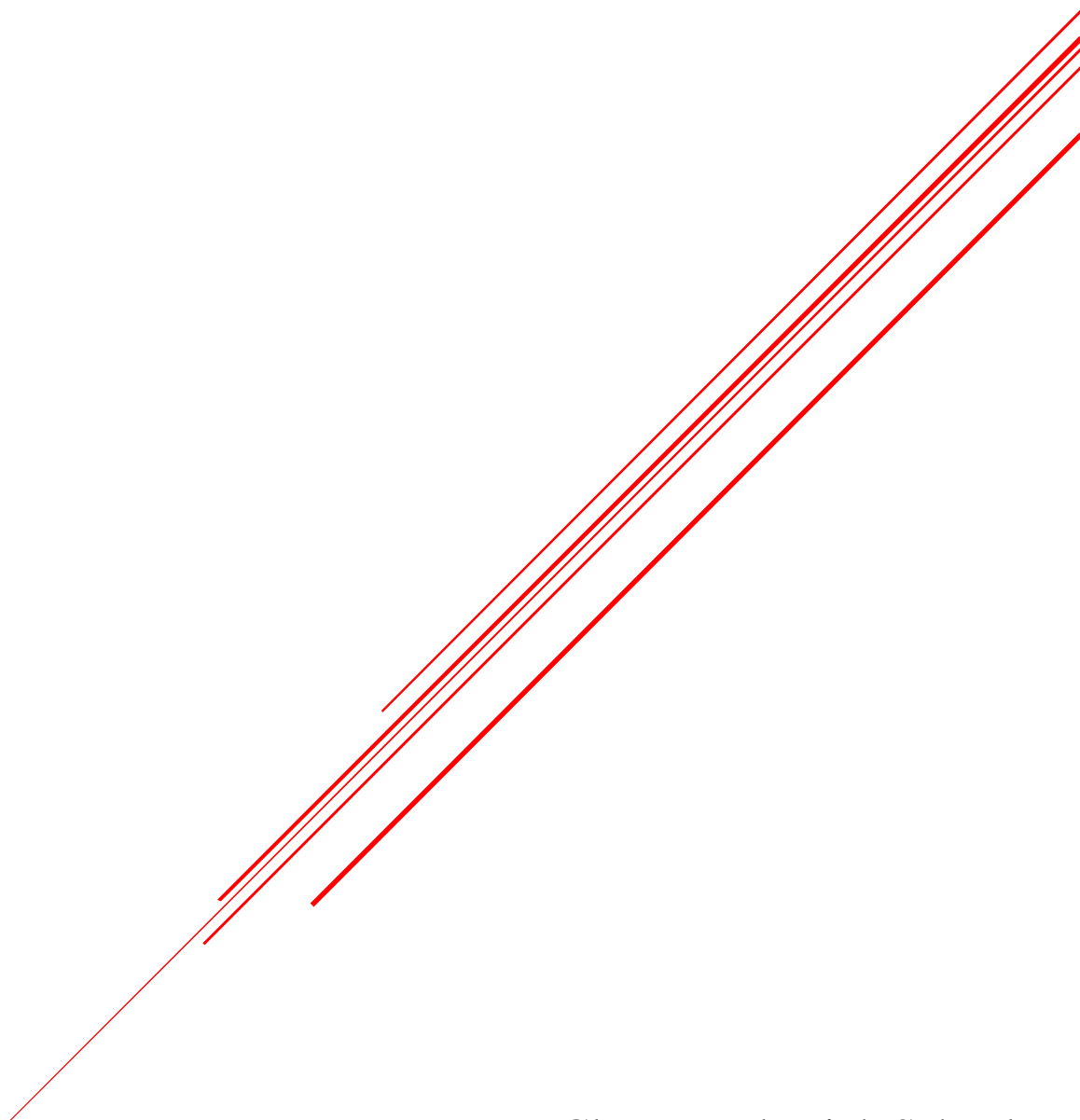


CLEAR BROOK FFA HANDBOOK

2021-2022



Clear Brook High School
FFA

Dear Students and Parents,

Welcome to the new school year, the Clear Brook FFA, and Clear Brook Agricultural Science Department. We are excited to see all of the new and returning students in our program and are looking forward to another successful year!

The Agricultural Science Program is based on a three-part model of education that consists of classroom instruction, Supervised Agricultural Experiences, and the FFA. Classroom agricultural education is extended to hands-on learning opportunities outside of the classroom, through Supervised Agricultural Experiences (SAEs). The National FFA Organization is a dynamic, student-led organization for students of agricultural education, and is the third piece of the 3-circle model. “The 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”. These lessons, skills, friendships, and experiences shape our members, and the benefits remain for their entire lives.

