

Allen FFA Chapter Handbook

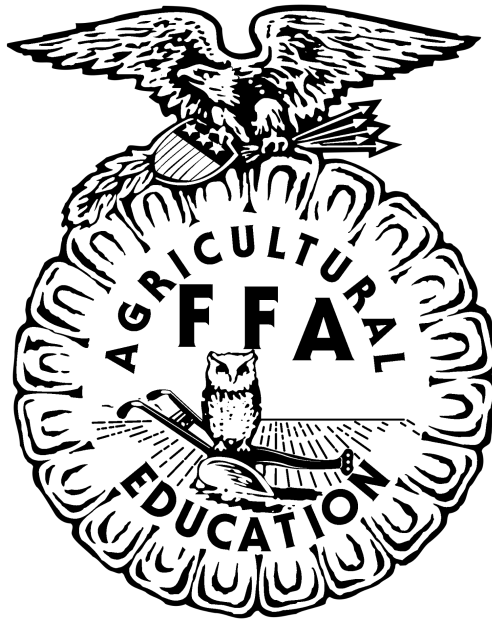


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Welcome to the Allen FFA Chapter

This handbook serves as a reference guide for the Allen FFA Chapter. This handbook should answer any questions you may have about the FFA Chapter and all the opportunities available for the school year. If you have any further questions or concerns, please contact the Agriculture Education instructor and FFA advisor, Amber Horton via email at ahorton@allenschools.org.

FFA Program of Activities

(subject to change)

June

15-17 - SAE visits

22-24 - SAE visits

July

8-12 - Dixon County Fair

August

19 - Chapter meeting

September

16 - Chapter meeting

23 - Dairy Judging @ Hartington

October

14 - Chapter meeting

15 - Nov 15 Fruit sales

21 - 24 - National Convention @
Indianapolis

_____ - Ag Safety Day @ school

November

13 - Chapter meeting / Parents Night

18 - District LDEs @ Osmond

December

14 - Chapter meeting /winter activity

January

13 - Chapter meeting

27 - District Livestock Eval @ NECC

February

3 - District Proficiency Review &
State Degree Interviews @ Neligh

17 - Chapter meeting

22 - 26 - National FFA Week

23 - District CDEs @ NECC

24 - Farmer's Breakfast

March

12 - Labor Auction

17 - Chapter meeting

April

1 - 2 - State Convention @ Lincoln

14 - Chapter meeting

23 - Chapter Awards Banquet

May

14 - Highway cleanup

TBD - COLT Conference @ Aurora

Point System

This system is in place in order to determine the most active members for awards programs and for eligibility to attend State Convention. Members must accrue at least 150 points (April thru March) by attending chapter meetings, district competitions, fundraising, etc. No exceptions.

Chapter Activities

Monthly meeting	5 points
Highway cleanup	10 points
Community service projects	10 points
Ag Fieldtrip	10 points
Fruit Sales (met minimum and all items delivered)	25 points
Parents Night/Degree Night	10 points
Farmers Breakfast	5 points
Labor Auction (worked for buyer)	25 points
SAE visit	10 points

District, State or National Activities

FFA contest (each)	20 points
National Convention	20 points

Supervised Agricultural Experience (SAE) Visits

All Allen FFA members are required to complete one Supervised Agricultural Experience (SAE) visit each year. During this visit, the FFA Advisor will meet with the member at an appropriate location, such as the student's home, place of employment, school, or other site where the SAE project can be observed. These are usually conducted in June.

The annual SAE visit serves several important purposes:

1. Provide individualized guidance. The Advisor gains a better understanding of the member's SAE and can offer recommendations for improving the project, maintaining accurate records, and setting goals for future growth.
2. Verify the SAE project. The visit confirms the existence and progress of the member's SAE, which is required documentation for State FFA Degree applications and other FFA awards and recognitions.
3. Strengthen communication and relationships. SAE visits create opportunities for meaningful conversations among the Advisor, the member, parents or guardians, and employers when applicable, fostering a strong partnership in supporting the student's agricultural education.
4. Monitor progress and recognize achievements. The Advisor can celebrate accomplishments, evaluate progress toward SAE goals, and identify opportunities for proficiency awards, degrees, scholarships, Career Development Events (CDEs), Leadership Development Events (LDEs), and other FFA opportunities.
5. Connect classroom learning to real-world experiences. The visit allows the Advisor to see how the member is applying agricultural knowledge and skills outside the classroom while helping the student identify areas for continued personal, leadership, and career development.

SAE visits are an important component of agricultural education and are designed to support each member's success while strengthening the partnership between the student, family, employer, school, and the Allen FFA Chapter.

FFA Contests

Leadership Development Events (LDEs)

Agricultural Demonstration (2-5 member team) - A competition that requires students to accurately explain a process through demonstration of the skills required while making a verbal presentation. Emphasis is placed on the importance of agricultural technology and the skills required for a changing industry.

Conduct of Chapter Meetings (7th-9th grade: 7 member team) - Students will be able to demonstrate parliamentary procedure to conduct an orderly and efficient meeting, communicate and participate effectively as a team member, demonstrate critical thinking, and use teamwork for effective decision making.

