Hamshire - Fannett FFA

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Agricultural Science Teachers/FFA Advisors

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Dear FFA Members, and Parents/Guardians,

Welcome to membership of the Hamshire - Fannett FFA Chapter, We are looking forward to a successful year of many opportunities and great experiences. This handbook covers the majority of our chapter's activities that we participate in, but please feel free to ask an advisor if you have any questions. Our chapter is very diverse and offers many different opportunities for our members. We hope that students will take advantage of the FFA and get involved. The FFA Mission is to make a positive difference in the lives of students by developing their potential for premier leadership, personal growth and career success through agricultural education. FFA is an intra-curricular school organization that has something for everyone.

FFA members and agricultural education students please return the attached *Emergency Contact Information and the Yearly Travel Release & Acknowledgment Form* that is to be kept on file with the FFA Advisors. If there are any questions, please contact our advisors @ 409-243-2131 ext 1138.

Sincerely,

Hamshire - Fannett FFA Chapter President and FFA Advisors

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Hamshire - Fannett FFA

As a student enrolled in the HFISD Agricultural Education Science classes, you have the opportunity to be a part of the largest student-led organization in the world: The FFA! Your opportunity for success awaits you!

Classes offered:

Principles of Agriculture, Food, and Natural Resources

Small Animal Management

Equine Science

Livestock Production

Veterinary Medical Applications

Advanced Animal Science

Floral Design

Advanced Floral Design

Horticultural Science

Agricultural Mechanics and Metal Technologies

Agricultural Structures Design and Fabrication

Agricultural Equipment Design and Fabrication

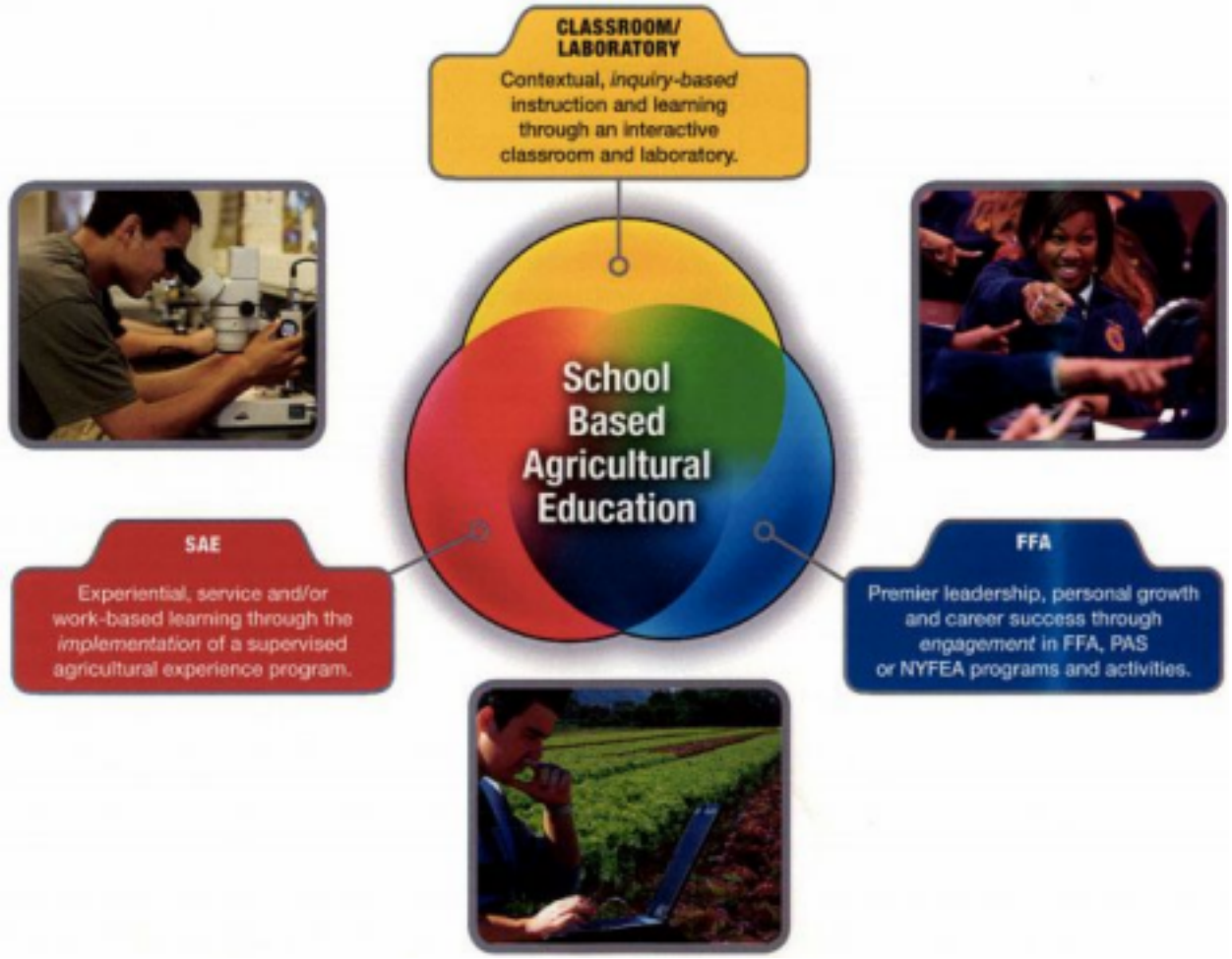
Practicum in Agriculture, Food, and Natural Resources

FFA Membership

FFA makes a positive difference in the lives of students by developing their potential for premier leadership, personal growth and career success through agricultural education. Today, FFA membership consists of 850,823 members aged 12-21 in 8,955 chapters in all 50 states, Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands. FFA operates on local, state and national levels. There are more than 150,000 Texas FFA members in nearly 1,200 chapters that are engaged in a wide range of agricultural education activities.

The Agricultural Education Mission

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



The FFA is considered intracurricular and not extracurricular! We work under a 3-Circle Model. (shown above)

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

- Classroom/Laboratory Instruction (contextual learning)
- Supervised Agricultural Experience Programs (work-based learning)
- Student Leadership Organizations (FFA)

What is an SAE?

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Frequently Asked Questions

"Do I have to raise an animal to be in Ag and/or the FFA?"

The answer is..

"No, you do not have to have an animal project, but you must have an SAE."

We realize that not all students are available to raise an animal project for various reasons. There are so many other activities available to students who are unable to participate in the animal project area to do so. This area of the Agriculture program is important and will enable students to receive a more complete concept of the total program. Students enrolled in an Agriculture class are provided a list of activities related to that class which can be used as a supplement or in place of an animal project. There are many ways to accomplish an SAE.

Other FAQs:

What kind of animal? Students are able to exhibit the following animals: cattle(market steers & breeding beef), swine, lambs, goats, broilers, roasters, and rabbits.

How much do they cost? Obviously, steers cost more than a pen of broilers to raise. For this reason, we have asked some of our students to address this issue later on for each of the species included in our program.

When do I get my animal? The type of animal and which show you want to participate in will determine when to purchase your animals. Market steers for the South Texas State Fair need to be purchased and on feed by May 15. Broilers and roasters for STSF will be ordered during the school year in September and pick up will be in January and February. Market swine for STSF need to be purchased in October-November. Market rabbits will be picked up in February for STSF. Check the show's website for more specifics and deadline information.