We hope that you will take full advantage of the FFA and become involved in our local chapter! Clear Brook FFA has something for everyone and we believe that it can be a life-changing experience for you. Our chapter is very diverse and offers a variety of opportunities and experiences for members to develop leadership skills, grow as individuals, and make great friends.

This handbook will serve as a guide for the school year and opportunities in Clear Brook FFA, and communicate information regarding FFA policies and procedures. As always, please feel free to reach out to an Ag Teacher or one of our FFA Chapter Officers if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

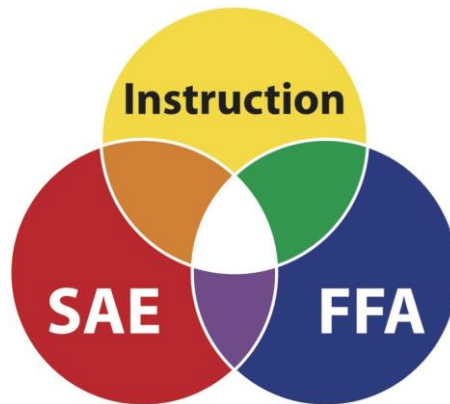
Ms. Nicole Nosrat

Ms. Bailey Beken

Ms. Riley Walton

Agricultural Education

The Agricultural Education Program is much more than a class. Classroom instruction gives students the knowledge and skills they need for success in today's world, and students get a chance to practice and apply these knowledge and skills in their Supervised Agricultural Experience Projects (SAE) and through the National FFA Organization. When the three parts are properly integrated, student education is maximized.



Supervised Agricultural Experiences

A SAE program is the actual, hands-on application of agricultural skills outside the classroom. Students are supervised by agricultural education teachers, parents, employers and other adults who assist them in the development and achievement of their educational and career goals. SAE is a time honored and tested form of work-based learning. An SAE program can be whatever the student wants it to be—an agricultural business of his/her own, a job shadowing experience, or placement in a paid or unpaid job using agriculturally-related skills and competencies.

The National FFA Organization

FFA was created in 1928 as the Future Farmers of America; the name was changed in 1988 to the National FFA Organization to represent the growing diversity of agriculture. The continued success of our student members remains the primary mission of FFA. Today, nearly one half-million student members are engaged in a wide range of agricultural education activities to develop their own unique talents and explore their interests in over 300 different career opportunities. We are still the Future Farmers of America, but we are the Future Doctors, Future Chemists, Future Veterinarians, Future Engineers and Future Entrepreneurs of America, too.

FFA Mission Statement

The 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

Clear Brook FFA Mission Statement

The Clear Brook FFA chapter is dedicated to making a change in the lives of its members through agricultural education and FFA membership, by demonstrating good sportsmanship, promoting personal growth, building leadership skills to impact others and encouraging each other to reach outside their comfort zone.

Membership Requirements

How to Become a Member

Each student who wants to join the FFA Chapter must pay membership dues of **\$15** each year they are enrolled in the chapter. This due covers the Chapter, State and National dues for the FFA. Once the dues are paid, students are able to compete in different FFA activities as well as show livestock under Clear Brook FFA. Membership dues are due by October 8th, 2021 to any Agriculture Science Teacher.

Membership Requirements

All students who are interested in becoming a Clear Brook FFA Member must follow the Clear Brook Code of Ethics, Clear Brook FFA Handbook, and Constitution and Bylaws set by the chapter members. Below are the requirements of each member of the Clear Brook FFA Chapter:

- ★ 0.5 or 1 credit of an Agricultural Education Course each year a student is enrolled as a member
- ★ Complete membership form and paid membership Dues
- ★ Students cannot miss more than 2 FFA monthly meetings each year.
- ★ Students and Parents must sign the Student Handbook at the beginning of the student membership each year, stating that they have read and agree to abide by the rules and guidelines set by the handbook for the Chapter.

Student Eligibility:

Here at Clear Brook, each FFA Member is under the “No Pass, No Play” in accordance with CCISD Policy. This means grade eligibility is checked before each event a student plans to attend, and the student should be in good academic standing with every class they are enrolled in.

Get Involved in FFA!

