

# **Leonard FFA Handbook**

## **Preface**

The Leonard FFA Handbook is planned as a guideline. It is not intended to be all-inclusive and does not supersede the policies set by the board of education or the Leonard High School student handbook. All rules henceforth listed are considered to be part of the handbook.

Agricultural Science is an elective course of study in the curriculum of Leonard High School. The instructional program is offered to students interested in animal science, ag-business, Ag mechanics, leadership, and judging contest and skill set.

The following pages contains some very important information that needs to be read carefully. Any pages that require a signature from a parent or guardian must be detached from this booklet, signed by the parent or guardian and returned to the AST before you can participate in any FFA competitions/shows.

Leonard ISD and campus administration reserve the right for discretionary interpretation of contents in this guide. Any disciplinary action or violation of this document will be at the sole discretion of Leonard ISD, following the Chain of Command.

### **Show Team Procedures for Leonard FFA**

Students who are paid FFA members in grades 8-12 and enrolled in an Ag science class at Leonard High School or are in grades 3-7 and are paid members of junior FFA are eligible to show livestock.

Leonard ISD sponsored shows will be limited to no more than five shows. The AST must accompany students to all school sponsored shows.

Weekend/Jackpot/Summer shows are at the discretion of the shower. The AST is not required to attend said shows.

All species will pen together at major shows meaning your animal will be penned with Leonard FFA animals and are not allowed to be moved to another area of the show to be penned with others. This is to assist monitoring of animals at all times by LISD AST.

All entries for major livestock shows must be filled out at the major livestock show meeting.

All entries must be paid in full the night of the major livestock show meeting. Failure to do so will result in not being entered for shows.

Once date is set if parent/guardian and/or student are unable to attend then all forms and monetary cost must be completed and turned in by the deadline set by the AST.

Each exhibitor will help others as needed unless they are busy with their own animal.

Everyone is expected to work as a team to load animals, tear down pens, weigh animals, etc. Leonard FFA works as a team to encourage and help one another, which means you are

expected to watch other student's show, etc. We will travel as a group as much as possible and work together to make it a positive experience for all the students. If there are extenuating circumstances where you cannot work with other FFA members, please communicate with sponsoring Ag Science teacher.

We should arrive as a team and leave as a team. Exhibitors should not leave early except in emergencies.

All students showing with the Leonard FFA are expected to follow the rules and guidelines of the major stock shows. All shows provide a catalog/guidelines book via their website. Should you violate a rule, you will be subject to the consequences.

Animals should be clipped and groomed as much as possible before they leave for the shows. Each Species Ag Science teacher will give instructions for their procedures and sign-up times.

All families are expected to make their own hotel arrangements.

Parents/students may be asked to leave any Leonard FFA sponsored event for any behavior misconduct including but not limited to aggressive or disrespectful behavior towards advisors, other parents, or students, or any behavior that brings discredit to our organization.

Students who choose to attend livestock shows outside of the designated school shows must follow all Leonard FFA, and show team guidelines as they still represent our organization.

Any decisions or instructions made by the species Ag Science teacher at a school-sponsored show are final. Any concerns should be addressed through the chain of command prior to leaving for an event.

## **Parent Responsibilities**

Parent Responsibilities: To help promote teamwork, good showmanship, and success, your assistance as a parent of the livestock show team is very important and valued.

Review show team guidelines, show rules, and contents of the Leonard FFA handbook with your child frequently.

Ensure your child accurately completes and turns in all registration paperwork, payment and other required forms on time.

Refrain from the use of tobacco, alcohol, and profanity at all FFA livestock events. Use of alcoholic beverages is forbidden on school property, including the Leonard ISD Ag Barn Facility. In addition, please remember that stock shows and other FFA events are family experience and also an extension of school grounds when attending under Leonard FFA. Adults are not allowed to consume or have in their possession alcoholic beverages in or around the primary/general areas of the livestock show team, including animal pens.

Support the decisions and instructions given by FFA advisors, show judges, and other officials at all FFA and livestock events.

Provide positive support of your child and the entire FFA livestock team.

Ensure that your student is on time to all required meetings and that they follow all show team contract guidelines.

Provide transportation and accommodations of students at all stock shows.

Parents/students may be asked to leave any Leonard FFA sponsored event for inappropriate misconduct, aggressive or disrespectful behavior towards advisors, other parents, students, or any behavior that brings discredit to our organization.

Any decisions or instructions made by the species Ag Science teacher at a school sponsored show are final. Any concerns should be addressed through the chain of command prior to leaving for an event or upon immediate return following an event.

Social Media: Any negative public comments (Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, etc.) may result in removal from the barn and/or the program pending any possible disruption to school setting. This decision shall be made by campus administration.

Conflict Resolution: Personality conflicts and personal disagreements will arise, but we encourage adults to resolve their issues between themselves in a mature manner. Public arguments at Leonard ISD FFA functions and facilities (meetings, stock shows, Ag barn, etc.) will not be tolerated. Such situations may result in one or both parties being ejected from the area and the future participation of that person and/or the student may be in jeopardy. Please refer to the Chain of Command when needing to address any conflicts that arise.