What kind of facility/pen do I need for my animal? This will depend on the type of animal that you raise. Once you have made this decision, contact one of the ag teachers and we will be glad to assist you in planning your facility.

Where is a good place to buy my animal? There is a definite need to understand that we are dealing with SHOW ANIMALS, not commercial grade animals. Animals that are exhibited in livestock shows are not ordinary "farm animals". They are bred to be of a higher quality, specifically for shows. We will be happy to assist you in locating quality show stock if you ask.

Who's Who Supervising SAE's

We have three ag teachers here at HF and we all work cooperatively with our students. We each have general livestock species and knowledge to oversee our student's projects to make it easier for the students to know who to go to for input. For instance, if you email the ag teacher because your student is in her/his class and you have a goat question, they will most likely forward it to Mr. Telger to reply if it's more than a general quick answer like date of the show, etc.. We each work to help with all the projects but generally will refer kids with questions on specifics to the specific teacher that handles that species. When you get to many chiefs telling kids what to do it can get confusing. We have found it just works better this way. You will find that people will offer tons of advice and it can vary a bit due to experience. Everyone wants to help. Help is good but it can get overwhelming when you get started. We will all 3 be glad to help but just remember we will refer those particular questions to each other as needed. We can help the student acquire the animals or you can secure them yourself. We have a show list of shows sanctioned by HFISD that we attend as a chapter during the year listed in this handbook. We will assist with hauling animals to and from the shows listed. We are glad to help and support our students in these positive and rewarding youth livestock shows.

Mr. Bertrand: Swine, Poultry, Market Rabbits
Ms. Cuniff: Steers, Breeding Beef
Mr. Telger: Lambs, Goats, Breeding Rabbits

We do have nontraditional projects that students will partake in and we just work with them as needed.

When you begin to consider/look for animal projects: The most important thing you can do is to:
1. Read the rules for the show you are buying an animal for
2. Select and purchase a quality animal
3. Feed consistently the protein requirements for your animals' age and condition. But stay consistent. Do not switch feeds just because you forgot to get to the feed store before they closed. That can upset their digestive system and be a problem.
4. Always offer free choice clean cool water.
5. Keep them healthy by deworming as needed. Watch their feces and de-worm as needed.
6. Don't over exercise them. But do exercise.
7. Go to as many prospect shows as you have time to get to for practice. Watch other exhibitors that are successful.
8. Have fun and make as many friends as you can.

The Hamshire - Fannett FFA Chapter Show Team

School sanctioned livestock shows are:

- Texas Rice Festival
- State Fair of Texas
- Fort Worth Stock Show
- San Antonio Livestock Show
- Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo
- South Texas State Fair

(THIS LIST MAY BE REVISED BY HFISD AT ANY TIME DUE TO FUNDS AVAILABLE) In order to be considered for the HF FFA Show Team one must exhibit in or be entered in at least 2 of the above in one year. Students are to adhere to all school rules and regulations at livestock shows when representing HF FFA. Failure to comply will result in disciplinary action.

Stock Show Rules

All stock shows attended by Hamshire - Fannett FFA have specific rules, which must be followed. An exhibitor violating any rule may be given one verbal warning. The second violation may automatically result in the disqualification from any show under the discretion of the Advisor. All exhibitors must adhere to the following rules:

1. Exhibitors will remember any show attended by Hamshire - Fannett FFA is a school activity. All rules pertaining to school activities will be adhered to, NO PASS, NO PLAY.
2. Exhibitors will not be allowed to leave the show grounds without permission from agriculture teachers or with their parents/guardians.
3. It is up to the exhibitors to secure their own transportation to and from the show for feedings during the day. Ag teachers are not always off from school to attend all day and miss school. If you need help please contact one of us. (STSF)
4. All exhibitors must clean their individual pens and the walkways in front of their animal's pen or pens.
5. Exhibitors will be assigned stall duties throughout the livestock show as necessary.
6. Students will be the only persons to work stall duties. We ask that parents please do not work stalls. It is the responsibility of the exhibitor. Judges will not reward the chapter for stall award points if adults are seen working the cleanup and maintenance.
7. Exhibitors will exhibit sportsmanship expected of them as members of the FFA.
8. Exhibitors are responsible for the care of their own animal. Exhibitors must maintain their own SAE projects. The exhibitor may ask for assistance but remember it is the responsibility of the exhibitor to groom, trim, bathe and present his/her livestock.
9. Exhibitors are only excused for check in and show days at livestock shows.

HFHS Market Animal Project Center Facility Contract

Rules & Regulations

The Hamshire - Fannett HS Animal Facility is provided for FFA members raising a market animal project that do not have a place of their own to keep livestock. STSF projects will be given first priority. Projects to be shown elsewhere or breeding animals may or may not be allowed to house within our facilities as space permits.

Failure to abide by the following rules will result in:
1st Offense - Verbal warning
*(Excluding Rule number 2 & 3 listed below-1st offense is EVICTION)
2nd Offense - Written warning 3rd Offense - Eviction of project

1. All HFISD policies will be followed at all times. Parents and volunteers must adhere to all HFISD guidelines while attending or supervising students. Failure to do so may result in the individual being restricted to HFISD/FFA activities.

2. Cruelty or endangerment to the animals/people will not be tolerated and is cause for immediate eviction of the offender's animal by the AST(Agriculture Science Teacher). This includes but is not limited to: neglect, abusive training, malicious actions, using electronic devices without permission or unapproved drugs to your own animal, another student or another animal.

3. No alcoholic beverages, tobacco product, or controlled substance will be allowed on any HFISD facilities. No persons under the influence of alcohol, tobacco or other controlled substances will be allowed on the school grounds at any time. Failure to abide by these rules can result in immediate eviction of the student's animal on the 1st offense – NO WARNINGS.

4. Cleanliness is a necessity. It is your responsibility to keep your pen area along with other areas you may use neat, clean, and orderly. This includes but is not limited to manure, trash, can drinks, water bottles, bags and old bedding material.

5. No pets will be allowed at the project center.

6. Safety for self and the project is the sole responsibility of the student. Any damage to the facility should be reported to an ag teacher immediately. The Ag Department or HFISD will not be held liable for injury, loss, or theft to a project or any individual entering the facility.

7. Animal ownership may not change without teacher approval.

8. Students may enter the project center facility between 5:30 am until 10:00 pm each day.

9. Teachers will make stall/ pen assignments for each student's project. The assignments will not be changed without teacher approval. Advisors will assign and or reassign stalls and tack rooms as needed.

10. NO additions, subtractions, modifications, or construction relating to electricity, carpentry, plumbing or location may be made without approval. The student is responsible for safe use of electricity. The use of electrical devices or extension cords must meet NEC and UL electrical codes. No cords shall lie in the isle, across the pens or on the ground. Animals can chew on the cord and be electrocuted.

11. The facility should not be damaged in any way; this includes but is not limited to sitting on gates or panels, throwing rocks, and damages caused by automobiles. Any accident or safety hazard is to be reported immediately to an advisor/teacher.

