Ridge Point High School



# Agricultural Science & FFA

Student Handbook 2021-2022

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Please keep in mind that all travel opportunities, fundraiser, and our points system are all on hold as of now due to COVID. Also, our dates as far as contest and trips have not been updated. We will keep you all updated as soon as we receive information.

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Dear Students and Parents:

August 17, 2021

Welcome to the 2021-2022 school year of the Ridge Point FFA and Agricultural Science Department. It is exciting 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 hope that you will take advantage of our many activities this year and really find a place to “call home”! We believe we are a family and that there is something to offer everyone! It is a great way to make new friends and build relationships which will last a lifetime. Remember, as with anything, you will only get out of this organization what you put into it. We are here to offer guidance and support for each of you and have some fun along the way too. Please do not hesitate to contact one of us if we can be of any assistance.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Sincerely,  Cayli Snead | Dustin Black | Reagan Swafford |
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**2021-2022**

**Agricultural Science & Technology Course Offerings**

**Ridge Point High School**

* Principles of Agriculture, Food, and Natural Resources
* Principles and Elements of Floral Design
* Small Animal Management/ Equine Science
* Livestock Production
* Advanced Animal Science

**FFA**

**Structure of FFA**

The FFA organization 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.

FFA Dues

Annual Ridge Point FFA dues are $40.00. This includes dues for Local, District, Area, Texas FFA Association, and the National FFA Association. This also includes their chapter t-shirt! National membership includes a subscription to the FFA Horizons Magazine which will arrive sometime after January 1st. According to Texas FFA guidelines, members must be enrolled in an Agricultural Science Class to participate in activities and be a FFA member.

Chapter Dues: $26.50 Local Dues: $1.50 State Dues: $5.00 National Dues: $7.00

FFA Jackets

FFA Jackets can be purchased for $75. This will include your jacket and a tie or scarf and cover shipping costs. Students who need a jacket “tailored” because a standard size does not fit them properly (i.e. extra-long arms) are charged an additional $20. Orders will be taken 3 times throughout the year (Sept, Nov, and April) and will be placed with the National FFA Supply Service. Please allow approximately 4 weeks for delivery. All members are encouraged to purchase a FFA Jacket if they have plans of competing on LDE’s or CDE’s. All jacket orders will be placed by the Agriscience Instructors. No jackets will be delivered to students until they have paid in full. Jackets will be sized at school, by an Ag Teacher, if a tailored jacket is chosen instead of a standard size and it does not fit, the charge to order another jacket will be the responsibility of the FFA member.

FFA Member Participation

Every FFA member should take advantage of the variety of activities that the FFA has to offer. We will recognize those members of the FFA who have actively participated in the many activities offered. In order for a member to be considered active they must have paid their dues, participate in fundraising and be in good standing with the FFA chapter. Additionally, members will not be selected to travel to any District, Area, or State FFA activities unless they have been active in local chapter activities. Sign in sheets will be at each activity held, please make sure you sign your name on the sheet to receive credit.

**Activities:**

* Local Activities
  + Chapter meetings
  + Chapter and Booster Club fundraisers
  + Community service projects
  + Serving on a committee
  + Recruitment Activities
  + Teacher Appreciation Luncheon
  + National FFA Week Activities
  + Chapter Banquet
* District Convention
* Area Convention
* LDE’s-District, Area and State
* Local FFA activities
* CDE’s – Area, State and Nationals
* District, Area, State and National level camps and conferences
* Exhibiting Animals at Major and County Livestock Shows
* Other SAE activities

2021-2022 Ridge Point FFA Officer Team

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President: Isabella Fonseca

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Secretary: Bailey Stockland

Vice President: Camilla Flores

Student Advisor:

Lucas Noonan

Reporter:

Morgan Peterson

Treasurer: Carson Roberbs

Sentinel:

Jared

Herron





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

**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: Male members should wear:

Black skirt – hem should be below the knee Black pants or slacks White collared blouse White collared shirt

Official FFA Scarf Official FFA Tie

Black Nylon hosiery Black socks

Black dress shoes – closed toe and closed heel Black Shoes (low top dress shoes) Official FFA Jacket – zipped to top Official FFA Jacket – zipped to top

CDE Dress for contests

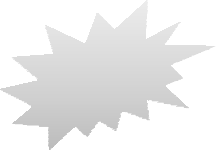
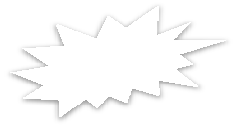
* Buttoned down, collared shirt (we will have one all members wear to these events)
* Nice Jeans or Slacks that fit at the waist and are free of fading or holes.
* Closed Toe Shoes are required
* No Caps or Hats *(except hard hats in meats contest)*

Dress for Livestock Shows

* Buttoned Down, Collared Shirt, tucked into pants
* Nice Jeans that fit at the waist and are free of fading or holes.
* Closed Toe Shoes are required – NO tennis Shoes or crocks
* 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 Fort Bend 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. Please know that we hold our students to a high standard in our program and we expect the very best and even some things that are not in the dress code. I.E. shaving.***

FFA Member Demerit System



FFA members are held to a higher standard as individuals in the community look at FFA as an organization that is of leadership. Therefore, members will be held to those standards as to how one should represent our chapter inside and outside the walls of Ridge Point High School.

The new demerit system will be enforced starting on the first day of school. A member will be allowed to receive up to 12 demerits before they are no longer a member in good standing. A member will be able to earn merits to replace demerits at the Ag Teachers discretion.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Item** | **Offense** | **# of Demerits** |
| 1 | Continual foul language (you can gain more than once) | 1 |
| 2 | Write up/referral from an Ag Teacher | 2 |
| 3 | 2 Write ups/referrals from any other teacher | 3 |
| 4 | ISS or OSS | 2/day |
| 5 | Failure to comply with School District, FFA chapter, School, and/or  Agriculture Barn rules that are outlined in Handbooks and contracts. | 5 |
| 6 | Misbehaving on any FFA related activity, trip, fundraiser, or sponsored event  (refer to the FFA code of ethics, overnight trips, livestock show guidelines, & constitution and bylaws) | 3 |
| 7 | Not wearing appropriate FFA official dress when required | 1 |
| 8 | Failure of grading periods where UIL eligibility is lost, 2 times | 2 |
| 9 | Failure to participate in Fundraising events | 1 |
| 10 | Disorderly conduct or behavior towards fellow FFA members, Ag Teachers,  parents, any other Ag teachers, or adults | 4 |

**MERITS**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Item of offense** | **Explanation** |
| 2&3 | You may, at the Ag Teachers discretion earn merits for write-ups a month after the offense was obtained. |
| 8 | Must attend tutorials and have teacher sign off that you attended. Must attend until grade is passing. |
| 6 | Write a 2 page paper on how your behavior needs to approve |
| 1 | You owe at least 50 sentences of “I will not cuss or use foul language.” |
| 10 | Sincere handwritten apology for disorderly conduct towards the offended, this note must be approved by the Ag teachers before being delivered. You may only earn back 2 merits. |

\*\*\*\*\* All of the demerits and merits are at the Discretion of all RPHS Ag teachers and Administration\*\*\*

FFA FUNDRAISING ACTIVITIES

The FFA provides many activities throughout the year that require funding such as: community service projects, the food and refreshments at meetings, supplies for the banquet, entry fees, travel to any FFA contest, and any other materials deemed necessary for FFA activities that require a large sum of money. To meet these financial obligations, students are expected to participate in fundraising activities that the chapter participates in or host. The more money that our group makes, the more activities we can provide to you. The main chapter fundraiser is the Meat/Dessert/Fruit Sale.