Cooperative Speaking (Individual) - An individual student event which requires the student to write and present a speech about cooperatives as a method of doing business in the agricultural industry.

Creed Speaking (Individual; first year freshman or sophomore only) - Students learn public speaking skills and develop the ability to interpret and express the FFA Creed.

Employment Skills (Individual)- Students demonstrate their ability in completing a job application form, writing a letter of application, preparing a resume, interviewing, and completing a follow-up letter.

Extemporaneous Speaking (Individual) - Students present a speech about an agricultural topic chosen at the event with 30 minutes to prepare.

Junior Public Speaking (Individual; freshman or sophomore only) - Students write a speech in advance of the contest about an agricultural topic. Students recite their prepared speech and answer questions.

Natural Resources Speaking (Individual) - Students write a speech about a natural resources topic in advance of the event. Students recite their prepared speech and answer questions.

Parliamentary Procedure (6 member team) - Students will be able to demonstrate knowledge of parliamentary procedure in order to conduct an orderly and efficient meeting; and transact business and present logical, realistic, and convincing discussion.

Senior Public Speaking (Individual) - Students write a speech in advance of the contest about an agricultural topic. Students recite their prepared speech and answer questions.

Career Development Events (CDEs)

4 member teams

Agriscience - Provides first year students with a practical and applied career experience in a competitive environment.

Agronomy - Provides interest and promotes understanding in agronomy by demonstrating skills and proficiencies in crop production and identification.

Farm Business Management - Provides knowledge, proficiency, understanding, and application in various economic principles and business management concepts involved in the operations and management of a farm or ranch operation.

Floriculture - Designed to promote the interest and study of the production and marketing of flowers, plants, and foliage. Students create a specific floral arrangement and take a floriculture knowledge test.

Food Science - Designed to promote learning activities in food science and technology related to the food industry and to assist students in developing practical knowledge of principles used in a team decision-making process

Junior Livestock Evaluation - Students identify, evaluate, and discuss relative differences in breeding and market livestock by placing 8 livestock classes and delivering a set of oral reasons.

Senior Livestock Evaluation - Students identify, evaluate, and discuss relative differences in breeding and market livestock by placing 8 livestock classes and delivering 3 sets of oral reasons.

Livestock Management - A team of 5 students will work together to complete six different species practicum exams, includes beef, dairy, horse, poultry, sheep, and swine.

Meats Evaluation - Students identify cuts of meat from beef, pork, and lamb, take a written exam, and complete a lab practicum.

Natural Resources - Students complete an exam about habitat management, food webs, and ecosystem properties, as well as a group practicum focused on species identification skills, invasive species, and native fish and wildlife.

Nursery and Landscape - Students will identify landscape plants, insects, and diseases, identify equipment, integrated pest management practices, and problem solving.

Veterinary Science - Students will develop technical knowledge and practical skills in veterinary medicine.

Welding - Students will learn basic welding skills in four different welding types, weldment joints, different welding positions and how to read welding blueprints.

Chapter Officers

FFA members wishing to apply to be a chapter FFA officer must complete the Officer application which is available on the FFA google classroom or from the chapter advisor. They will also be required to complete an interview process where they will be asked questions much like a job interview. The interview committee and chapter advisor will determine the chapter officers for each year. This process usually takes place before the chapter Banquet in April. Officer Positions include: President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, Reporter, Sentinel, and Parliamentarian. Chapter officers are required to attend all chapter events, communicate regularly with officer team and advisor, and be a positive leader for the chapter.

Fundraisers

Fruit and Food item Sales - Every member will be required to participate in all fundraisers including the selling of fruit and other food items. The minimum amount of sales required for each student will be determined each year at the FFA meeting preceding fruit sales.

Concession Stand - Members will be required to help with at least one concession stand during the school year. Members not participating in the sport which is playing that evening will need to help cover for those playing sports.

Labor Auction - Every member will be required to participate in the Labor Auction as a way to raise funds for his/her trip to the National Convention when he/she is a senior. Any member who does not participate in the Labor Auction will not be eligible for the National Convention trip.

Eligibility for FFA Events

Students must be academically eligible according to the school student handbook in order to participate in any FFA events. No exceptions.

Contact the Advisor

Ms. Amber Horton
ahorton@allenschools.org
Cell: 402-841-2720
School: 402-635-2484

Communication

Students will be required to receive announcements via the **Remind** app for students with cell phones. All event reminders and activity announcements will be sent out using the **Remind** app. Parents may join as well by **texting @39e7ef to 81010**.

Six Steps to Membership:

1. Add Remind app to phone
2. Turn in medical release form
3. Turn in multiple events permission form
4. Turn in dues (usually \$20)
5. Report t-shirt size to Ms. Horton
6. Turn in THIS signature form after reading the Handbook

Student and Parent Signatures

I have read the Allen FFA Chapter Handbook and agree to all of the conditions and requirements of being an Allen FFA member.

Student Name: (print) _____

Student Signature: _____ **Date:** _____

Parent(Guardian) Name: (print) _____

Parent(Guardian) Signature: _____