12. Students and parents should be extremely selective of guests. Guests are the responsibility of the student; therefore must follow all of the project center facility rules and HFISD rules and regulations. The student/exhibitor will be held responsible for any and all actions by individuals brought into the project center facility.

13. Students, parents and/or guests are limited to driving in designated areas only. Drivers should drive slowly and with caution both inside and outside fenced areas. Consider roadways, which lead to project center, an extension of center and avoid excessive noise, recklessness, littering, or other disruptive displays whether inside or near project center.

14. Radios shall not be played from the vehicle loudly or while feeding/tending to your animals. This facility will not be used for a loitering area or “hang out” for individuals.

15. Students must administer medications or have the animal viewed by a veterinarian when advised by the AST. Failure to do so could affect the health of other student projects.

16. Bedding material will be the responsibility of the student. Shavings will not be provided.

17. Animals must enter the facility only after visual inspection by AST for health reasons.

18. Students with prior in-school suspension(ISS) for destruction of school property/vandalism, drugs, or alcohol may not be allowed access to the facility for the safety and security of livestock and facilities. The FFA Advisory committee may review an applicant for admittance.

19. Students, parents/guardians, or guests may not feed, move, water or provide any other care, regardless of the intent, to help other student's projects without permission from the owner. Ag teachers cannot access the health and care of the individual animal if others are caring for it. Please do not make it your business to feed or care for another person's animal or to complain about the care of the project. You may not be there when they are or they may come and go at different times than you. Ag teachers will monitor and supervise the projects.

20. An application is available for stalls/pens as they fill. The ag teachers will select applicants as available. Stalls will be limited to one stall per student, unless there are available stalls. In the event of an emergency (pen flooding, sick animal, or birthing calf), ag teachers may temporarily allow access to another stall. Students evicted or found not to have complied with the rules of the facility may not be allowed access in the future.

21. In the event of a stall flooding, you are responsible for cleaning out the wet shavings and laying new shavings down for your animal. Whether it is your stall or a neighbor that has flooded your stall. You are responsible. It is suggested that if your stall is the stall that has caused the flooding, regardless of cause(broken water line, stuck float or turned on by animal or person) that person should offer to help clean up the mess out of common courtesy. But regardless, each stall is the responsibility of the leaser for any problems. It should be cleaned up within 3 days of the problem.

22. All market animals must be removed from the project center within 2 weeks following the project show. Projects not removed will become property of the FFA chapter and sold. If exhibitors do not comply with the rules he/she may not be allowed access in the future. Students/exhibitors must clean out their tack room and clean out stalls/pens within 1 week after the animal leaves the project center.

23. All exhibitors must have up to date emergency contact information on file with the ag teachers. In the event of an emergency, please call your veterinarian. Do not administer medication/feed or water to another person's animal.

24. Parents and students must attend a visit with the advisors/ag teachers prior to moving projects into the project center facility to review rules and regulations. The HFHS Market Animal Project Center Facility contract must be signed by both student and parent/guardian.

25. Any evicted project must be removed within three days of notification or the animal will become the property of the FFA chapter and sold. The evicted student may not be allowed access for future projects.

26. The facility is monitored by video surveillance at all times and viewed by Ag Teachers only.

27. Each student will be responsible for providing personal locks for their individual feed/tack storage rooms and gates to their stalls. You must provide ag teachers keys for both of these locks prior to move-in or the ag teachers may cut the lock if necessary.

28. Barn cleaning weeks will be assigned to students to which they are responsible for cleaning the general areas.

29. Individual stalls and feed bunk areas must be kept clean daily. All manure will be placed in the manure location outside. Wheelbarrows must be cleaned out and returned to the storage area. You are responsible for the area in front of your stall and feed bunk as well.

30. You must provide your own manure rake. DO NOT DUMP MANURE AT THE END OF THE BARN. Place manure in the correct area. Do not drop trash, only shavings and manure.

31. Feed, hay, and water troughs will be provided by the student. Feeders for lambs, goats, and pigs must be hanging. Hay bags are not permitted in stalls. Feed must be kept in a closed container for pest control measures.

32. Fans and/or outside panels must be pre-approved by the ag teachers. No cords shall be left in the alley for animals to be tangled up with. Fan cords may NOT be left hanging where animals may chew on them. They will and could be electrocuted.

33.If the stall has automatic waterers installed they may be used by the student's projects but it is the responsibility of the student to maintain it. Any additional automatic waterers must be pre-approved by advisors. The chapter is not responsible for providing automatic waterers for the stalls or flooded stalls due to waterers.

34. All students must be a member in good standing with the Texas FFA and currently enrolled in a HFISD Agriculture Science class. All projects kept in the school facility must be entered as FFA projects at all shows. If a student is not enrolled in an ag class the animal stall will be released and the animal must be removed from the facility within two weeks of notice from advisors. In the event that the student is applying for project center admission during the summer months he/she must enroll in the upcoming fall semester. The HS counselor may submit a written notice of the student's enrollment into the upcoming semester.

35. Animals must be attended/fed before and after school hours. Animals must be fed every day.

36. Remember, this facility is a privilege and if the student/parents cannot work cooperatively with HFISD and/or staff, the student will be given one verbal warning, one written warning and the third incident will result in the eviction of the livestock project. No further stalls shall be rented.

NOTE:

Ag Teachers will assist in the transportation of the animals at sanctioned shows listed in the handbook. Students and parents must stay in contact with the ag teachers as of the needs to weigh, oversee, or transport animals for the sanctioned shows. We have a great community of support that offers to help us weigh and transport projects during the year. We can assist you by just keeping in touch.

RETURN THIS PAGE SIGNED
IF YOU WILL BE REQUESTING A STALL SPACE

Students Name: _____ Grade: _____ Species: _____

The agricultural science teachers, and/or facility/staff of HFISD are not responsible for any loss or damage to any person, property, or livestock, which may occur on the project center. Students and parents assume all risks, and responsibilities and should consider insurance policies which cover animal projects and other property.

In the event of an emergency/evacuation the owner is responsible for the animal's welfare. Ag teachers will assist as needed.

The ag teachers reserve the right to make decisions concerning the project center, animal projects, and assigned stalls in the best interest of the students and livestock at any time.

These rules will be accessed, reviewed and amended by the advisors and ag teachers as needed.
- I have read, understand, and will abide by the Market Animal Project Center Facility rules.
- I understand I am responsible for the actions of those I allow to enter the facility with me.
- I will maintain the general use areas.
- I will maintain a positive and cooperative working attitude with ag teachers and other exhibitors.
- I understand that at certain times ag teachers will ask me to do a total cleaning of the tack room and stall area if needed around the facility.

Student Signature: _____ Date: _____

Student Email: _____ Phone #: _____

Parent/Guardian Signature: _____ Date: _____

Parent/Guardian Email: _____ Phone #: _____

Hamshire-Fannett FFA Chapter
Constitution

ARTICLE I - Name, Mission and Strategies

Section A. The name of this organization shall be the Hamshire-Fannett FFA Chapter of the National FFA Organization and the Texas FFA Association within the Area IX Association and the Rice-Belt District.