* **Meat, fruit & desert Fundraiser will be in October & November**

Students must sell at least **15 items during the fundraiser** or their end of the year banquet ticket will not be paid for. This year all proceeds from the meat & dessert fundraiser will go towards putting on the banquet. ***Families with multiple students must sell a total of 25 items combined from ALL children to have the member tickets paid for***.

**Top Sellers:** The top 3 salesman/saleswoman will be recognized at the banquet.

Students are also expected to participate in fundraisers that are being hosted by the RPHS FFA Booster Club as they are raising funds to support the activities of the chapter! Minimum expectations will be set and shared with the students for each Booster Club sponsored event.

**NEW\*\*** You must participate in at least ONE of the following Booster Club Fundraisers:

* Progress Show - July
* Judging Invitational – January/February
* Sporting Clays Event - May

Awards Program

The Ridge Point FFA Chapter has several award opportunities for members to participate. There will be one official Banquet at the conclusion of the school year. The Ridge Point FFA hosts an Awards Banquet to recognize the achievements of FFA members. Members’ activities will be tracked throughout the year and will be a consideration of many of the awards given at the banquet. For some awards, members will be required to complete an application and submit it before the required deadline. Awards requiring application will be announced during the spring semester, following the Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo. Awards that require an application will be judged by an outside panel of Agricultural Science Teachers from the District and Area Associations. Here is a list of some of the awards that are awarded on the chapter level:

1. GREENHAND DEGREE
2. **CHAPTER DEGREE**
3. **STAR AWARDS**
   * Star Greenhand
   * Star Chapter
   * Star Lonestar
4. PROFICIENCY AWARDS
   * Members will be awarded certificates based upon their Supervised Agricultural Experience Program
5. PARTICIPATION AWARDS
   * Awards given to members for various activities in which they have participated
6. FUTURE LEADER AWARD
7. **FFA PRIDE AWARD**
8. **BLUE AND GOLD AWARD**
9. **HONORARY FFA DEGREE**
   * Members will select community members who have given of their time and talents to the FFA. Recipients will receive this award at the banquet. A person 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 an FFA Advisor if you wish to apply for advanced awards or for further information.*

**Scholarship Opportunities**

1. Scholarship Opportunities through Texas FFA Association Scholarship Programs

Graduating Seniors apply during the Spring Semester at the District Degree Check. Scholarship is based on academic rank (must be in top 25% for Houston, top 50% for the others), SAT/ACT scores (minimum 950 on SAT, minimum of 20 on ACT), and FFA activities. Students will interview at the Area Degree Check. Ten members from the Area Association will advance to state interviews to compete for these awards.

* + San Antonio Livestock Show $20,000 (4 offered)
  + Houston Livestock Show $18,000 (70 offered)

o You do not have to be an Agricultural or Life Science Major to receive this scholarship.

* + Jim Bob Norman Memorial $10,000 (2 offered)
  + C.J. “Red” Davidson $8,000 (2 offered)
  + Southwestern Exposition $4,000 (2 offered)
  + Farm Credit Bank of Texas $2,000 (4 offered)
  + Texas Agricultural Education Fund $2,000 (1 offered)
  + Young Farmers of Texas $2,000 (1 offered)

1. National FFA Scholarships

Graduating seniors apply for various scholarships. Students may obtain an application from [www.ffa.org ,](http://www.ffa.org/) the National FFA website. Eligibility requirements and award amounts are listed as well.

1. Fort Bend County Fair Scholarship

Graduating seniors who have participated in the Fort Bend County Fair are eligible to apply for this scholarship. Applications will be available during the spring semester on the fair’s website [www.fbcfa.org.](http://www.fbcfa.org/)

1. Agriscience Fair Competition

The Agriscience Fair offers the opportunity for members to demonstrate their agriscience

abilities through a science fair competition. These competitions are available at most major stock shows and through Texas FFA. Various scholarships are awarded at each of these events.

1. Proficiency and Star Awards

Students can obtain various scholarships through participation in advanced awards. Students who win on the state and national levels will receive scholarships.

1. 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.

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

**Competitive Team Activities**

**Leadership Career Development Teams – Fall Semester**

Teams that RPHS will have:

* + Agricultural Skill Demonstration
  + Jr. FFA Quiz Team
  + Sr. FFA Quiz Team
  + Jr. Creed Speaking
  + Sr. Creed Speaking
  + FFA Broadcasting Team
  + Job Interview

**Career Development Teams – Spring Semester**

* + Floriculture
  + Livestock
  + Veterinary Science
  + Entomology

\*\* There are other CDE teams that are optional as well. They can be found on the Texas FFA website.

**Speaking Development Events- Spring Semester**

* Extemporaneous Speaking
* Jr. Prepared public Speaking
* Soil and Water Stewardship Speaking
* Sr. Prepared Public Speaking

LEADERSHIP ACTIVITIES

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

Fall Semester

* FFA Member Orientation
* Area III Greenhand Camp
* Chapter Leadership Camp
* Fort Bend County Fair
* National FFA Convention (if we qualify)
* District, Area & State Leadership Development Events
* Livestock Judging

Spring Semester

* Area III Mid-Winter Conference
* Career Development Events \*separate calendar will be given to those on teams
* San Antonio Livestock Show
* Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo
* Shooting Competitions
* Speaking Competitions
* Ag Science Fair
* Horticulture Competitions
* HLSR Tour Guiding
* HLSR Program Sales
* Officer Opportunities (chapter, district & area)
* District Convention
* Area Convention

Summer Break

* State Shoot
* District Leadership Camp for Chapter Officers
* Chapter Officer Retreat
* State FFA Convention
* Washington Leadership Conference

Supervised Agricultural Experience Programs

A unique aspect of the Agricultural Science Program is the Supervised Agricultural Experience program (SAE). It enables students to feed and exhibit livestock projects, develop agricultural crop or horticultural enterprises or experience the other aspects of the agricultural industry. The SAE is a powerful tool that teaches responsibility, time management, commitment, teamwork and sound financial practices. **ONE OPTION** for a SAE is a livestock project. Here are some preliminary cost projections for those of you who may want to raise an animal project.

Estimated Cost of Livestock Projects

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Species** | **Time** | **Duration\*** | **Cost\*\*** | **Feed/Tack** |
| Cattle | 10 months | Dec. – Oct. May – Mar. | $2000 - $5000 | $2000 - $3000 |
| Swine | 4 months | June - Oct. Nov. – Mar. | $500 - $1000 | $400 - $600 |
| Sheep | 6 months | April - Oct. Oct. – Mar. | $750 - $1500 | $500 |
| Goats | 6 months | April - Oct. Oct. – Mar. | $750 - $1500 | $500 |
| Broilers | 6 weeks | Aug.- Oct.  Feb. – Mar. | $30/30 head | $150 |
| Rabbits | 6 weeks | Aug.- Oct. | $250/5-6 head | $100 (cages) |

\*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.

