notify the Ag Teachers 1 week prior to the show (designated date by teachers) so Ag Teachers can accommodate all students who need transportation. The student or a parent needs to be available to load and unload animal(s). It is the responsibility of the student and parents to secure transportation to and from the show for feeding and care of their livestock project at the VZCJLA show. If a student needs transportation for any reason, parents please notify the Ag Teachers and we will make arrangements for them.
7. Exhibitors will be assigned stall duties throughout the livestock show as necessary. Keep food, personal belongings and clothes put away and not in view. Tack stalls and feed alleyways are NOT your bedroom. Keep them neat and tidy.
8. Students will be the only persons to work stall duties. We ask that parents please do not work stalls. It is the responsibility of the exhibitor. At the shows that award Herdman Awards, judges will not reward the chapter for stall award points if adults are seen working the cleanup and maintenance.
9. Show times are varied and can only be estimated as to the time of entering the show arena. Exhibitors should know and verify their show classes. They need to pace their time as to grooming their animal, changing their clothes for show and getting ready for the show ring.
10. Exhibitors and parents will exhibit sportsmanship expected of them as members of the Wills Point FFA. Unsportsmanlike conduct and inappropriate behavior by students and/or parents will not be tolerated. Instances will be documented by Advisors in the event that disciplinary action needs to be taken.
11. Exhibitors are responsible for the care of their own animal. Exhibitors must maintain their own SAE projects. The exhibitor may ask for assistance but remember it is the responsibility of the exhibitor to groom, trim, bathe and present his/her livestock.
12. Students are only excused from school ON THE DAY THEY SHOW for VZCJLA. Students will not receive an excused absence for being at the VZCJLA show unless they are showing on that day or participating in other contests. Students will be excused for major shows for the dates of their species show (i.e. from the date of arrival to the date of release).
13. If any exhibitor that is excused from school to feed and care for their animal at a show, is NOT present at the show, feeding and caring for their project AND/OR have not contacted the Advisor over that project of the reason, they WILL NOT be excused for that date by WPIPSD. YOU WILL BE GIVEN AN UNEXCUSED ABSENCE FOR THE DAY. Every exhibitor has access to our emails.
14. Parents/students must stay in contact with advisors as of the need to weigh animals, oversee and/or transportation of animals for shows. We can assist you in these areas, but you must keep in touch. Help us to continue to be here for the kids and to help each other with a positive influence.
15. Checks that are sent to the school from VZCJLA, major shows or other competitions, must be picked up from the Ag Office and signed for by the student (high school) and/or parent (Jr FFA). This is our record that the check was given to the student or parent.

LIVESTOCK SHOWS

Advisors will supervise and assist any FFA member in good standing that wishes to attend any of the shows listed below. Each show requires entry form paperwork and entry fees submitted by the Ag Science teacher months prior to the show, therefore the deadline for paperwork and payment set by the Ag teachers supersedes the deadlines set by the stock shows. In August and October, Ag Science teachers will have a major show entry night for parents and students to complete paperwork and pay entry fees. **At the beginning of each school year, the Advisors will choose which major shows WPPFA will attend as a school group. THE SHOWS CHOSEN MAY BE REVISED BY WPIPSD AT ANY TIME DUE TO STUDENT PARTICIPATION AND FUNDS AVAILABLE.** The following is a list of shows that Wills Point FFA members have the opportunity to participate in as WP FFA members.

- Four States Fair, September - Breeding beef, lambs, goats.
- Heart of Texas Livestock Show, October - Breeding beef, market steers, lambs, goats, hogs.
- State Fair of Texas, October - Breeding beef, dairy heifers, market & prospect steers, lambs, goats, hogs.

- Fort Worth Stock Show, January - Breeding beef, dairy heifers, market steers, lambs, goats, hogs & ag mechanics.
- San Antonio Livestock Show, February - Breeding beef, market steers, lambs, goats, hogs, poultry & ag mechanics.
- San Angelo Stock Show, February - Breeding beef, market steers, lambs, goats, hogs, poultry & ag mechanics.
- Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo, March - Breeding beef, dairy heifers, market steers, lambs, goats, hogs, poultry & ag mechanics
- Rodeo Austin Livestock Show, March - Breeding beef, market steers, lambs, goats, pigs, livestock judging & ag mechanics
- Van Zandt County Fair, March - Breeding beef, market steers, lambs, goats, hogs, broilers & ag mechanics.

There are many shows throughout the year where an exhibitor may exhibit their livestock projects individually known as prospect/jackpot shows and open shows. These shows are the responsibility of the student to haul to, enter and care for the animal during the show.

****SPECIAL LIVESTOCK SHOW NOTE:**

Due to conflicts in schedules, availability and time out of the classroom, Ag Teachers may not be able to assist in the transportation of the animal(s) and stay for the duration of all major shows listed in this handbook. In the event that Ag teachers are not present at the show, parents will be responsible for transportation, check-in and daily care of livestock projects. Ag Teachers will attend the day of the show, if possible.