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 and assertive agricultural leadership.
2. Increases awareness of the global and technological importance of agriculture and its contribution to our well-being.
3. Strengthens the confidence of agriculture students in themselves and their work.
4. Promotes the intelligent choice and establishment of an agricultural career.
5. Encourages achievement in supervised agricultural experience programs.
6. Encourages wise management of economic, environmental and human resources of 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 Hamshire-Fannett Chapter of FFA is a chartered local unit of the Texas Association of FFA, which is chartered by the National FFA Organization.

Section B. This chapter accepts in full the provisions in the constitution, bylaws and policies of the Texas Association of FFA and the National FFA Organization and the policies and regulations of the Hamshire-Fannett Independent School District.

ARTICLE III - Membership

Section A. Membership in this chapter shall be of four kinds: (1) Active; (2) Alumni; (3) Honorary and (4) Junior, as defined by the National and Texas FFA Constitutions and by Texas FFA Association membership policies.

Section B. The regular activities 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 and 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, the Texas FFA Association and with the school district's Code of Student Conduct.
5. Meets all other local standards and requirements described in this chapter's bylaws and policies.
6. For members to retain active membership, members must participate in at least 3 FFA activities. With 2 of those activities being a competitive FFA event at the district, area, or state level.

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 regularly scheduled FFA 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 bylaws and policies.
5. Eligibility for Junior FFA membership for the Hamshire-Fannett FFA Chapter, students must be enrolled in the Hamshire - Fannett Independent School District in grades 3rd - 7th and qualify with one of the following: a) have an older sibling that is an active member of the Hamshire - Fannett FFA Chapter, b) have a parent that is a full-time employee of the Hamshire - Fannett Independent School District, c) or, have a parent that is an active member of the Hamshire - Fannett FFA Alumni Association.

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 designated by the National FFA Organization.

ARTICLE V - Degrees and Privileges of Active Membership

Section A. There shall be five degrees of active membership based on individual achievement. These degrees are: (1) Discovery FFA Degree, (2) Greenhand FFA Degree, (3) Chapter FFA 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 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)

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

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

1. Be enrolled in 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 and explain the meaning of the FFA Creed, FFA Mission and Motto, and FFA Salute.
3. Describe and explain the meaning of the FFA emblem and FFA colors.
4. Demonstrate a knowledge of the FFA Code of Ethics and the 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. Own or have access to the Official FFA Manual and the Official FFA Student Handbook.
7. Submit a written application for the Greenhand FFA Degree.

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

1. Must have received the Greenhand FFA Degree.
2. Must have satisfactorily completed the equivalent of at least two semesters of systematic school instruction in agriculture, food and natural resources education at or above the ninth grade level, have in operation an approved supervised agricultural experience program and be enrolled in an agriculture, food and natural resources course.
3. Have an approved SAE in operation.
4. Enrolled in an agriculture course.
5. Participated in the planning and implementation of at least three official FFA chapter activities.

6. Earned and productively invested at least $150, or have worked at least 45 hours outside of scheduled class time, or a combination of the two, through their SAE.
7. Have developed plans for continued growth and improvement of their SAE.
8. Effectively lead a group discussion for 15 minutes.
9. Demonstrated five parliamentary law procedures.
10. Show progress toward achievement in FFA award programs.
11. Have a satisfactory academic record.
12. Submitted a written application for the Chapter FFA Degree.
13. Complete a minimum of 10 hours of community service activities.

Section E. State FFA Degree. (This is the highest degree of membership the State FFA Association can award. FFA members may apply to receive the Lone Star Degree only after they have received the Chapter degree. Those wishing to receive their Lone Star Degree must have been an active FFA member for at least two years, complete at least four semesters of agricultural science at or above the ninth grade level, maintain a supervised agricultural experience (SAE) program, invest significant time and money in their SAE, demonstrate their leadership skills and show a commitment to the FFA through involvement at the chapter level and above. This degree of active membership is awarded at the state level during the Texas FFA convention.) Minimum qualifications for selection:
(Refer to Texas FFA Constitution)

1. Received a 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. Have completed at least 2 years (360 hours) of systematic school instruction in agricultural education at or above the ninth grade level, which includes an SAE.
4. Have earned and productively invested at least $1000 and worked at least 300 hours in excess of scheduled class time, in a supervised agricultural experience program. The combination of hours and earnings multiplied by a factor of 3.33 must be equal to or greater than the number 1,000.
5. Demonstrated leadership ability by performing 10 parliamentary law procedures, giving a six-minute speech on a topic relating to agriculture or FFA, and serving as an FFA officer, committee chairperson, or committee member.
6. Have a satisfactory academic record, certified by the agriculture teacher and the school principal or superintendent.
7. Participated in the planning and implementation of the chapter's Program of Activities.
8. As of May 15, have completed ten activities above the chapter level in at least three of six different categories: leadership development events, career development events, conventions and meetings, project shows, student awards and leadership and service as described in policies adopted by the Board of Directors.
9. Complete at least 25 hours of community service in a minimum of two different activities. All community service hours are cumulative, i.e. the 10 community service hours used to obtain the chapter degree can be used toward the state degree.

Section F. American FFA Degree. (This degree of active membership is awarded by the National FFA Organization and is the highest level of active membership which can be achieved within the FFA. This final step in the FFA Degree system encourages members to grow and achieve personally toward establishing yourself in an agricultural career. Members may apply for their American degree only if they have received the State FFA Degree, have graduated from high school at least twelve months prior to the national convention and meet the very high standards for the degree. These requirements include an excellent record of involvement within the FFA, operation and maintenance of records to substantiate an outstanding supervised agricultural experience program through which a member has

exhibited comprehensive planning, managerial and financial expertise, have earned and productively invested a specific amount of both time and money.

The American FFA Degree is a sign of great accomplishment among FFA members. Only a small percentage of FFA members ever earn the degree (the greatest percentage of members ever to receive the degree in one year was less than one half of one percent).
Minimum qualifications for selection: (Refer to Texas FFA Constitution)

1. Have received a Greenhand FFA Degree, Chapter FFA Degree and State FFA Degree.
2. Have been FFA members for at least three years.
3. Have completed at least three years (540 hours) of high school agriculture classes, or 2 years of high school agriculture classes and one year of college agriculture classes (360 hours.)
4. Have graduated from high school one year prior to the
5. National FFA Convention at which their degree will be awarded.
6. Have maintained detailed SAE records, which demonstrate outstanding planning, managerial and financial skills.
7. Have earned and productively invested at least $7,500, or have earned and productively invested at least $1,500 and worked 2,250 hours beyond scheduled school hours through their SAEs.
8. Effective Jan. 1, 2015: A student after entering agricultural education must have: (a.) Earn at least $10,000 and productively invested $7,500 or (b.) Have earned and productively invested at least $2,000 and worked 2,250 unpaid 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.
9. Have a record of outstanding leadership skills. Have completed at least 50 hours of community service within at least three different community service activities. These hours are in addition to the paid or unpaid supervised agricultural experience hours.
10. Have a record of outstanding leadership skills.
11. Have a record of participating in community service activities. Updated Community Service Requirements: Have completed at least 50 hours of community service within at least three different community service activities. These hours are in addition to the paid or unpaid supervised agricultural experience hours.
12. Have maintained a “C” grade average or better.