\*\*\* The above costs do not reflect any charges that can occur for veterinarian fees, medication, validation, entry fees, etc. These would be additional expenses for the project.

**Students that are not interested in an animal project for their SAE should visit with their Advisor about other SAE opportunities!**

**Fort Bend ISD**

**Project Center Rules 2021-2022**

Barn Use Information

1. All pens will require cleaning upon completion of designated project. *(This needs to be completed within two weeks of the animals designated show).*
2. The pen fee for entire feeding period must be paid by check in advance to Fort Bend Independent School District. This fee is not prorated.
3. This facility was built for market animals only.
4. Key codes are to be kept confidential. This is for the safety of the students, parents and the animal project.
5. Students who pay for unused pens during a feeding period will not receive refund of pen rent.
6. Removal from the facility for any reason will result in loss of Privilege for future use of the facility.

Precedence for pen assignments will be as follows:

1. All projects will be classified into two major categories – either major show or county fair (County Animals have precedence).
2. Market Animals – (a) steers (b) hogs (c) lambs (d) goats (e) rabbits (f) commercial heifers

*Commercial heifers are those heifers that are tagged in for the county fair and have not already shown in the county fair.*

1. A student may have more than one animal project, as pen availability allows.

**FALL FEEDING PERIOD:** TO BE DETERMINED

**SPRING FEEDING PERIOD**: TO BE DETERMINED

FBISD Approved Shows:

Ft. Bend County Fair

Houston Livestock and Rodeo

BARN RULES/SHOW RULES

This is a FFA facility only. 4-H projects may not be raised under the Fort Bend Independent School District umbrella. Only District sanctioned animals are allowed. All projects are being raised for one or more of the District approved shows: Ft. Bend County Fair, San Antonio Rodeo, and/or Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo.

If the District approved show requires an entry/signature by a FBISD Ag. Advisor for the student to participate, be advised the Ag. Advisor will be present at the event. The Ag. Advisor has sole discretion to determine which segments of the approved shows students will be able to enter in accordance with their individual chapters.

The following guidelines/rules have been developed to ensure that our FFA organization will have an efficiently operated agriculture facility. This facility is shared by several schools. Respect for teachers on site, other parents, other students, other animals and these guidelines/rules are expected. This is an extension of your campus classroom and all campus guidelines/rules apply.

RESPONSIBILITY

* 1. **Care of FFA Projects**

1. Raising an FFA project is the financial commitment and responsibility of the owner.
2. Students will be responsible for worming, giving shots, and all other health care of their animal project, and informing their Agricultural Science teacher upon administering any medical substance to their SAE project.
3. SAE Projects will only be allowed to occupy one project per pen, dependent upon space. Swine will only be allowed to occupy one per pen throughout the duration of the feeding period.
4. It is the responsibility of the student to have castration, dehorning or any medical attention done by a veterinarian. Vet fees and health papers are the responsibility of the student.
5. Animal pen will be kept clean at all times by student.
6. Animal projects will be fed, watered and cared for daily by the appropriate student. All animal projects will be protected from physical harm. Any animal abuse will be reported immediately to an Ag teacher.
7. Students will remain an active FFA member or will be a Junior FFA member. Junior FFA will be limited to space availability, and an active FFA members must be enrolled in an Ag Science class to use the Ag Facility.
8. Any animal not fed, watered and cared for daily will be removed from the Facility at the owner’s expense
   1. Show FFA Projects
9. It is highly recommended that students purchase mortality insurance for their animal. FBISD is not responsible for death of an animal project.
10. Students are responsible for disposition/hauling of animals away from the Fort Bend County Fair.
11. Animals must be removed from the barn within two weeks after the animals designated show.
12. Students are to secure their own buyer/outlet for sale animal or sifted animal at the FBCF.
    1. Behavior
13. FFA facility is an extension of the Ag classroom designed to enhance the learning experience. It is not a “hang out” for students.
14. FBISD students must have approval from an Ag teacher in order to access barn facilities. Immediate family members are the only allowable guests. No more than one family member under 18 years of age may accompany a student with a project animal to the facility, unless a parent or legal guardian also accompanies the student and his/her family member under 18 years of age.
15. Parents and students are accountable for appropriate behavior at the facility. This is an extension of the Ag classroom and should be respected as such.
16. No pets are allowed on the facility grounds. The only allowable animals in the facility are the projects themselves.
17. All rules and regulations that apply to the campuses apply to the Ag facility.
18. Alcohol, drugs, tobacco products, and profanity are strictly prohibited.
19. Proper clothing and shoes are mandatory. Flip flops are not allowed. The campus dress code applies to the Ag facility.
20. Park only in designated areas. *Student and/or parents are not allowed to drive in to the facility for any reason without the express permission of their Ag Advisor****.***
21. Any person caught tampering with another exhibitors’ animal and/or tack supplies without approved permission will be subject to disciplinary action or immediate removal from the Agricultural barn facility.
    1. **Behavior at Shows** As with any football game, stadium and parking lot, parents, siblings, friends and students are not allowed to use tobacco products, drink alcohol, use drugs of any kind, or use profanity. When at a show representing FBIS tobacco products, alcohol, drugs and profanity are strictly forbidden. Disciplinary and appropriate actions will be enforced to both parent and student!
    2. Care of FFA Facility
22. The entire facility and surrounding grounds will be kept clean at all times by students/parents. This is for the health and safety of the animals and any person on the grounds.
23. The designated manure area is for manure ONLY. Feed sacks and/or trash are not allowed in the manure area.
24. Students are to provide feed barrels, rakes, shovels, hoses, etc., and keep them in the appropriate area.
25. Feed is required to be stored in an enclosed container to prevent varmint and rodent problems.
26. Power equipment of any kind is not for student/parent use.
27. Stalls/pens are to be accepted as is. Stalls/pens are not to be decorated in any form or fashion with the exception of one identifying small plaque. Alterations are not allowed.
28. Cattle pens should also be kept below the bottom pipe throughout the feeding period to prevent rusting.
29. A clip board should be attached with student’s name and contact person in case of emergency. Students are to keep an up-to-date daily log on the clip board.
30. Heat lamps and air conditioners are not allowed for any reason except in the poultry facility. Two fans for steer/commercial heifer pens and one fan for hog, goat and lamb pens are allowed.
31. All students or representatives will participate in required barn clean ups as scheduled by the Advisors.
32. Rabbit manure/urine pans should be cleaned every 2-3 days/as needed, and disposed of in the manure pile.
33. As a safety precaution, no lock is to be attached to an animal’s pen.

Livestock Show Guidelines

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 Ridge Point FFA Chapter
  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

Show Entries

The agricultural science teachers will assist in making arrangements for participation in the Fort Bend County Fair and the Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo. All entries must be paid in full before deadlines. Entries in all other shows will be the responsibility of the student.

Travel to and from Shows

FBISD 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 FBISD Classroom; therefore, students will be responsible for their personal conduct, this includes language, behavior, attitude, actions, and the representation of their FFA Chapter. ***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. 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/borrower will be replaced at the expense of the student/borrower. **If you are needing/wanting an Ag teacher to haul to a show, you will need to give them at least a 3 weeks’ notice so that proper paperwork can be handled with the district**.

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 times 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.