Leadership Development Events (LDEs) – August through December

Leadership Development Events focus on creating situations for members to demonstrate their abilities in public speaking, decision making, communication and their knowledge of agriculture and the FFA organization. Team and individual events are used to reinforce what is taught in agricultural science classrooms. All LDE events have elimination rounds at the district and area before the state level competition. <https://www.texasffa.org/lde>

Contests Include: Chapter Conducting, Creed Speaking, Radio Broadcasting, Public Relations, Job Interview, Quiz, Agriculture Advocacy, Agriculture Skills, and Agriculture Issues

Career Development Events (CDEs) – September through May

Career Development Events build on what is learned in agricultural classes and encourage members to put their knowledge into practice. These events are designed to help a member prepare for a career in agriculture by testing and challenging the student's technical, leadership, interpersonal and teamwork skills as well as their knowledge of the subject matter. CDEs answer the question, "When will I use this knowledge in the real world?" Many CDEs offer scholarship opportunities. <https://www.texasffa.org/cde>

Examples: Livestock Judging, Meats Evaluation, Nursery/Landscape, Range, Veterinary Medicine, Entomology, Floriculture, Marketing Plan, Poultry, Wildlife, and many more!

Speaking Events – April through June

Speaking Development Events are designed to develop the ability of all FFA members to express themselves on a given subject. Students are encouraged to develop their communication skills and learn to formulate their remarks for presentation in a variety of situations. <https://www.texasffa.org/speaking-events>

Examples: Prepared Public Speaking and Extemporaneous Speaking

Agriscience Fair

Students use the scientific process as they reinforce skills and principles they have learned in agriscience courses. They conduct research projects and prepare a scientific report and display for judging at the state level. State winners in each category and division are awarded \$1,000 scholarship and advance to the National FFA Agriscience Fair held in conjunction with the National FFA Convention. <https://www.texasffa.org/agriscience-fair>

Supervised Agricultural Experience (SAE's)

SAE's involve learning by doing through experiences tied to agricultural science curriculum, student aptitudes, interests, career and educational goals, and to the agricultural industry. Types of SAE's:

- **Entrepreneurship:** Own and operate an agricultural business with the goal of earning a profit. (e.g. raise animals or livestock, operate a lawn care service, poinsettia production and sales.)
- **Placement:** Gain experience/knowledge through paid or unpaid internships. (e.g. working at a farm supply store, florist shop, or riding stable or volunteering your time through an ag internship)
- **Research:** Plan and conduct a scientific experiment using the scientific process. (e.g. Determine whether the phases of the moon affect plant growth, or test and determine the efficacy of different welding methods.)

- **Foundational:** Designed primarily to help students become literate in agriculture and/or become aware of possible careers in the AFNR career cluster and results in the development of a plan to begin an SAE.

Livestock Projects (Entrepreneurship SAE's)

Raising a livestock project is both a huge time and financial commitment, but can be an extremely rewarding experience that teaches student responsibility, time-management, and record-keeping skills. Most Clear Brook FFA members that raise livestock projects exhibit their animals at the Clear Creek ISD Livestock Show and Auction in January. Students also raise animals for our county livestock shows in September and April. Additionally, students may exhibit animals at major livestock shows such as the Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo and San Antonio Livestock Exposition.

CBFFA members raising livestock projects are eligible to house their animals at the Clear Creek ISD West Agricultural Facility in Webster. Information about raising an animal for the 2022 CCISD Livestock Show & Auction will be discussed at a meeting on September 2nd at the West Ag Barn – 2155 W NASA Blvd Webster, TX 77598. Students interested in showing at county or major shows should talk to an ag teacher for more information.

Ms. Nosrat – Steers, Heifers, Poultry
 Ms. Beken – Swine
 Ms. Walton– Lambs, Goats, Rabbits

Community Service:

FFA is “Living to Serve!” The Clear Brook FFA Chapter seeks to give back to our community through different service opportunities that are held over the year. This last year, as a chapter we had a pet supplies drive for different humane societies in our local area. As a member of the chapter, you are expected to contribute to the efforts of these service events. Students can earn service hours for their participation, which go towards different degrees earned in FFA, and toward other clubs like National Honors Society, and even helping students get scholarships for their future education.

Degrees:

The FFA organization offers different awards known as FFA degrees for members as they move through their journey in the FFA. These degrees showcase the hard work and dedication of FFA members throughout their time in FFA programs and events.