## **Leonard Independent School District Livestock Show Rules & Guidelines**

Membership on the Leonard ISD FFA Show Team is considered a privilege; therefore, the following rules must be followed. Any Leonard ISD FFA member is expected to follow the guidelines of this handbook, Student Code of Conduct, and extracurricular guidelines. Any FFA event is considered an extension of the Leonard Independent School District and therefore all participating students must be actively enrolled in a LISD school to participate.

Any Ag Science Teacher supervising a species has sole discretion to adjust, amend or add additional expectations as deemed important for the success of his or her program and upon approval from the AST and campus administration.

The stock show experience is fast-paced and requires a lot of hard work on the part of everyone involved. To have a successful, positive experience, everyone must work as a team.

The beginning of the FFA Creed begins with the statement "I believe in the future of agriculture with a faith born not of words, but of deeds..." With that being said, it is important to

understand that honesty and integrity is at the forefront of the Leonard FFA. Any student that shows or works with the Leonard FFA is expected to be honest and fair in the game of life.

## **LEONARD ISD SPONSORED LIVESTOCK SHOWS**

Sponsored shows for 2018-19 will be limited to no more than 5 shows. All of these are school sponsored and will be at the discretion of the species Ag Science teacher. The Ag Science teacher must accompany students to all sponsored LISD livestock events and shows.

Weekend/Jackpot/Summer shows will be determined at the discretion of the species Ag Science teacher and LISD approval.

For the 2018-19 school year, students may participate in TJLA shows with prior approval from species Ag Science teacher if not sponsored by the species Ag Science teacher. In addition, students must adhere to expectations listed under "Jackpot Shows". For 2018-19 school year, parents/students can attend additional "Jackpot shows" on their own but will need to comply with the following if showing under Leonard FFA chapter: Gain permission from species Ag Science teacher at least 2 weeks in advance. If proper notice is not given, species Ag Science teacher has the right to refuse. Must have shown the animal at least once with the species Ag Science teacher present. Supply your own means of transportation; truck, trailer, cage, etc. The use of LISD equipment such as fans, blower, show boxes, drench guns, mats, etc. must have approval from the Ag Science teacher.

Shows the AST will attend are the following:

Fannin County Fair  
Fort Worth Livestock Show  
San Angelo Livestock Show  
San Antonio Livestock Show  
Houston Livestock Show

## **Terms, Conditions and Consequences**

REMINDER any terms and conditions are subject to change. All contents of this manual are at the sole discretion of campus administration and AST. This document will be kept updated and located on the LISD district website. It will be the responsibility of students and parents to utilize the district website to obtain and/or refer to the most current version of this document.

The Agriculture Program reserves the right to remove any animal from the facilities 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 and/or parents failing to observe rules, Animals not being fed for show purposes, Student is no longer involved in the program, Student expelled or withdrawn from LISD, Student Place in DAEP (Alternative Education Program).

If the student fails to abide by any of the above-mentioned rules or guidelines set forth in this document and other Leonard ISD district policy, actions can be taken to remove the animal and/or ban any future Agriculture facility privileges. The student is subject to disciplinary action for failure to comply with these rules/guidelines.

### **Leonard ISD Ag Science Project Center (Ag Barn Facility)**

All AST's are responsible for enforcing rules and guidelines set forth in the LISD FFA Handbook surrounding the use of the Ag Barn Facility. The guidelines pertain to students, parents, and teachers who are associated with the LISD FFA program.

Any person using the Ag barn facilities MUST have on file with the school a volunteer application. (This excludes students)

Any maintenance or repairs needed, must be reported to the AST immediately.

All students will help keep the trash etc. cleaned up on the farm. Especially feed sacks, drink cups, bottles, etc. that are brought by the student.

All pens are to be kept neat and clean. When removing bedding, manure etc. from pens, it is to be spread over the pasture, out away from the pens and not just piled outside the pen. This must be done no less than once per week but daily if needed.

The up keep of the pen is the responsibility of the student. The pen should be kept in such order that the animals will stay in their pen and not be allowed to roam the pasture.

Each student will feed and water their animals twice per day.

The Gate is to be kept closed at all times and the last person that leaves the farm is responsible for closing and locking the front gate.

Projects without feed or with unsatisfactory pen/area conditions for prolonged periods of time will result in removal of the project from the student.

THE CONSEQUENCES FOR NOT FOLLOWING THE ABOVE RULES WILL RESULT IN THE ANIMAL BEING REMOVED FROM THE AG. FARM WITHIN SEVEN (7) DAYS FROM THE TIME OF NOTIFICATION OF ANY INFRACTION.

### **Amendments**

The Ag Science Teacher and campus administration reserve the right to change or amend the contents of this document. All contents within this document are at the discretionary interpretation of Leonard ISD campus administration and AST. This document will be kept updated and located on the LISD district website. It will be the responsibility of teachers, students and parents to utilize the district website to obtain and/or refer to the most current version of this document.

**RECEIPT OF Leonard FFA STUDENT HANDBOOK**

**ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF 2018 - 2019 Leonard ISD FFA STUDENT HANDBOOK**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Student Name

\_\_\_\_\_  
ID #

\_\_\_\_\_  
Student Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Parent Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_ My student and I accept responsibility for accessing, reading and following the guidelines in the Leonard ISD FFA Student Handbook. My student and I are fully aware the Leonard ISD FFA Student Handbook located on the Leonard ISD website is the most current and applicable document.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Student Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Parent Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date