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 (during regular barn hours). 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. Each species will have different grooming requirements, please make sure you check with your advisor about grooming need

**Extracurricular Code of Conduct**

Participation in school-sponsored activities is an excellent way for a student to develop talents, receive individual recognition, and build strong friendships with other students; participation, however, is a privilege, not a right.

Participation in some of these activities may result in events that occur off-campus. When the District arranges transportation for these events, students are required to use the transportation provided by the District to and from the events. Exceptions to this may only be made with the approval of the activity’s coach or sponsor.

Eligibility for initial and continuing participation in many of these activities is governed by state law and the rules of the University Interscholastic League (UIL)—a statewide association overseeing inter-district competition. If a student is involved in an academic, athletic, or music activity governed by UIL, the student and parent are expected to know and follow all rules of the UIL organization. See UIL Texas for additional information.

The following requirements apply to all extracurricular activities:

* A student who receives a grade below 70 at the end of a grading period in any academic class—other than District- approved exempt courses may not participate in extracurricular activities for at least three school weeks.
* A student with disabilities who fails to meet the standards in the Individualized Education Program (IEP) may not participate for at least three school weeks.
* An ineligible student may practice or rehearse.
* A student is allowed in a school year up to ten absences not related to post-District competition, a maximum of five absences for post-District competition prior to state, and a maximum of two absences for state competition. All extracurricular activities and public performances, whether UIL activities or other activities approved by the board, are subject to these restrictions.
* An absence for participation in an activity that has not been approved will receive an unexcused absence.

Learning objectives are based on performance skills, responsibility, and participation. Therefore, students are expected to fulfill individual as well as group responsibilities.

Since band, choir, orchestra, and dance are performance-based courses and team activities, all students are required to attend all performances and rehearsals. Therefore, students may have points deducted as follows:

* Unexcused absence from rehearsals or practices that are extensions of classroom activities such as section rehearsals = double daily grade.
* Unexcused absence from a performance that is an extension of classroom activities, such as school concerts or dance recitals, which do not meet the definition of extracurricular = double major grade.

**ADDITIONAL RULES OF CONDUCT**

In addition to the rules of conduct specified in the Conduct Rules section, students who participate in extracurricular activities shall comply with the following rules at all times, on or off campus, regardless of whether school is in session:

* Show respect for FBISD officials and staff
* Participate in every practice, competition/performance and event required by the coach or sponsor unless the teacher has granted an excused absence
* Arrive promptly, properly attired, for every practice, competition, etc., unless the coach or sponsor has granted an excused absence
* Adhere to the grooming standards described below at the section titled “Dress Code”
* Demonstrate sportsmanlike behavior
* Demonstrate a positive attitude
* Be courteous and polite to others

**ATTENDANCE / TARDINESS**

Students engaged in extracurricular activities are expected to participate in all practices, performances, competitions, and other events identified by the coach or sponsor. The coach or sponsor will identify times for required practices, performances, competitions, etc. Students who fail to appear for a scheduled event without an excused absence will be prohibited from participating in the next scheduled activity. Students’ absences from extracurricular activities shall be categorized as follows: an excused absence is one that the coach or sponsor has prior knowledge of and/or is based on an acceptable reason; an unexcused absence is one that the coach or sponsor has no prior knowledge of and/or is based on a reason that is unacceptable.

Overnight Trips

The opportunity to participate in the Ridge Point FFA is a privilege extended to FBISD students.

Participation in the RP 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 RP 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 Ridge Point FFA Constitution and By-laws, and University Interscholastic League (UIL) rules. Fort Bend 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 without adult supervision.
  + 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, or other appropriate competition attire except when notified by the Advisors. FBISD dress code is in effect at all times.

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

Resource List

**Livestock Show Feed and Supplies**

* + Sullivan’s Show Supply - [www.sullivansupply.com](http://www.sullivansupply.com/) 1-800-588-7096
  + City Farmer (Rosenberg) - (281) 342-9072
  + Arcola Feed & Supply - (281) 431-1014
  + Needville Feed - (979) 793-6146
  + Damon Farm and Ranch - (979) 742-3317
  + Producer’s Coop (Bryan) - (979) 778-6000
  + Tractor Supply (Richmond) - (281) 232-5424

Veterinarians

* + Dr. Gary Moore (mobile Vet) – (979) 251-1151
  + Dr. Knappe (Alvin) - (281) 331-2830
  + Texas A&M Vet School - (979) 845-5051
  + Dr. Stern ( Needville Animal Hospital)- (979)-793-6262
  + Wharton Vet Clinic- (979)-532-1431

Stock Show Information

* + Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo [www.hlsr.com](http://www.hlsr.com/)
  + San Antonio Livestock Show [www.sarodeo.com](http://www.sarodeo.com/)
  + State Fair of Texas [www.bigtex.com](http://www.bigtex.com/)
  + Fort Bend County Fair [www.fbcfa.org](http://www.fbcfa.org/)
  + Quality Counts <http://qc.wieghatgraphics.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/)
  + SFASU [www.sfasu.edu](http://www.sfasu.edu/)
  + SHSU [www.shsu.edu](http://www.shsu.edu/)

FFA

* + National FFA Association [www.ffa.org](http://www.ffa.org/)
  + Texas FFA Association [www.texasffa.org](http://www.texasffa.org/)
  + Area III FFA Association [www.area3.ffanow.org](http://www.area3.ffanow.org/)
  + Ridge Point FFA [www.ridgepoint.ffanow.org](http://www.ridgepoint.ffanow.org/)

***Ridge Point FFA***

**Chapter Constitution**

Article I – Name, Mission and Strategies

Section A. The name of this organization shall be the Ridge Point FFA Chapter of the National FFA Organization and the Texas FFA Association.

Section B. The mission and strategies for this chapter are as follows:

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.

1. Develops competent, aggressive agricultural leaders.
2. Increases awareness of the global importance of agriculture and its contribution to our well-being.
3. Strengthens the confidences of agriculture students in themselves and their work.
4. Promotes the intelligent choice and establishment of an Agriculture career.
5. Encourages achievement in individual agricultural experience programs.
6. Encourages wise management of economic, environmental, recreational and humanresources to the community.
7. Develops interpersonal skills in teamwork, communications, human relations and social interaction.
8. Builds character and promotes citizenship, volunteerism and patriotism.
9. Promotes cooperation and cooperative attitudes among all people.
10. Promotes healthy lifestyles.
11. Encourages excellence in scholarship.

Article II - Organization

Section A. The Ridge Point Chapter of FFA 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 - General Membership

Section A: Membership in the chapter shall be of four kinds: (1) Active, (2) Alumni, (3) Honorary, and (4) Junior 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: To be eligible for active membership in this chapter, a student must meet the membership eligibility requirements of the National FFA Organization and the Texas FFA Association. Active members in good standing may vote on all business brought before the chapter. An active member shall be considered in good standing when he or she:

1. While in school, be enrolled in at least one agriculture, food and natural resources course, as defined in Texas FFA Association membership policies, during the school year and/or follow a planned course of study. Either course must include a supervised agricultural experience program, the objective of which is preparation for an agriculture, food or natural resources career.
2. Shows an interest in the affairs of the organization by attending meetings, striving for degrees of membership, and participating in other organized activities of the chapter.
3. Pays all current local, district, area, state and national dues by the date determined by the chapter.
4. Displays conduct consistent with the ideals and purposes of the National FFA Organization, Texas FFA Association and with the school district’s code of student conduct.
5. Meets the fundraiser requirement to sell 15 items in the meat, dessert & fruit sale.
6. Meets all other local standards and requirements described in this chapter’s bylaws and policies.