Use of School Equipment

Wills Point FFA has equipment that can be used at the Ag barn and some equipment can be checked-out and used by Wills Point FFA members. Equipment is only for use of WPPFA members at shows in which they are showing through FFA, not 4-H, open or breed association shows.

1. Small animal scales and cattle scales are available for you to weigh your animals at the Ag barn. Scales may not be removed from the barn.
2. Equipment can be checked out from Ms. Brown for a period of 48 hours. They must be picked up on the day of check-out by 4:00 pm and returned 2 days later by 4:00 pm. Proof of return must be sent as a picture via email to Ms. Brown.
3. You can schedule to use barn equipment by emailing Ms. Brown at chloe.brown@wpisd.com.
4. Species weigh days are at the discretion of the species supervisor. Animals will not be weighed outside of those days unless by supervisor discretion.
5. Equipment must be returned in the same condition they were checked out in (i.e. clean, in working order, etc). If you damage the equipment or scales, you will be responsible for repairing them and/or replacing parts. Ms. Brown will look over them upon the return and sign off that they are returned in good condition.

Please sign and return the attached signature forms of this handbook and return to Ag Advisors.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT AND PERMISSION FORM FOLLOWS

FIELD TRIP & SCHOOL TRAVEL

Club/Organization: Wills Point FFA

Sponsor: Kimberly Martin, Hannah Wells, Chloe Brown, Mark Kellogg, Kaci Cartwright

1. The school is responsible for the control of student behavior while attending school or any school related activity on or off campus. This responsibility carries with it the authority to administer punishment for misbehavior.
2. All school policies, regulations, and rules approved by the WPISD Board of Trustees will apply on all school-sponsored activities on or off campus.
3. Students who participate in school-sponsored trips shall be required to ride transportation provided by the school to and from the event. Exception may be made if the student's parent or guardian requests in writing that the student be allowed to ride with the parent or an adult designated by the parent and presents the request for approval to the principal or sponsor. The District shall not be liable for any injuries that occur to students riding in vehicles that are not provided by the school.
4. If, in the judgment of any representatives of the school, the above student needs immediate care and treatment as a result of any injury or sickness, I do hereby request, authorize, and consent to such care and treatment as may be given to said student by any physician, trainer, nurse, hospital, or school representative; and I do hereby agree to indemnify and save harmless the school and any school representative from any claim by any person whomsoever on account of such care and treatment of said student.

5. RELEASE AND HOLD HARMLESS AGREEMENT

The undersigned, being desirous of using Wills Point ISD/ FFA animal related and mechanical equipment, and facilities does hereby forever release "WP ISD" and all their employees, students, volunteers from any and all cause and causes of action. This shall include personal injury, illness, death, property damage and liability of any kind arising out of use of "operator and volunteer" equipment, facilities, livestock and/or participation in outdoor recreation, handling of livestock and agriculture-related functions.

This release shall cover any and all injuries (fatal or non-fatal), all illness, and property damage, which might arise out of use of the "operator and student" equipment, facilities and livestock or participation in outdoor or class time use, recreation, and/or any and all animal-related functions.

The undersigned further agrees to hold harmless Wills Point ISD and its employees from any and all cost, charges, claims, demands and liabilities arising from the improper or negligent use of "operator" equipment, livestock or facilities. The undersigned agrees that he/she will exercise reasonable care in the use of all equipment, facilities and livestock and will return in the same condition in which it was received or used.

6. This form serves as parental permission for the current school year unless otherwise noted.

Yearly Travel Release & Acknowledgment Form

Student's Name (please print)

Date

Address: _____

The above named student has my permission to participate in and attend FFA/Agriculture field trips &/or class/shop/lab/greenhouse/barn activities with the Wills Point Agriculture Department throughout the current school year 2023-2024.

We authorize the Advisors to publicize achievements/pictures of my child in School related activities on the official FFA web-site/FFA magazine, the Ag Experience Tracker-AET, in the classroom and social media.

- We have read and understand the Wills Point FFA Policy Handbook-including livestock show rules, hold harmless agreement, officer rules (if applicable) and will follow instructions of FFA Advisors and adult chaperones.
- I understand the guidelines set forth for remind/parentsquare messaging and/or text messaging my child and give any and all sponsors/coaches permission to notify my child of relevant information regarding the activities they are participating in during the school year.
- I also understand that my child may be handling livestock, other animals, equipment, tools and agree to the hold harmless agreement in this handbook.
- We understand that all the rules and regulations as stated in the WPISD Student Handbook also apply at any school sponsored activity. We understand that the sponsor and chaperones have the right to search handbags or personal belongings for illegal items in order to protect the entire group.

Date _____

Signature of student

Signature of parent/guardian

Street address _____

City/State/Zip _____

Home area code and telephone _____

Business area code and telephone _____

Emergency Contact name and number: _____

ANY KNOWN ALLERGIES _____