

FREDERICKSBURG

AGRICULTURAL SCIENCE DEPARTMENT & FFA CHAPTER

Livestock Feeders Rules and Regulations



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Introduction

The FISS Ag Center is located on the property of Fredericksburg Independent School District in Fredericksburg, TX. The purpose of the FISS Ag Center is to provide an extension to classroom instruction to maximize learning and to allow FFA members to utilize the complex for their Supervised Agriculture Experience Program (SAEP).

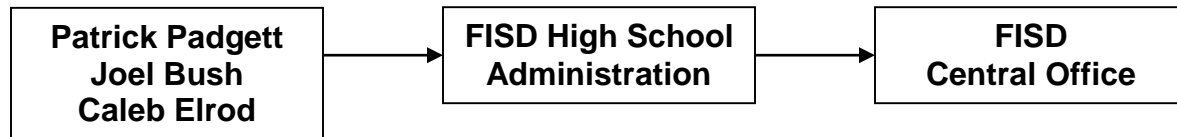
In order for all parties to best utilize the FISS Ag Center, there are rules and regulations, which must be observed. To ensure compliance, FISS employees including agriculture science teachers, facility managers, and administrators will monitor and manage the complex both physically and via security cameras.

It is our goal as a district to set, monitor, and continuously improve a strict set of rules and guidelines to be followed. This in turn should provide a safe, educational, and rewarding atmosphere that is conducive to learning.

FISS Ag Center Rules:

1. As a FISS facility supporting school-related activities, all school district and campus policies must be followed by everyone (students, family, guests, etc.). Please refer to the most current **FISS Student Parent Handbook** and **Code of Conduct** for these policies.
2. Students are expected to act in a responsible manner at all times at the FISS Ag Center. Any activities that endanger the health or physical well-being of students, parents, faculty, staff, visitors, facilities, or animals will not be permitted. **Loitering, or other activities not directly related to the furtherance of the students' SAEP, will not be tolerated.**
3. The FISS Ag Center is accessible only between the hours of **7:00 am to 7:00pm** daily unless special situation is approved by ag teachers.
4. The student must be a paid Fredericksburg FFA or Junior FFA member in good standing to utilize the FISS Ag Center. Guests of the student must have prior permission to enter the complex. The student is responsible for his/her family and guests at all times on the complex. If the family or guests violate the rules of the FISS Ag Center it will be treated as an offense by the student.
5. The student and their guests are to respect the value of the FISS Ag Center. Any malicious or negligent behavior will result in the immediate dismissal from the complex.
6. All participants must drive and park in the designated areas only.
7. No pets are allowed on the FISS Ag Center unless for the purpose of classroom instruction and prior approval is granted by an FISS Agricultural Department staff member.
8. The FISS, Agriculture Department, Fredericksburg Ag Science and FFA Booster Club, district employees, or volunteers will assume **NO** responsibility for accidents or injuries to students, parents, visitors or livestock resulting from the use of the facilities or equipment, as well as, livestock owned by other persons.

9. When a problem or concern arises, the method to resolve it is by following a set “chain-of-command.” Always begin with the supervising teacher.



Visitor Policy Statement

The following guidelines have been developed in order to maintain the safety and security of the FISD Ag Center and the FISD students. The FISD Ag Center is comprised of two components, (1) the livestock project centers and (2) the instructional facilities and grounds.

All visitors to the FISD Ag Center must obtain a visitor badge identification and background clearance through the attendance office of Fredericksburg High School during the regular hours of the school day. All non-school hour visitors must obtain prior written permission through a member of the FISD Ag Department staff or the administration of Fredericksburg High School. Security cameras are in place to monitor compliance with this policy.

A visitor is any person that does not meet the following descriptions:

1. Livestock Project Centers
 - A. Fredericksburg FFA and Junior FFA members (and their immediate family members) that are actively participating in an approved SAEP on the FISD Ag Center.
 - B. Any invited guest of the FISD Ag Department staff or administration of the Fredericksburg High School.
 - C. An invited guest of a FFA member that is actively participating in an approved SAEP and has received written approval from the supervising teacher of the livestock project center.
2. Instructional Facilities and Grounds
 - A. All students enrolled in an agriculture science class and their immediate family members.
 - B. Any invited guest of the FISD Ag Department staff or administration of the Fredericksburg High School.

Livestock Feeding Regulations:

1. Introduction

The raising of livestock as a project is the most popular SAEP that is conducted at the FISD Ag Center. The project is a **cooperative effort of the student, parent and advisor**. It is designed as a training instrument to allow students the opportunity to apply information acquired in the classroom. However, there are several areas that need clarification before the student undertakes a livestock project.