Section D: This chapter may elect to have a Junior FFA organization. Junior members must meet all junior FFA membership requirements described in the Texas FFA Association Constitution and Policies. A junior member shall be considered in good standing when he or she:

1. Shows an interest in the affairs of the organization by attending junior member meetings.
2. Pays local and state dues by the date determined by the chapter.
3. Displays conduct consistent with the ideals and purposes of the National FFA Organization and with the school district’s code of student conduct.
4. Meets all other local standards and requirements described in this chapter’s by-laws and policies.

Section E: Names of applicants for membership shall be filed with the Secretary and /or the chairman of the membership committee.

Section F: The membership year for this chapter shall begin on September 1 and end on August 31 of each year.

Section G: Honorary Membership – Farmers, school superintendents, principals, school board trustees, advisory committee members, chapter advisors, teachers, staff members in agriculture, food and natural resource education, business peoples, support group members and others who are helping to advance agricultural education and FFA and who have rendered outstanding service may be elected to honorary membership by a majority vote of the members present at any regular or special meeting. Honorary membership in this chapter shall be limited to the Honorary Chapter FFA Degree. Honorary Chapter FFA Degree recipients shall be entitled to wear the official silver or gold emblem pin. Procedures for nominating and electing honorary members shall be described in this chapter’s bylaws or rules.

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 – Degrees and Privileges of Active Membership

Section A: There shall be five degrees of active membership in the Chapter based on individual achievement. These degrees are (1) Discovery FFA Degree, (2) Greenhand FFA Degree, (3) Chapter Degree, (4) State FFA Degree, and (5) American FFA Degree. All Discovery FFA members are entitled to wear the regulation bronze and blue emblem pin. All Greenhands are entitled to wear the regulation bronze emblem pin. All members holding the Chapter FFA Degree are entitled to wear the regulation silver emblem degree pin. All members holding the State FFA Degree are entitled to wear the regulation gold emblem charm. All members holding the American FFA Degree are entitled to wear the regulation gold emblem key.

Section B: Discovery FFA Degree, Minimum qualifications for election: (Refer to Texas FFA Constitution)

Be enrolled in a local credit agriculture, food and natural resources class for at least a portion of the school year while in grades 7-8.

1. Have become a dues paying member of the FFA at local, state and national levels.
2. Participate in at least one local FFA chapter activity outside of scheduled class time.
3. Have knowledge of agriculturally related, career, ownership and entrepreneurial opportunities.
4. Be familiar with the local FFA chapter program of activities.
5. Submit written applications for the degree.

Section C: Greenhand FFA Degree, Minimum qualifications for election: (Refer to the Texas FFA Constitution)

1. Be enrolled in an class in an agriculture, food and natural resources course as defined by Texas FFA membership policies for high school credit and have satisfactory plans for a supervised agricultural experience program.
2. Learn, explain and recite from memory the FFA creed, Motto, Salute 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.
7. Submit a written application.

Section D: Chapter FFA Degree, Minimum qualifications for election: (Refer to the Texas FFA Constitution)

1. Must have received the Greenhand FFA Degree.
2. 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.
3. Have participated in the planning and conducting of at least 3 official functions in the chapter Program of Activities.
4. Have earned and productively invested at least $150 by the members own efforts or worked at least forty five (45) hours in excess of scheduled class time, or combination thereof, and have developed plans for continued growth and improvement.
5. Have effectively lead a group discussion for 15 minutes.
6. Have demonstrated five procedures of parliamentary law.
7. Have participated in at least 10 hours of community service activities.
8. Show progress toward individual achievement in the FFA Award Program.
9. Have a satisfactory scholastic record.
10. Submit a written application for the Chapter FFA Degree.

Section E: State FFA Degree (Lonestar), Minimum qualifications for election: (Refer to the Texas FFA Constitution)

1. Have received the Chapter FFA Degree.
2. Have been an active FFA member for at least two years (24 months) at the time of receiving the State FFA Degree.
3. While in school, have completed the equivalent of at least two years (360 hours) of systematic school instruction in agricultural education at or above the ninth grade level, which includes a supervised agricultural experience program.
4. A student after entering agricultural education must have:
   1. earned and productively invested at least $1,000; or
   2. worked at least 300 hours in excess of scheduled class time; or
   3. a combination thereof, in a supervised agricultural experience program.
5. Demonstrate leadership ability by:
   1. Performing 10 procedures of parliamentary law.
   2. Giving a six-minute speech on a topic relating to agriculture or FFA.
   3. Serving as an officer, committee chairperson or participating member of a chapter committee.
6. Have a satisfactory scholastic record as certified by the local agricultural education instructor and the principal or superintendent.
7. Have participated in the planning and completion of the chapter Program of Activities.
8. Have participated in at least five different FFA activities above the chapter level.
9. Have participated in at least 25 hours of community service, within at least two different community service activities. These hours are in addition to and cannot be duplicated as paid or unpaid supervised agricultural experience hours.

Section F: American FFA Degree - Qualifications for the American FFA Degree are those set forth in the Constitution of the National FFA Association.

1. Have received the State FFA Degree, have been an active member for the past three years (36 months) and have a record of satisfactory participation in the activities on the chapter and state levels.
2. Have satisfactorily completed the equivalent of at least three years (540 hours) of systematic secondary school instruction in an agricultural education program or to have completed at least the equivalent of 360 hours of systematic secondary school instruction in agricultural education and one full year of enrollment in a postsecondary agricultural program or have completed the program of agricultural education offered in the secondary school last attended.
3. Have graduated from high school at least 12 months prior to the national convention at which the degree is to be granted.
4. Have in operation and have maintained records to substantiate an outstanding supervised agricultural experience program through which a member has exhibited comprehensive planning, managerial and financial expertise.
5. A student after entering agricultural education must have:
   1. earned at least $10,000 and productively invested at least $7,500; or
   2. earned and productively invested $2,000 and worked 2,250 hours in excess of scheduled class time. Any combination of hours, times a factor of 3.56, plus actual dollars earned and productively invested must be equal to or greater than the number 10,000. Hours used for the purpose of producing earnings reported as productively invested income shall not be duplicated as hours of credit to meet the minimum requirements for the degree.
6. Have a record of outstanding leadership abilities and community involvement and have achieved a high school scholastic record of “C” or better as certified by the principal or superintendent.
7. Have participated in at least 50 hours of community service, within at least three different community service activities. These hours are in addition to and cannot be duplicated as paid or unpaid supervised agricultural experience hours.

Article VI – Officers and Executive Committee

Section A: The officers of the Ridge Point FFA chapter shall be: President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer, Reporter, Sentinel & Chaplain. Other officers may be elected as deemed appropriate by the chapter. The teacher(s) of agriculture, food and natural

resources shall be the FFA Advisor(s). Chapter officers shall be elected annually by the members present at a regular meeting or called special meeting of the chapter. Procedures for electing officers and specific duties of each officer are described in the bylaws of this chapter. In the event that there are not enough qualified candidates; the qualified candidates will fill the necessary number of offices according to rank.