- ★ **Greenhand FFA Degree:** Awarded to first year FFA members who have learned the basics of the FFA and its history, practiced parliamentary procedures, learned the FFA Creed, and have plans for an SAE project. Members earning the Greenhand Degree receive a bronze pin to wear on their FFA jacket and a certificate for their success.
- ★ **Chapter FFA Degree:** Awarded to second year FFA members who have actively participated in chapter activities such as community service, and continued working toward a successful SAE project. Chapter degree recipients receive a silver pin to wear on their FFA jacket and a certificate to celebrate their continued success in FFA.
- ★ **Lonestar FFA Degree (Texas FFA):** Awarded at the state level to FFA members who have met the requirements of the degree, as well as received their Greenhand, and Chapter Degrees. Lonestar Degree candidates must have kept an accurate record book in the Agriculture Experience Tracker (AET) and go through extensive degree checks at the district, area and state level. Members receiving their Lonestar Degree will walk across the stage at Texas FFA State Convention in front of thousands of FFA members to earn this high award.
- ★ **American FFA Degree:** Less than 1% of FFA members earn their American Degree at the National FFA Convention each year, making the American FFA degree a very special honor.

Members earning their American degree must continue their education and SAE projects post high school and meet extensive requirements.

Scholarships

The FFA and organizations involved in agriculture programs offer millions of dollars each year in scholarships to FFA members. Involvement in FFA events and activities is the number one key for success when applying for FFA scholarships. Do not wait until senior year to jump in, try new things and you will find your place in the FFA.

Scholarship Examples: Pasadena Livestock Show and Rodeo, Galveston County Fair and Rodeo, Farm Bureau, Texas FFA, National FFA, CBFFA Booster Club, Various Livestock shows and entities, Built Ford Tough Scholarship, and so many more.

Other FFA Opportunities

- Talent Team
- Chorus
- Band
- Art/Photography
- Homemaking
- Horticulture
- Floriculture
- Agricultural Mechanics

Letterman Jacket Points:

Students are required to keep up with all points earned in an Excel or Word document including dates (month/year). In addition, points will be kept track of via a binder in the ag building. Once students have reached 90 points, students may turn in their list of points to an Ag teacher for approval. We will order the jacket at 90 points, but will release the jacket to the student once they have reached 100 points. Students must also be free and clear of all discipline, fines, and fees. The point system is printed on the following pages.

Fundraising:

The FFA is an organization that offers many different opportunities for students to be able to compete in different team competitions and travel all around the state of Texas as well as has opportunities to travel nationwide. As a chapter, we would like to be able to fundraise enough in the fall and spring to be able to support these students in their events and activities, to be able to pay for entry fees, hotel costs, rental cars, and much more. Each member of the Clear Brook FFA Chapter is expected to help create, organize and help run the fundraisers, especially if students are on one of the competing teams. The more money the chapter raises each year, the more events we are able to take students too!

Travel Requirements:

LDE and CDE teams travel all over the state of Texas each year for different contests including invitationals, district, area, and state competitions. Students are required to pay entry fees, rental car cost, and hotel costs for contests they participate in. If students sign up for a contest, and do not attend the contest, the student will still be responsible for all costs. Students are also responsible for turning in the correct permission slip and emergency contact forms provided by the agriculture teacher.

UIL Absences:

From the CCISD FM (Regulation) Students: Student Activities - "The District shall allow a student a maximum of seventeen absences for participation in an extracurricular activity sponsored or sanctioned

by the District, UIL, or an organization sanctioned by the Board.” Students have 10 days for local or district level events / 5 post district advancement days / and 2 State qualifying days.

Event Rules:

Each Livestock Show, FFA Contest, Event, etc. has its own set of rules. As a FFA member participating in these events, it is important that you and a parent read the rules. Rules are posted on the website of the respective organizations and typically updated each year.

Parent Responsibilities and Expectations:

Your role as a parent is crucial to the success of our organization and students. Parents are expected to comply with the following:

- Review competition, livestock show, and contents of the CBFFA Handbook with your student.
- Ensure your child accurately completes and submits all entry or registration paperwork and other required forms on time.
- Refrain from the use of tobacco, alcohol, and profanity at all FFA competitions and/or livestock events.
- Support the decisions and instructions given by FFA advisors, show judges, and other officials at all FFA sponsored events.
- Provide positive support of your child and the entire FFA chapter.
- Ensure that your child is on time to all required meetings
- Ensure that your child complies with all CCISD district policies, the Student Code of Conduct, and FFA Handbook, practices, and procedures.
- Provide transportation and accommodations of child and animal to all stock shows.
- Ensure the student’s major or county show animal is validated and all validation rules have been followed. It is the responsibility of the parent to check for accuracy of the validation.
- Understand and respect that ASTs’ decisions and instructions are final. Any concerns should be addressed through the chain of command.
- Understand and respect that ASTs reserve the right to dismiss any student from a competition team or team based on eligibility, behavior, or improper care of animal.

All parents have the opportunity to join the Clear Brook FFA Booster Club to help support the chapter.