- ❑ The raising of livestock on the FISD Ag Center is a **student's privilege, not a student's right!** Feeding rules, regulations and guidelines must be strictly followed in order to reap the benefits of this privilege.
- ❑ Not all animals are of suitable quality for exhibition purposes. Most animals are of commercial quality and therefore rarely suited for exhibition in the show ring. Only those animals of superior confirmation should be selected. Therefore, the agriculture science teacher should assist in the selection and ultimately approve the animal purchased and housed at the FISD Ag Center.
- ❑ Only a small percentage of those animals exhibited in the show ring will actually realize a profit. **Do not be misled; this is not an easy money making proposition.** Only the best of the best will fall into this category. The ultimate purpose of the livestock project is to have the student learn and understand those approved practices that will allow an animal to reach its full genetic potential. Learning the true meaning of responsibility is another outcome of the project program.

2. **Eligible Livestock Projects**

Only the following livestock projects are allowed to be raised on the FISD Ag Center: Market Sheep, Market Goats, and Market Swine. Livestock projects may not be moved to the FISD Ag Center without the notification and approval of the supervising teacher and a pen and feed locker is assigned.

Space is limited in every livestock project area and it is the task of the FISD Ag Department staff to ensure that the largest population of students can have the privilege of raising a livestock project. Therefore, a selection system has been established and will be the guideline used to determine student participation in raising a livestock project (refer to item #10).

Feeders are limited to only one species per year and a maximum of 2 animals for that specie/pen. (i.e. only 2 pigs or 2 sheep, or 2 goats)

Exhibitors will be expected to exhibit at the Gillespie County Stock Show. Participation at the Hill District, Ft. Worth, San Antonio, San Angelo, Austin and Houston Livestock Shows are optional.

3. **Requirements to Participate in Livestock Shows**

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

- ❑ Be enrolled in an agriculture science class.
- ❑ Be a member in good standing of the Fredericksburg FFA Chapter. Livestock feeders must have their FFA dues paid in full within two weeks after the start of school.
- ❑ Attend all mandatory livestock meetings for the specific livestock project.
- ❑ Be passing **ALL** subjects at the time that eligibility is determined. If a student is ineligible to show due to grades, the animal is ineligible to show as well.
- ❑ Have paid entry fees on time and meet show requirements.
- ❑ Livestock in poor condition due to disease, injury or neglect will not be allowed to participate in livestock shows. The final decision will rest with the supervising teacher.

- ❑ Students will be allowed to participate in only those shows approved by the supervising teacher.
- ❑ Students will be responsible for all personal travel to and from all livestock shows. This may include the transporting of their livestock project.
- ❑ Exhibit the proper conduct while in attendance at livestock shows.
- ❑ The student will be responsible for all feeding, care and grooming of his/her livestock project while it is at the livestock show.
- ❑ It is the sole responsibility of the student to be familiar with all rules pertaining to his/her livestock project (i.e.: weight limits, entry requirements, age, etc.). This information may be obtained from the supervising teacher and/or www.fbgffa.org.

4. **Animal Cost**

The student is responsible for the initial cost of the animal as well as any expenses incurred while feeding and caring for the animal during the feeding period. This includes, but not limited to, feed costs, facility usage fees, entry fees, validation fees, transportation fees, and medical expenses.

5. **Facility Usage Fees**

Each livestock project that will be raised on the FISD Ag Center must pay a facility usage fee prior to the animal being housed on the complex. Additional pens may be acquired through approval from ag teachers. Extra pens will only be available after all animals are in the barns and extra pens are deemed available. At completion of the feeding period a \$25 deposit will be returned to the student if user has met all requirements throughout the year including end of year barn cleaning activities. Facility usage fees are evaluated on a yearly basis and are subject to change.

6. **Care of Livestock Projects**

Students will assume the full responsibility for the proper care of his/her livestock project. The student must provide good treatment, fresh and clean water and feed, and a clean pen for their livestock project on a **daily** basis. The **NEGLECT** of animals will **NOT** be tolerated and it will result in the student's immediate dismissal from the complex.

7. **Livestock Project Management**

Management Information: After a livestock project has been selected and put on feed, the supervising teacher will make available more detailed information on feeding, caring, grooming, and exercising of specific types of livestock. The student must attend mandatory livestock feeder's meetings for information and education on their specific livestock project.

Pen Assignments: Students will be assigned pens upon bringing a project into the facility. Students may not move, or expand pens for any reason, unless approved by the supervising teacher or farm manager.