Section B: All chapter officers shall have attained the chapter FFA degree. The president must have received their chapter degree and be a junior or senior in class standing. The president must have previously held an officer position. If no such candidate exists, the highest scoring candidate will be elected to president.

Section C: Officers shall serve from the end of the chapter banquet at which they are installed to the end of the next succeeding chapter banquet at which officers are installed.

Section D: The elected officers of the chapter shall constitute the executive committee which shall convene to plan the activities of the chapter. Standing committee chairpersons may also be named as members of the executive committee. All policy decisions of the executive committee must be approved by the chapter. Telephone conferences of the executive committee may be called and considered meetings provided that all participating members may be heard simultaneously.

Section E: The Ridge Point FFA Officer team will vote to either have a Greenhand officer team or Greenhand representatives based on the need for the chapter. They shall serve under the chapter officer team and have responsibilities that are determined by the chapter officer team.

Section F: Pursuant to the applicable constitutional, bylaw and policy provisions of the district, area and state associations and of the National FFA Organization, this chapter may nominate candidates for offices above the chapter level in a manner consistent with the provisions of its bylaws and policies. Candidates for district and area office shall have attained the chapter degree at the time of the district or area election. Candidates for state office shall hold the state degree at the time of the state election. Candidates for national office shall hold the American Degree at the time of their election to office.

Article VI – Committees

Section A: The standing committees of the chapter shall be described in the by-laws. The chapter may, at any meeting, create additional standing committees.

Section B: The chapter president shall appoint all committees and committee chairs. Unless specified by the chapter or the chapter executive committee, the terms of all committees shall expire at the end of the chapter officer terms. The president shall have the authority to remove any committee chairperson, with the consent of the advisor.

Section C: No committee shall have the authority to expend chapter funds (unless expressly authorized to do so), amend the chapter’s constitution, by-laws or policies, appoint or remove a committee member, or take any action outside the scope of authority delegated to it by the chapter.

Article VIII – Dues

Section A: Local dues in this chapter shall be fixed annually by the executive committee.

Section B: Full local, district, area, state and national dues shall be paid by all active members.

Section C: No member shall be considered as active and in good standing unless he/she pays full local, district, area, state and national FFA dues.

Article IX – Meetings

Section A: Regular meetings shall be held Tuesday of the 2nd week of the month, unless extenuating circumstances prevent convening a regular meeting on this date. Special meetings may be called by the president, by a majority vote of the executive committee or by the chapter advisor(s)

Section B: A quorum shall exist when 10percent of the chapter membership is present.

Section C: Proxy and cumulative voting are prohibited.

Article X – Amendments

Section A: This constitution may be amended or changed at any regular or special chapter meeting by a two-thirds vote of the votes cast by a quorum of active members present providing it is not in conflict with the National FFA Organization or Texas FFA Association constitution, by-laws or policies. Amendments must not conflict with the policies and/or regulations of the Fort Bend ISD. Members shall be notified by mail, electronic mail or classroom announcement at least 30 days prior to a meeting at which a constitutional amendment is to be considered.

Section B: By-laws may be adopted to fit the needs of the chapter at any regular or special chapter meeting by a majority vote of a quorum of active members present providing such by-laws do not conflict in any way with the constitution, bylaws or policies of the Texas FFA Association, National FFA Organization or the Fort Bend ISD. Members shall be notified by mail, electronic mail or classroom announcement at least 30 days prior to a meeting at which a constitutional amendment is to be considered.

Article XI – Parliamentary Procedure

Section A: The *Parliamentary Guide for FFA* by Jarrell D. Gray shall be used as a guide for all chapter meetings. The latest edition of

*Robert’s Rules of Order* shall be the final authority in governing the actions of all chapter meetings.

##### By-Laws

In order for any student to participate in activities sponsored by the Ridge Point FFA Chapter, they must first obtain membership. Once an individual has met all membership requirements they are welcome to attend and participate in all functions. Failure to remain “in good standing” will result in that student being denied the opportunity to attend functions, show animals, participate on teams, or receive any other benefits of membership, and face the possibility of having their membership revoked. Below is a listing of the requirements for becoming a member and what is expected of members to remain in “good standing”.

Section I – Membership Standing

* Members must pay dues annually.
* Members in “good standing” have the right to vote on all issues before Ridge Point FFA Chapter.
* Our chapter is governed by UIL eligibility requirements. Therefore, members must maintain passing grades to participate in extra- curricular events. The Advisor(s) may add additional requirements for special events (i.e. Conventions, etc.).
* Members are expected to attend all chapter meetings. More than two (2) unexcused absences is considered unacceptable and will result in loss of “good standing” status.
* Members are expected to be attentive and courteous during all meetings. Any member being disruptive will be given one warning during the meeting; a second offense will result in the member being dismissed from the meeting. In this instance the member will receive an unexcused absence.
* All members are required to participate in the chapter meat sale. Members are expected to sell a minimum of ten (10) items.
* Any member that owes the chapter money for any reason (jackets, dues, shirts, fundraisers, etc.) will be denied “good standing” status until all debts are paid in full.
* Any member found to be in violation of any Fort Bend ISD rules (i.e. tobacco, alcohol, weapons, etc.) at any school sponsored event or on any Fort Bend ISD properties will lose their “good standing” status for a minimum of a semester and face the possibility of having their membership revoked.

Section II – Chapter Offices

***Article I – Officer Duties***

Chapter officers serve as a vital function in the FFA organization. By taking a major leadership role, these students grow from their experiences and benefit the chapter. It should be the officers’ goal to lead by example and participate in chapter activities. Officers of the Ridge Point FFA chapter should possess the following qualities:

1. A genuine desire to be a part of a leadership team.
2. A willingness to accept responsibility.
3. A sincere desire to work with their leadership, personal, and chapter goals.
4. A commitment to lead by example.
5. A knowledge and understanding of the chapter, state and national FFA Constitutions, bylaws, and programs.
6. A working knowledge of parliamentary procedure.
7. An ability to memorize their parts in the official ceremonies.

President

1. Preside over meetings according to accepted rules of parliamentary procedure.
2. Appoint committees and serve on them as an ex-officio, non-voting member.
3. Coordinate the activities of the chapter and evaluate the progress of each division of the POA.
4. Represent the chapter (or delegate representation) in public relations and official functions.

Vice-President

1. Assume all duties of the President if necessary.
2. Develop the Program of Activities and serve as an ex-officio, non-voting member of the POA committees.
3. Coordinate all committee work.
4. Work closely with the President and Advisor to assess progress toward meeting chapter goals.

Secretary

1. Prepare and post the agenda for each chapter meeting.
2. Prepare and present the minutes of each chapter meeting.
3. Keep a record of all committee reports in a safe area.
4. Be responsible for chapter correspondence.
5. Maintain member attendance and activity records and issue membership cards.
6. Have on hand for each meeting:
   1. Minutes of the previous meeting and committee reports.
   2. Official FFA Manual and Parliamentary Guide.
   3. Copy of the chapter’s constitution and bylaws.