ARTICLE VI – Officers and Executive Committee

Section A. The offices of an FFA chapter shall be: president, vice president, secretary, treasurer, reporter and sentinel. 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 office are described in the bylaws of this chapter.

Section B. Pursuant to the provisions of the national and state constitutions, all chapter officers shall have attained the Greenhand FFA Degree.

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

Section D. The elected officers of the chapter and at least one Ag Teacher 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. Electronic messages conferences of the executive committee may be called and considered meetings provided that all participating members may participate and be heard simultaneously.

Section E. 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 VII - Committees

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

Section B. The chapter president shall appoint all committees and committee chairs. The terms of all committees shall expire on a date described in the chapter's annual strategic action plan. Committee expiration may vary depending on duties but no standing committee term shall extend past the end of the fiscal year. The president shall have the authority to remove or reassign any committee chairperson or member, 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, bylaws or policies, appoint or remove a committee member, or take any action outside the scope of authority delegated to it by the chapter.

ARTICLE VII - Dues

Section A. Local dues in this chapter shall be fixed annually by a majority vote of the active members.

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.

Section D. The program affiliation fee option is offered with the assumption that no fees or dues should be collected from individual students. Alternative funding sources are to be used to pay the program affiliation fee so that all agriculture, food and natural resources students have opportunities in FFA as an integral part of the three phase agricultural education delivery model. All students in an affiliated program shall be deemed FFA members. Program affiliation fees are effective for one membership year as defined in Article IV, Section A(1), Texas FFA Constitution, beginning August 1 and ending July 31. The affiliation fee is based on the aggregate of (1) all secondary and middle school students enrolled in agriculture, food and natural resource classes as defined in TXFFA PH-1 Texas FFA Membership Eligibility Policy, students not enrolled in an eligible course but eligible for membership and high school graduates who desire to continue membership. In subsequent years, the previous year's sum of enrollment and other eligible members shall be used to determine affiliation fee for the subsequent year. Determination of affiliation fee for the succeeding year shall be based on a spring membership snapshot as determined by National FFA Organization policy and procedures. Chapters shall declare their intent to affiliate via the affiliation fee option within the Texas FFA Roster system prior to submitting their roster, on or before November 1. Programs shall have the option of considering

exploratory middle school curricula taught by the agriculture, food and natural resources instructors as part of total enrollment. The appropriate campus administrator shall certify enrollment claimed for affiliation fee. Affiliation Certification forms must be received in the state office via email by November 1. This is not a postmark date. Chapters whose certification forms have not been received by the prescribed deadlines, will be converted to regular membership and will be responsible for any resulting balances in the roster system. Texas FFA reserves the right to employ any and all means to verify enrollment claimed for affiliation fee.

ARTICLE VIII - Meetings

Section A. Meeting dates and times shall be fixed by the chapter's executive committee with the advice and consent of the chapter advisor. Special meetings may be called by the president, by a majority vote of the executive committee or by the chapter advisor(s). Meeting agendas shall be posted in a manner consistent with operating rules or procedures adopted by the chapter.

Section B. A quorum shall exist when 15 chapter members are present at any regular chapter meetings.

Section C. Proxy and cumulative voting are prohibited.

ARTICLE IX - 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, bylaws or policies Amendments must not conflict with the policies and/or regulations of the Hamshire-Fannett Independent School District. Members shall be notified by mail, electronic mail or classroom announcement at least 5 days prior to a meeting at which any constitutional amendment is to be considered.

Section B. Bylaws 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 bylaws do not conflict in any way with the constitution, bylaws or policies of the Texas FFA Association, National FFA Organization or the Hamshire-Fannett Independent School District. Members shall be notified by mail, electronic mail or classroom announcement at least 5 days prior to a meeting at which any amendment to the bylaws is to be considered.

ARTICLE X – 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.

Adopted September 2016
Amended May 2023 - Article 1/Section A, Article 3/Section C, Article 3/Section D, Article 5/All Sections, Article 6/Section B, Article 7/Section D

Hamshire-Fannett FFA Chapter
Bylaws

ARTICLE I. – Relationship to Constitution

The Bylaws shall be a part of the Constitution of the Hamshire-Fannett Chapter of FFA.

ARTICLE II. – Location of Offices

The headquarters and principal office of the Hamshire-Fannett Chapter of FFA shall be at 12552 2nd Street, Hamshire, Texas 77622.

ARTICLE III – Procedures for Electing Officers

Section A. The chapter shall adopt rules related to the election of officers which shall include, but not be limited to, designation of elections committee, filing deadlines, application forms, testing procedures and election date.

Section B. Qualified members shall declare intent to be considered for chapter office by filing the required forms by the prescribed filing deadline pursuant to the rules adopted by the chapter.

OPTION 1

Section C. Officers shall be selected by a combination of 30% written exam score, and a 70% of a popularity vote. Officers will be asked to prepare a 1 to 3 minute speech before the popularity vote takes place.

~~**OPTION 2**~~

~~**Section C.** Officers shall be elected by a majority vote of the members present at a regular or special called chapter meeting.~~

Section D. All written materials related to a chapter election shall be deposited and retained in a secure location for no less than 30 days following the announcement of election results.

Section E. Appeals or protests related to a chapter election shall be filed pursuant to the grievances procedures of the Hamshire-Fannett Independent School District.

ARTICLE IV – Duties of Officers

Section A. It shall be the duty of all officers to fulfill the responsibilities described in the officer contract adopted by the chapter and agreed to by each officer at the time of declaring candidacy for chapter office.

Section B. The president shall preside at all of the chapter's meetings, shall sign all official documents or authorize execution of said documents, appoint student committees and serve as an ex-officio member of all student committees, coordinate all chapter operations, represent the chapter in official functions and perform other such duties as usually pertain to the office of president.

Section C. The vice president shall perform the duties of the president in the event of the disability, death, resignation, removal or other inability of the president to perform such duties, develop the chapter's program of activities, coordinate the operations of all student committees, serve as an

ex-officio member of all student committees and perform such other duties and further duties as may be imposed upon him or her by the chapter.

Section D. The secretary shall make and keep correct records or minutes of proceedings of the chapter and executive committee, prepare and post meeting agendas, file reports, maintain member activity records, issue membership cards, update policy documents as directed and perform such other duties and further duties as may be imposed upon him or her by the chapter.

Section E. The treasurer shall have responsibility for accounting of all funds and property of the chapter. The treasurer shall provide direction and oversight to any and all who handle the monies of the chapter, ensuring that the financial policies of the chapter and Hamshire-Fannett Independent School District are followed completely, shall present a proposed budget at a regularly scheduled or called special chapter meeting, present monthly financial reports at chapter meetings, chair the budget and finance committee and perform such other duties and further duties as may be imposed upon him or her by the chapter.

Section F. The reporter shall chair the chapter public relations committee and develop public relations strategies to accurately define the public image of the agricultural education program and FFA chapter, develop or cause to be developed press releases concerning chapter activities, maintain or cause to be maintained a chapter website, develop working relationships with all local and school district media, ensure a complete photographic record of all chapter activities and perform such other duties and further duties as may be imposed upon him or her by the chapter.