Daily Care: It is the responsibility of the student to provide the following for their livestock project and the facilities every day (including weekends, holidays, etc.):

- ❑ Fresh feed for the livestock project (minimum of twice daily)
- ❑ Fresh water for the livestock project (clean water buckets or watering areas)
- ❑ Removal of manure, soiled areas, and debris from the pen and placed in designated area- (Not the trash cans)
- ❑ Waste must be placed up in the compost area and not allowed to spread over parking lot.
- ❑ Grooming of the livestock project
- ❑ Exercise of the livestock project
- ❑ Monitor the well-being of the livestock project
- ❑ Clean feed areas, alley ways, exercise areas (arena), wash racks, and grooming areas after each use
- ❑ Return all equipment to its proper storage place

Feed Areas: Each student will be provided with a space to utilize as a feed area. It is expected that the student keeps their feed area clean, organized (free from clutter), and secure (locked). The FISD Ag Department is not responsible for theft or damage of student property. All feed areas are subject to inspection at any time and combination codes or keys must be provided if requested by the supervising teacher.

Feeding: Feed will have to be purchased by the student. It will be expected that the student follows the supervising teacher's recommendations.

Medications / Additives: It is prohibited to administer any type of off-label or extra-label vaccine, medication, spray, feed additive or other substance internally or externally to any livestock project without veterinarian approval **and** awareness of the supervising teacher. All established withdrawal times for any administered product must be strictly followed.

Use of Livestock Equipment: Arrangements must be made prior to the use of any livestock equipment belonging to the FISD Ag Department. Any equipment lost, stolen, or destroyed while in the possession of a student or parent will be replaced at their expense. Use of livestock trailers and livestock transport cages may **only** be granted to parents that assist the FISD Ag Department staff in transporting livestock to designated events.

Records: The student will keep a system of records on all livestock projects that they raise. Students will receive instruction on an approved computerized record keeping system acknowledged by the FFA.

Disposition of Livestock: All livestock must be removed from the FISD Ag Center within two weeks from the end of the feeding period or per the guidelines set by the supervising teacher.

Non-Returning Students: Graduating seniors and/or students not intending to feed a livestock project for the following school year must remove all personal belongings (feed, storage containers, etc.) from the FISD Ag Department within two weeks from the last livestock show that they participated in. Failure to comply will result in the forfeiture of personal belongings to the FISD Ag Department and the student may be charged for the removal of the items.

Removal of Livestock: The FISD Ag Department reserves the right to remove any animal from the complex if any one of the following conditions exists:

- Animal abuse or neglect in any form.
- Diseased or infected animals.
- Animals that are unsafe to handle.
- Students failing to observe rules.
- Animals not being fed for show purposes.
- Student is no longer involved in the program.

Due Process for Removal of Livestock: The following process will be used if any conditions listed above warrant so:

1. Teacher / Student conference.
2. Teacher / Student / Parent conference.
3. Recommendation for action by the administration.
4. Removal of livestock from the complex at the student's expense.

Livestock Surgical Procedures: At times it may be necessary to perform surgical procedures on livestock. Whenever possible, a veterinarian will be used to perform the procedures. However, regardless of who does the procedure, the student and parent must realize there is always the possibility for complications. The owner must accept all risk of illness or death of the livestock project.

Removal of Deceased Livestock: Any swine, sheep, or goat projects that die while on the complex during the feeding period, will be removed by a professional rendering company. The cost of this removal will be the responsibility of the student.

Prohibited Practices: The following practices will not be allowed by students, parents, or guests to the FISD Ag Center:

- The use of electrical shock devices.
- The use of any motorized vehicle to exercise livestock projects.

8. **Additional Duties**

The safety, sanitation, and appearance of the FISD Ag Center are a priority. Students may be assigned additional duties on specific days. These activities will be coordinated through the supervising teacher. Those students who do not cooperate must remove their livestock projects from the center.

9. **Security**

The FISS Ag Center is supervised by the agriculture science teachers, high school administration, and Fredericksburg Police Department by physical monitoring and through the use of video surveillance. Exterior gates will be controlled by combination lock and facility entrances will be controlled by identification card scanners attached to walkthrough doors. It is the responsibility of all participants to conduct themselves in a proper manner and to report any security concerns to any of the above parties immediately. Access to the FISS Ag Center is only available between the hours of 7:00 am and 7:00 pm daily.

10. **Livestock Project Center Participant Selection System**

1. Potential livestock feeders must have the Feeders Contract turned in by established deadline and be determined to be a student of good standing within FISS.
2. If necessary the following selection process will be utilized: Once the Feeders Contract has been submitted and the student meets requirements then the student's name will be placed into a random draw. Names will be drawn until the pens are filled.

Priority system to be used:

- a. Students who have exhibited in the past who have subpar facilities
- b. Seniors will get their name placed in the draw 4 times.
- c. Juniors will get their name placed in the draw 3 times.
- d. Sophomores will get their name placed in the draw 2 times.
- e. Freshmen and Jr. FFA members will get their name placed in the draw 1 time.

I have read and understand the contents of this Livestock Feeders Rules and Regulations and agree to the conditions thereof. Remove this sheet and turn in with feeder's application and contract.

Student Name: _____

Student Signature

Date

Parent/Guardian Signature

Date

Ag Science Teacher Signature

Date