Treasurer

1. Receive, record and deposit FFA funds and issue receipts.
2. Present monthly treasurer’s reports at chapter meetings.
3. Collect dues and special assessments.
4. Maintain a neat and accurate Treasurer’s Book.
5. Prepare and submit the membership roster and dues to the National FFA Organization through the State FFA Association office in cooperation with the Secretary.
6. Serve as chairperson of the Fundraising committee.

Reporter

1. Plan public information programs with local radio, television, newspaper and service clubs and make use of other opportunities to tell the FFA story.
2. Release news and information to local and regional news media.
3. Publish a chapter newsletter.
4. Prepare and present the annual slideshow & scrapbook.
5. Send local stories to area, district, and state reporters and to *FFA New Horizons.*
6. Work with local media on radio and television appearances and FFA news.
7. Serve as the chapter photographer.

Sentinel

1. Assist the President in maintaining order.
2. Keep the meeting room, chapter equipment and supplies in proper condition.
3. Welcome guests and visitors.
4. Keep the meeting room comfortable.
5. Take charge of candidates for degree ceremonies.

5. Assist with special features and refreshments.

Student Advisor

1. Supervise chapter activities year-round.
2. Inform prospective students and parents about the FFA.
3. Instruct students in leadership and personal development.
4. Build school and community support for the program.
5. Encourage involvement of all chapter members in activities.
6. Prepare students for involvement in contests and awards programs.

Historian

1. Develop and maintain a scrapbook of memorabilia to record the chapter’s history.
2. Research and prepare items of significance of the chapter’s history
3. Prepare displays of chapter activities and submit stories of former members to the media.
4. Assist the reporter in providing photography for chapter needs.
5. Work closely with yearbook students making FFA section in yearbook.

Chaplain

1. Assist the President in maintaining order.
2. Keep the meeting room, chapter equipment and supplies in proper condition.
3. Welcome guests and visitors.
4. Keep the meeting room comfortable.
5. Take charge of candidates for degree ceremonies.
6. Assist with special features and refreshments.

Article II – Requirements for running for office

To run for chapter office members must meet the following requirements and complete the election process.

* Candidates must be dues paying members.
* Candidates must have member in “good standing” status.
* Candidates must attend all required leadership functions.
* Candidates must have UIL eligibility prior to the first phase of the election process
* Candidates seeking the office of President or Vice-president must hold the Chapter Farmer Degree and previously held a Chapter officer position. If no such candidate is available, the highest scoring individual shall fill these positions

Article III – The Election Process

* The officer election process will follow the guidelines for the CTE organizations.

Article IV - Expectations of Officers

Officers in the FFA hold a very prestigious position and much is expected of them. All general rules of membership apply to the Officer team as well as the following stipulations:

* Officers must maintain eligibility in all subjects. Loss of eligibility during a six weeks grading period will result in that officer being place on probation. If that officer fails any class, during any other grading period, during their term, he/she will be removed from office.
* Officers may have no more than two (2) unexcused absences from any required function. The first absence will result in a verbal warning, the second in probation, and the third in removal from office.
* Officers must attend all leadership functions, all conventions (except National convention), all camps, all chapter and special meetings, and participate in all fundraisers.
* Officers are to try out for at least one LDE and/or CDE team.
* Officers are required to chair or co-chair one standing committee of the chapter.
* Officers are expected to lead by example. The conduct of an officer should always be honorable; any unethical, embarrassing, disruptive, or disrespectful conduct is means for probation or removal from office. Officers will be subject to a demerit system.
* Any officer in violation Fort Bend ISD rules (i.e. tobacco, alcohol, weapons, etc.) at any school sponsored event or on any Fort Bend ISD properties will be removed from office and face the possibility of having other membership privilegesrevoked.

Section III – Standing Committees

These are the standing committees of the Ridge Point FFA Chapter. Each committee is chaired or co-chaired by Chapter Officers. Other committee members are to be made up of chapter members. Committees are to meet at least once a month and submit a report at each meeting. Special committees will be appointed as necessary.

***Article I – SAE Committee***

The purpose of the SAEP committee is to inform all FFA members about the various animal projects that are available to them. The committee is also charged with informing the students about prospect shows, clinics (i.e. fitting, showmanship, and selection), and important dates for our local show. The committee is also responsible for compiling lists of materials needed for the show and making those available to all members. Finally, this committee will assist members with their record books following the completion of their SAEPs.

***Article II – Fundraising Committee***

The purpose of this committee is to keep the chapter informed about the various fundraising activities in which the chapter is involved. It is also their duty to research and to bring new fundraising opportunities to the chapter.

***Article III – Special Functions Committee***

The purpose of this committee is to assist in organizing Convention plans and special functions (i.e. banquets, dances, etc.). They are to keep the chapter informed about dates of all chapter functions and also those functions we are invited to attend.

***Article IV – Public Relations Committee***

The purpose of this committee is to notify the public of chapter events. They are also responsible for recruitment of members (especially freshmen). They are to develop materials for recruitment and give presentations whenever possible to encourage

enrollment in Ag Science courses and FFA membership. They are to keep the chapter in the spotlight. They are also responsible for coordinating Jr. FFA events and clinics.

***Article V - Community Service Committee***

The purpose of the community service committee will be to coordinate community service project(s). They are responsible for researching and planning events. They are to keep the chapter informed of all scheduled events.

***Article VI – Publicity Committee***

The purpose of the publicity committee will be to spread the news about the FFA. They will submit announcements to local, state and national levels concerning our FFA chapter. They will develop and publish a monthly newsletter to inform the public about our endeavors.

***Article VII – Scrapbooking Committee***

The purpose of the scrapbooking committee is to ensure that the annual events of the chapter are documented in a keepsake scrapbook for future students to see. They will work diligently throughout the year to keep the book current and display it at the year-end banquet.

## Forms

**STOP! All forms for the 2021-2022 school year will be completed on a Google Doc provided by the advisors!**

The following pages contain forms that need to be returned to the Agriculture Science Teachers.

### Membership form

* + District Travel Permission Slip
  + Emergency Medical Information Form
  + Chapter Constitution
  + Handbook Agreement

MONEY COLLECTION WILL ONLY BE ON

TUESDAYS AND THURSDAYS FROM 3 PM – 4PM

NO EXCEPTIONS, PLEASE SCHEDULE ACCORDINGLY

Ridge Point FFA Membership Registration Form 2021-2022

**Annual membership dues are $40.00, check or money order ONLY. Please make checks to: Ridge Point FFA**

###### Chose one: (Circle One)

Senior member (High School) Junior Member (Non-High School)

T-Shirt Size: (Circle One)

XS S M L XL XXL XXXL XXXXL

First Name: Middle Name:

Last Name: Suffix:

Student’s Class / Period / Teacher: \_

Address: \_

City:

Zip Code:

Apt#:

Gender: (Circle One) Male Female Ethnicity: \_

Student’s Cell Phone Number: Student’s E-mail:

Grade:

Student’s Age:

Student ID: \_

Graduation Year: D.O.B.:

Do you need to purchase an FFA jacket? (circle one) YES (fill out jacket order form) NO

\*Students will be required to wear FFA jackets to specific events.

Type: (Circle One)

Mother’s Name: Mother’s Cell Phone Number: Mother’s E-mail: Mother’s Occupation:

Father’s Name: Father’s Cell Phone Number: Father’s E-mail: Father’s Occupation:

What Leadership Development Events are you interested in?