Section G. The sentinel shall have responsibility for all meeting related equipment and shall maintain an inventory of all such equipment, ensure that all meeting and social venues are ready to receive members and guests prior to each function, take charge of candidates for degree and award ceremonies, assist the president in maintaining order, ensure a welcoming environment for guests and perform such other duties and further duties as may be imposed upon him or her by the chapter.

Section H. ~~**(OPTIONAL)**~~ The historian shall have responsibility for documenting events to create a complete and accurate chapter history and compile such documentation such as, but not limited to newspaper and magazine articles, photographs, video footage, significant web-based content, ceremony and banquet programs and other memorabilia which may be maintained to provide future generations a glimpse into the chapter's history. The historian shall also maintain records of historically significant anniversaries, past degree and award recipients, officers and alumni of distinction and periodically create displays which foster pride among the members and perform such other duties and further duties as may be imposed upon him or her by the chapter.

Section I. The student advisor shall assist the FFA Advisor with any needs and help supervise chapter activities The student advisor shall inform the public about the FFA, instruct members in leadership, build support for the FFA, and encourage involvement of all chapter members in activities.

Section J. (OPTIONAL) The parliamentarian shall achieve a level of proficiency in parliamentary law, as prescribed in policies adopted by the chapter and shall rule on all questions of parliamentary conduct at chapter meetings, conduct parliamentary workshops for younger members or develop other content or achievement benchmarks that foster value for mastery of parliamentary procedures. The parliamentary shall have custody of the chapter's parliamentary reference texts and shall perform such other duties and further duties as may be imposed upon him or her by the chapter.

Section K. (OPTIONAL) The chaplain shall present invocations or benedictions at chapter functions and conduct or cause to be conducted reflections and camps, conferences and workshops as deemed appropriate by the chapter and shall perform other such duties and further duties as may be imposed on him or her by the chapter.

ARTICLE V – Resignation, Removal of Officers, Officer Vacancies

Section A. The advisor or the executive committee with the advice and consent of the advisor, may, with good cause, remove any officer elected by the chapter. Good cause shall include, but not be limited to, violation of the provisions of the chapter's officer contract, violation of chapter or departmental rules of conduct, violation of the school code of student conduct or violation of state or federal laws.

Section B. Any officer may resign at any time by giving written notice to the advisor, president or secretary. Such resignation shall take effect at the time specified in the notice, and, unless otherwise specified in the notice, the acceptance of such resignation shall not be necessary to make it effective.

Section C. Should the office of president become vacant; the vice president shall assume the title and duties of president. The executive committee may appoint an interim officer to fill any other vacancy until the chapter elects a qualified replacement.

ARTICLE VI – Committees

Section A. The standing committees of the chapter shall be in harmony with the National FFA Organization's Quality Standards for Local Chapters. The committee designations and descriptions contained in these bylaws shall be amended to reflect the most current Quality Standards for Local Chapters adopted by the National FFA Organization for the membership year following revision of such standards. Such amendments shall be made without action by the chapter.

Section B. Each active member of this chapter shall be assigned to a committee which is deemed commensurate to the member's interests, talents and skills. The chapter shall not be obligated to staff all committees, but any of the standing committees may be activated by the chapter president without the action of the chapter.

Section C. Each standing committee shall develop and submit to the executive committee a plan within the committee's scope of responsibility and a corresponding budget within the timelines prescribed by the president. Each committee shall make regular and timely reports to the chapter concerning progress towards its respective goals.

Section D. The standing committees of the chapter and their respective duties are:

(1) Growing Leaders-Leadership shall plan and execute activities which help the individual develop technical, human relations and decision-making skills to grow leaders.

(2) Growing Leaders-Healthy Lifestyles shall plan and execute strategies which promote the well-being of students mentally or physically, in achieving the positive evolution of the whole person.

(3) Growing Leaders- Scholarship shall plan and execute strategies which develop a positive attitude toward lifelong learning experiences.

(4) Growing Leaders-Personal Growth shall plan and execute strategies which improve the identity and self-awareness of members, striving to enhance the quality of life and contribute to members' life goals and development.

(5) Growing Leaders- Career Success shall plan and execute strategies which promote student involvement and growth through agriculture-related experiences and/or entrepreneurship and promote career readiness.

(6) Building Communities-Environmental shall plan and execute strategies to preserve natural resources and develop more environmentally responsible individuals

(7) Building Communities –Human Resources shall plan and execute strategies which improve the welfare and well-being of members and citizens of the community

(8) Building Communities-Citizenship shall plan and execute strategies to encourage members to become active, involved citizens of their school, community and country.

(9) Building Communities –Stakeholder Engagement shall plan and execute strategies to develop teamwork and cooperation between the local chapter and stakeholders.

(10) Building Communities –Economic Development shall plan and execute strategies to improve the economic welfare of the community.

(11) Strengthening Agriculture-Support Group shall plan and execute strategies to develop and maintain positive relations among FFA, parents and community leaders interested in supporting agricultural education.

(12) Strengthening Agriculture –Chapter Recruitment shall plan and execute strategies to increase agricultural education enrollment and/or FFA membership and encourage greater participation.

(13) Strengthening Agriculture -Safety shall plan and execute strategies intended to enhance safety in the community

(14) Strengthening Agriculture –Agricultural Advocacy shall plan and execute strategies to articulate and promote agricultural programs, practices, policies and/or education to elicit action.

(15) Strengthening Agriculture -Agricultural Literacy shall plan and execute strategies to help consumers become better informed about the production, distribution and daily impact of food, fiber and fuel.

Section E. Subcommittees of a standing committee may be created by the president, executive committee, advisor or by the committee with the permission of the president and advisor.

ARTICLE VII – Transactions of the Chapter

Section A. The fiscal year of the chapter shall begin on September 1 and end on August 31.

Section B. The chapter shall adopt policies and procedures consistent with the fiduciary policies, procedures and audit standards of the Hamshire-Fannett Independent School District.

Section C. The president, treasurer, an ag teacher, and the chairman of the financial committee, shall have the authority to request funds from the FFA Student Activity Account at any time during the year.

ARTICLE VIII – Grievances and Appeals

Grievances and appeals shall be addressed under the auspices of the student grievance policies and procedures of the Hamshire-Fannett Independent School District.

Adopted September 2016
Amended May 2023

Chapter FFA Officer Guidelines

The offices of the Hamshire - Fannett FFA chapter shall be: president, vice president, secretary, treasurer, reporter and sentinel. 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 office are described in the bylaws of this chapter.

Hamshire-Fannett FFA Officer DeMerit System Agreement

I, _____, agree to the following demerits and consequences. I also will adhere to the school's good conduct policy outlined in the Hamshire-Fannett Independent School District's handbook.