How to Order an FFA Jacket

First search for “Jacket Fitting Tools” on the National FFA website. It is very important that you follow the instructions to measure for a proper fitting jacket. After taking your measurements, view the sizing guides and go to shopffa.org and click to shop for an “official jacket.” Select for an official jacket or tailored jacket, based on the fitting guides.

Your Chapter number is: **TX0942**

Your Advisor's name: **Bailey Beken, Nicole Nosrat, or Riley Walton**
(it doesn’t matter which)

Front Line 1: **Your name (first and last)**

Front Line 2-4: leave blank

Back State Line: **Texas**

Back Chapter name: **Clear Brook**

Leave chapter name line 3 blank



Point System:

Clear Brook FFA will be working off of a point system similar to that which has been used in the past for letterman jackets. This point system will aid FFA members in record keeping and awards. The table of points can be found below.

1 Point	2 Points	3 Points	5 Points	10 Points
Chapter FFA Meetings	District LDE or SDE Contest	Area CDE or SDE Contest	FFA Fundraiser Participation	State CDE/LDE/SDE Contest
Barn Clean-ups	Participation in CCISD Livestock Show	Running for Chapter Office	Community Service Event/Project Participation	Earning the Lonestar FFA Degree
Committee Meetings	LDE/CDE Invitationals (per contest)	Placing top 10 individual in the CDE Invitationals or Area Contests	State Convention Attendee	State Convention Participant?
LDE/CDE Practice	Attending an FFA event above the chapter level (District or Area)	Participation at PLSR or GCFR	Elected to a Chapter Officer Position	Competing for a State Proficiency Award
Complete profile to 100% on AET	Earning a Star award at the Chapter level	Earning the Chapter FFA Degree	Major Livestock Show Participation	FFA Officer Position Above the Chapter Level
Attending the West barn progress show	Adding an SAE to AET and completing the SAE Plan	Complete journal hours in AET for FFA activities	Agriscience Fair Project Participant	Complete 100 Hours of Community Service
Earning an award at the FFA Awards Banquet	Participation in a Calf Scramble	Earning an Auction Spot at CCISD	Earning an Auction Spot at PLSR or GCFR	
Reciting the FFA Creed to an Ag Teacher.	Earning the Greenhand FFA Degree	Giving a 15 minute prepared speech for a group.	Placing Grand, Reserve, Species, Breed, or Overall at CCISD, PLSR, or GCFR	
Complete 10 Hours of Community Service	Complete 15 Hours of Community Service	Complete 25 Hours of Community Service	Complete 50 Hours of Community Service	

Clear Brook FFA Code of Ethics

(as stated in the National FFA Student Handbook)

We will conduct ourselves at all times in order to be a credit to our organization, chapter, school, and community by:

1. Develop my potential for premier leadership, personal growth and career success.
2. Make a positive difference in the lives of others.
3. Dress neatly and appropriately for the occasion.
4. Respect the rights of others and their property.
5. Be courteous, honest and fair with others.
6. Communicate in an appropriate, purposeful and positive manner.
7. Demonstrate good sportsmanship by being modest in winning and generous in defeat.
8. Make myself aware of FFA programs and activities and be an active participant.
9. Conduct and value a supervised agricultural experience program.
10. Strive to establish and enhance my skills through agricultural education in order to enter a successful career.
11. Appreciate and promote diversity in our organization.

In addition to these guidelines set out by our national organization, we will also meet and exceed the expectations of our CCISD extracurricular code of conduct:

1. Follow all school policies regardless of if we are at a local, district, area, state or national event. This includes the drug and alcohol policy. **We understand that students who do not adhere to school policies may be sent home at the expense of the parent.**
2. Students are expected to act appropriately at all times and respectfully. We understand that we are representing our chapter, school, and community to the best of our ability.
3. Students should plan to follow any given instructions from the chaperone without question.
4. Official dress prevents students from using foul language, wearing hats, or any other offensive behavior as deemed by supervising staff.
5. **Any discretion from these guidelines may result in immediate dismissal from the FFA activity at the family's expense.**

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF RECEIPT OF CLEAR BROOK FFA HANDBOOK 2021– 2022

My student and I accept responsibility for accessing, reading, and following the guidelines in the Clear Brook FFA Handbook. I understand that the CBFFA Handbook, CCISD Student Code of Conduct, and CCISD Agricultural Facility Guidelines and school district policies contain information that my student and I may need during the school year. My child will be held accountable for his/her behavior and will be subject to disciplinary consequences. If I have questions regarding the documents listed above, I should direct those questions to the appropriate Ag Science Teacher.

Student Printed Name

Student Signature

Parent Printed Name

Parent Signature

Date