What Career Development Events are you interested in?

Do you have a Supervised Agriculture Experience? (Circle One) Yes No If so what is it?

What do you hope to accomplish this year?

Any interesting information:

**ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF RESPONSIBILITY AND PERMISSION FOR STUDENT PARTICIPATION IN FIELD TRIP**

Student Name:

Your child has the opportunity to participate in a school-sponsored activities throughout the year. Please complete this form to provide the field trip/activity leaders with information relating to your child.

List any physical limitations (temporary or permanent):

List any current medications (prescribed or over the counter) taken:

List any allergies including reactions to medications, food, insects, and environment:

Name of child’s physician: Phone:

Insurance company: Phone:

Policy Number: Group Number:

**ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF RESPONSIBILITY**

My signature below indicates that I give my child permission to participate in any activity that is sponsored by the Ridge Point FFA chapter, to have any medications administered that would normally be given at school, and that I authorize any needed emergency medical treatment. I also acknowledge that I have been informed that Fort Bend Independent School District has immunity from any liability. Transportation, if provided, will be by school bus or commercial carrier, a Fort Bend ISD employee, or a RPHS FFA approved chaperone parent.

Parent Signature: Date:

Address:

Home Telephone: Work Telephone: Cell:

Emergency contact person:

Name: Phone #: Name: Phone #:

**Travel Permission Slip**

I (parent/guardian name), give permission for my child,

(students name) to attend any or all of the following trips with the Ridge Point FFA Chapter. I understand that my child will be traveling with a FFA advisor and/or RPHS approved chaperone.

**Please initial next to the events that your child is allowed to attend:**

**District Greenhand Camp**

**Area Camp**

**District Leadership Development Events (LDE)**

**Area Leadership Development Events (LDE)**

**Fort Bend County Fair**

**Ridge Point FFA Invitational CDE contest**

**Invitational CDE contest ( a complete list of contest with dates will be sent home in January)**

**San Antonio Livestock Show and Rodeo (for judging contest)**

**Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo ( this could include: tour guiding, judging contest, program sales, showing, etc)**

**District Convention**

**Area Convention**

**TAMU CDE clinic**

**Area Career Development Events (CDE)(this will be at various locations)**

**Recruitment at middle schools**

**\*\* Each student will be required to fill out a separate permission slip for each event they will be attending.\*\***

**Parent/guardian signature: Date:**

***\*\*\* There will be other events that will arise during the school year, at which a individual permission form will be sent home for you to sign that your child may attend\*\*\****

…



Student and Parent Travel Agreement

CAREER AND TECHNICAL STUDENT ORGANIZATION

Travel Expectations

While traveling with Career and Technical Student Organizations (CTSO), students are representing the campus and school district. All district policies and procedures apply throughout the duration of the travel. In addition to following the code of conduct set forth by the CTSO, students will adhere to the expectations outlined below.

I, , as a member of the chapter, understand that I am representing myself, my campus, and the school district. I understand and agree to the statements listed below:

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Student Initials |  | Parent Initials | Statements  I will remain in a group of two or more FBISD students at all times. |
|  |  |  | I will not get in a taxi, Uber or other non-competition related |
|  |  |  | transportation vehicle without a FBISD adult chaperone. |
|  |  |  | I will adhere to the FBISD curfew set for the day. |
|  |  |  | I will not enter a hotel room with students of the opposite gender. |
|  |  |  | I will not enter a hotel room of a non-FBISD student. |
|  |  |  | I will not allow students from other school districts to enter my room. |
|  |  |  | I understand that I am not allowed to order delivery to my room without |
|  |  |  | my advisors permission. |
|  |  |  | In the event that I am not feeling well, I will notify my advisor / teacher |
|  |  |  | immediately. |
|  |  |  | I understand that if I am sent home for disciplinary reasons, the expense |
|  |  |  | of the return trip is the responsibility of my legal guardian. |
|  |  |  | I understand that if I am disqualified for any reason, I will be sent home. |

Student Signature Student ID Date

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Parent Signature |  | Cell Phone |  | Date |
| \_ \_ |  | \_ |  |  |

**Chapter Constitution Acknowledgement Page**

###### I, have read and fully understand this constitution. I agree to abide by the constitution or face the consequences. I promise to uphold the principles of the Ridge Point FFA chapter and remain a member in good standing.

Student’s Signature Date

I/We have also read and fully understand

this constitution. I/We are fully aware of the responsibilities my/our student will assume as a member of this organization.

Parent’s Signature Date

Handbook Acknowledgement

This Ridge Point FFA & Agricultural Science Department Handbook has been published to help your son/daughter gain the greatest possible benefit from his/her agricultural science/FFA experience.

The FFA needs your cooperation. It is very important that each FFA member understands the opportunities and regulations outlined in this handbook. Parents are to encourage their son/daughter to abide by all rules or regulations set forth in this handbook. Please go over all agreements outlined in this handbook and return them to your Agriscience teacher. Your signature and that of your child acknowledge the receipt of this FFA Member Handbook and the agreement to abide by all rules outlined.

\_ \_ \_ Printed Name of Student Date

\_ \_ \_ Student Signature Date

\_ \_ \_ Parent Signature Date

Date Received Received by:

\*\*The following forms must also be returned

1. Membership Form
2. Emergency Information Form
3. Student Permission Agreement
4. Chapter Constitution Acknowledgement Form
5. Handbook Acknowledgement

**Ridge Point FFA**

Program of Activities 2021-2022

**August**

11 First Day of School

17 FFA Interest Meeting/first meeting of the year

24 FBISD Showmanship Clinic

31 RP Open House

**September**

1. Southwest District Meeting & Fort Bend Buyers Meeting

14 FFA Meeting

1. FBCF Rabbit Show, Commercial Heifer show, & Goat Show (Fair Day – No School)
2. FBCF Broiler Show, , Steer Show, Commercial Heifer Sale
3. FBCF Swine how

28 FBCF Lamb Show

30 FBCF Auction

#### October

2 Area Greenhand Camp

2 FBCF Freezer Sale, TCCA Heifer Show, & Livestock Judging

9 Homecoming

12 FFA Meeting

TBD Fundraiser

#### November

9 FFA Meeting

13 Southwest District LDE contest

18 Area LDE contest TBD/TBA Fundraiser Delivery

#### December

3-4 State LDE contest

7 FFA Meeting

#### January

7 Elite Conference/ Mid-Winter meeting

11 FFA/BC Meeting

**February**

8 FFA Meeting

21-25 FFA Week

#### March

TBA HLSR Schedule

#### April

12 FFA Meeting

1. Southwest District SDE, Officer Test & Interview
2. Southwest Convention & Officer Election

TBA Area Vet Tech

TBA Area CDE Contest

TBA Chapter Officer Test & Interview

#### May

10 Ridge Point FFA Banquet

12 Area 3 Speaking \*

13 Area 3 Convention & Degree Check\*

20 State Convention Applications due

TBA Ridge Point Sporting Clays Fundraiser

#### June

TBA State Shoot

#### July

11-15 State FFA Convention – Fort Worth, Tx

#### \*\*\* All dates subject to change. Some activities can or will be deleted.\*