Please initial each of the following demerits:

_____ 1. Failure to complete officer responsibilities (Within/by deadlines)
   a) *Duties, committees, officer meetings etc.*

_____ 2. Lack of FFA involvement at chapter activities
   a) *"Lack of involvement" is defined as absent to three chapter meetings, not participating in a CDE or LDE or fundraising or attending fewer than one of the following events: Ruben Stringer Livestock Show, & Scholarship Roundup.*

_____ 3. Unexcused absence or excessive tardiness to a chapter/officer meeting

_____ 4. Not wearing proper attire at events on required days
   a) *Officer shirts/OD for meetings, OD for conventions, etc.*

_____ 5. Inappropriate language or conversations (including swearing or talking behind others backs)
   a) *at FFA Events and in Ag classes or other school functions*

_____ 6. No bullying

_____ 7. Failure to abide by the FFA Code of Ethics

_____ 8. Absence from required events
   a) *Ruben Stringer Livestock Show, Scholarship Roundup, Banquet, Go Texan Committee Functions, various Community Service Opportunities etc.*

_____ 9. Failure to follow through with what you sign up for without notice

_____ 10. Visible tattoos, piercings, extreme unnatural hair color (blue, green, purple)

_____ 11. Failing any school classes at semester

_____ 12. Inappropriate Use of Social Media (or other communication methods)

_____ 13. Lack of Communication to officer team/advisor (including specific duties, help with things, responding to emails in a timely and professional manner, etc)
   a) *24 hour response rule when school is in session*

_____ 14. Inappropriate use of cell phones during FFA events

_____ 15. Receiving an In or Out of School Suspension

I, _____, understand that if I receive demerit(s), the course of action below will be taken.

Protocol:

1. Officers and officer parents/guardians will be given a written notice of probation when an officer reaches 2 demerits.
2. After 3 demerits you will be placed on probation for 30 days.
    a) Probation: Officer cannot participate in activities/events, however they are still required to complete their duties and attend meetings.
    b) If a merit is not completed within 14 calendar days the fourth demerit will be received.
1. When an officer reaches 4 demerits or commits an offense that is grounds for immediate removal, they will be removed from office.

Merits:

1. Three hours of community service within or out of school hours (we will have a sheet to be signed by a school staff member or community member).
2. Extra and additional work done that's approved by advisors (at least 3 hours' worth done within the next 30 days after receiving a demerit) examples: helping other officer members out with their duties, helping advisors on any work that needs to be completed.

*Failure to initial and sign this agreement in its entirety, will disqualify you from serving as a chapter officer. All chapter officers need to be on board with the DeMerit System Agreement in order to run an effective chapter.

Officer Signature: _____ Date: _____

Parent Signature: _____ Date: _____

Advisor Signature: _____ Date: _____

Individual Student Awards

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

- Proficiency in the various project areas
- Star Awards, must have completed the AET record book and application

Scholarships

Seniors are eligible to apply for several scholarships through the FFA: National FFA Scholarship(s), Texas FFA Scholarship(s), HF FFA Alumni Scholarship(s), HF Educational Foundation Scholarship(s), Dalton W. Horn Memorial Scholarship, Johnny Ackel Memorial Scholarship, Jefferson County Go Texan Scholarship, Houston Livestock Show & Rodeo Scholarship(s), Texas Rice Festival Scholarship(s), and many many more!

Camps and Conventions:

FFA members are provided opportunities to attend and participate in leadership camps at the district, and area level, and conventions at the district, area, and state level. In order to participate in the state level convention, FFA members must be officers or award recipients from the local, district, area, or state level.

Community Service

The Hamshire - Fannett FFA Chapter participates in several community service projects throughout the school year. Along with other organizations in the school and community, our FFA members are encouraged to assist and participate in order to develop a sense of accomplishment in meeting needs.

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

FFA MEMBERSHIP IS REQUIRED FOR ALL THE LISTED ACTIVITIES

Letter Jackets

HFHS Letterman Jacket

To be eligible to earn a letter jacket for the FFA, a student must first complete #1 and any of the following #2-#7. HFISD will purchase the letter jacket per student. All other patches and embroidery(other than one HF FFA logo) are the responsibility of the student.

1. Be enrolled in your third semester of any agricultural science class(8th –12th grade).
2. Have placed in the top 5 of any of the FFA Leadership Development Event, and/or Career Development Event on the area level and/or have placed in the top 20 high point individuals at Houston or San Antonio judging contests.
3. Have earned the Texas FFA State Lonestar Degree.
4. Have placed in the top 4 of any of the Speaking Development Events on the area level.
5. Have qualified to the state level in any Proficiency Award.
6. Have been elected to the District Office or any Area Office.
7. Have placed in the top 3 as an individual in any Leadership Development Event or Career Development Event on the area level.

FFA Official Dress

All active FFA members will need to purchase an FFA jacket as part of the official dress (OD) for FFA members. The approximate price for the FFA jacket and tie/scarf $76.00. The official dress for boys is as follows: FFA jacket, FFA tie, white dress shirt, and black boots or shoes. The official dress for girls is as follows: FFA jacket, FFA scarf, white shirt, black skirt or pants, black hose, and black shoes.

THE OFFICIAL FFA JACKET IS DESIGNED TO BE WORN TO LEADERSHIP CONTESTS, BANQUETS, CONVENTIONS, AND OTHER PLACES THAT REQUIRE PROFESSIONAL DRESS FOR FFA MEMBERS. IT IS WORN AS “OFFICIAL DRESS” AND IS NOT DESIGNED TO “KEEP A MEMBER WARM” OR TO WEAR TO STOCK SHOWS, OUTDOOR JUDGING EVENTS, ECT..

Hamshire - Fannett FFA Junior Membership

The Hamshire - Fannett FFA Chapter has elected 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:
*Shows an interest in the affairs of the organization by attending regularly scheduled FFA meetings.
*Pays local and state dues of $10 by the date determined by the chapter and the state.
*Displays conduct consistent with the ideals and purposes of the National FFA Organization and with the school district's code of student conduct.
*Meets all other local standards and requirements described in this chapter's bylaws and policies.

Eligibility for Junior FFA membership for the Hamshire-Fannett FFA Chapter, students must be enrolled in the Hamshire - Fannett Independent School District in grades 3rd - 7th and qualify with one of the following: a) have an older sibling that is an active member of the Hamshire - Fannett FFA Chapter, b) have a parent that is a full-time employee of the Hamshire - Fannett Independent School District, c) or, have a parent that is an active member of the Hamshire - Fannett FFA Alumni Association.

Parents and junior FFA members will follow all guidelines and rules required by HF FFA in the exhibition of livestock. Parents will be responsible for the transportation and overseeing of all livestock projects. Parents will maintain contact with the FFA advisors and ag teachers and HF FFA Alumni Association for show entries and deadlines. Parents should stay current with their contact information provided to the ag teachers.. Parents and exhibitors should stay current with their show rules and deadlines. Because Junior FFA members are not in the high school agriculture classes and advisors do not have daily access to the junior members, parents and exhibitors should be attentive to all show rules and information. Ag teachers will assist in the transportation of the animals at sanctioned shows listed in the handbook. Parents and students must stay in contact with advisors as of the needs to weigh, oversee, and/or transport animals for the sanctioned shows. We have a great community of support that offers to help us with animal projects throughout the year. We are here to help and assist in any way possible. We have a growing program and we want to continue to be here for the kids and to help each other with a positive influence.

(Texas FFA Association Policy Handbook Section 2: Junior Membership)

Parent Involvement

Hamshire - Fannett FFA Alumni Association

The HF FFA Chapter is supported by a very active alumni association made up of parents, former students, and community members. Without the help of these dedicated individuals, our chapter would not be what it is today. We encourage all parents to become active in our adult education/agriculture support organization. It will keep you and your student more informed of chapter opportunities. Members do not have to be an alumni of the FFA or an alumni of Hamshire - Fannett, anyone can join. The HF FFA Alumni Association will hold monthly meetings.

The Hamshire-Fannett FFA Alumni was established in 2011 as a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization. The alumni was formed by former FFA Members as well as parents of FFA members to help support the Hamshire-Fannett FFA Chapter and promote agricultural education. Our organization holds two major events each year to meet the needs of our fundraising goals, as well as participating in many community service activities within our area.

It is through our fundraising efforts and the community involvement, that the HF FFA Alumni is able to financially support chapter activities. These activities include leadership camps, conferences, as well as instructional materials needed to provide the best classroom experiences for agriculture students. Also with our fundraising success, the alumni provides many scholarship opportunities for graduating seniors for their involvement with the FFA.

Eligibility Policy

The Hamshire - Fannett Independent School District, by state law, must adhere to the “No-Pass, No-Play " policy of the Texas Education Agency. This policy states that all students participating in extracurricular activities must be passing all courses. Students who fail any subject for the six weeks will be ineligible for a period of three (3) weeks. Students may not participate in competition (livestock shows are included) during the three week period following the failing grade, but they are allowed to continue to practice and be part of other activities. At the end of the three weeks, a grade check will be done in order to determine if the ineligible student is passing. If the student is passing after the third week then the student becomes eligible for participation in competition after the fourth week (there is a one week grace period). If the student is still failing at the end of the three weeks, then the student will remain ineligible until the end of the next three weeks or the next grading period.

It is important to note that the semester grade has no bearing on eligibility. One other important thing to note is that a grade of “incomplete” renders a student ineligible until it is changed to a passing grade. Students must clear incomplete grades before the end of the five (5) school days grace period following the end of the six weeks, or they are ineligible for the remainder of the following six weeks.

Students are encouraged to notify their ag teacher as soon as possible if they suspect that a grade is below an acceptable level. It is sometimes possible to offer suggestions and/or locate appropriate tutors from within. Remember, the ag teachers cannot help once grades are posted.

Communication/Text Messages to Students

During the course of the school year, it may be necessary for a sponsor/coach to text message your child’s personal cell phone to apprise him/her of important information and vice versa. Text messaging is an easy way to send and receive information fairly quickly. As a rule, HFISD staff is advised that all text messaging should occur between the hours of 7:00 a.m. and 7:00 p.m. However, there may be situations that require a school employee to text outside of that time frame. For instance, if students are scheduled to leave prior to 7:00 a.m. and there is a schedule change (i.e. rain delay or cancellation), a sponsor or coach would notify the student as soon as information becomes available even if it is before 7:00 a.m. Should you ever be concerned about the nature of any text message, please contact the campus principal immediately. If you have any questions about this matter, please do not hesitate to call the campus principal or contact an ag teacher/FFA advisor.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT AND PERMISSION FORM

FIELD TRIP & SCHOOL TRAVEL

Club/Organization: Hamshire - Fannett FFA
Sponsor(s):
Brad Bertrand - (409) 718-7676, Brooke Cuniff - (409) 656-1347, Dillon Telger - (409) 454-6424

1. The school is responsible for the control of student behavior while attending school or any school related activity on or off campus. This responsibility carries with it the authority to administer punishment for misbehavior.

2. All policies, regulations, and rules approved by the HFISD Board of Trustees will apply on all school-sponsored activities on or off campus.

3. Students who participate in school-sponsored trips shall be required to ride transportation provided by the school to and from the event. Exceptions may be made if the student's parent or guardian requests in writing that the student be allowed to ride with the parent or an adult designated by the parent and presents the request for approval to the principal or sponsor. The District shall not be liable for any injuries that occur to students riding in vehicles that are not provided by the school.

4. If, in the judgment of any representatives of the school, the above student needs immediate care and treatment as a result of any injury or sickness, I do hereby request, authorize, and consent to such care and treatment as may be given to said student by any physician, trainer, nurse, hospital, or school representative; and I do hereby agree to indemnify and save harmless the school and any school representative from any claim by any person whomsoever on account of such care and treatment of said student.

RELEASE AND HOLD HARMLESS AGREEMENT

The undersigned, being desirous of using HFISD/ FFA animal related and mechanical equipment, and facilities does hereby forever release "HFISD" and all their employees, students, volunteers from any and all cause and causes of action. This shall include personal injury, illness, death, property damage, and liability of any kind arising out of use of "operator and volunteer" equipment, facilities, livestock, and/or participation in outdoor recreation, handling of livestock and agriculture-related functions. This release shall cover any and all injuries (fatal or non-fatal), all illness, and property damage, which might arise out of use of the "operator and student" equipment, facilities and livestock or participation in outdoor or class time use, recreation, and/or any and all animal-related functions. The undersigned further agrees to hold harmless HFISD and its employees from any and all cost, charges, claims, demands and liabilities arising from the improper or negligent use of "operator" equipment, livestock, or facilities. The undersigned agrees that he/she will exercise reasonable care in the use of all equipment, facilities, and livestock and will return in the same condition in which it was received or used.

RETURN THIS PAGE COMPLETED

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

EMERGENCY Contact INFORMATION

Please Print

Student's Name: _____ Date: _____

Mother's Name: _____ Phone: _____

Father's Name: _____ Phone: _____

In case of an accident or serious illness, I request the school to contact me. If the school is unable to contact me, I hereby authorize the school to call the physician indicated below and to follow his/her instructions. If it is impossible to contact this physician, I authorize the school to make whatever arrangements seem necessary and treat my child as needed.

Parent/Guardian Signature: _____ Date: _____

Local Physician's Name: _____ Phone:_____

Physician's Address: _____

Hospital: _____ Phone: _____

Insurance Information: _____

Any known allergies:_____

RETURN THIS PAGE SIGNED

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

FOR ALL AGRICULTURE/FFA MEMBERS STUDENTS ENROLLED IN HFHS AGRICULTURAL EDUCATION CLASSES

Yearly Travel Release & Acknowledgment Form For Hamshire - Fannett FFA

The named student below has my permission to attend FFA/Agriculture field trips and/or class/shop/floral lab/greenhouse/school barn activities with the Hamshire - Fannett Agriculture Department throughout the current school year.

We authorize the FFA advisors to publicize achievements and pictures of my child in school related activities on the official Hamshire - Fannett FFA Facebook page and in the classroom and other HFISD administrative social media pages.

We have read and understand the HF FFA/ag guidelines, including livestock show rules, hold harmless agreement, SAE participation, FFA officer rules and will follow instructions and guidance of FFA advisors.

I understand the guidelines set forth for text messaging my child and give any and ag teachers/FFA advisors permission to notify my child of relevant information regarding the activities they are participating in during the school year

I also understand that my child may be handling livestock and small animals and agree with the animal handling regulations and hold harmless agreement in this handbook.

We understand that all the rules and regulations as stated in the school handbook apply at any school sponsored activity.

Student Printed Name: _____

Student Signature: _____ Date: _____

Parent/Guardian Printed Name: _____

Parent/Guardian Signature: _____ Date: _____