

OPPORTUNITIES AVAILABLE FOR AGRICULTURE SCIENCE STUDENTS AND FFA MEMBERS

As a student enrolled in the MISD Agriculture Science Program, your child has the opportunity to become a member of the FFA chapter. This is a group of young people who use agriculture to learn leadership, speaking and communication skills, teamwork, responsibility, along with animal science techniques. While the group is based in agriculture, there are many activities to get involved with that do not require working with animals or agriculture in the traditional sense.

In the fall, FFA members compete in leadership development events such as skills demonstrations, agricultural issues forums, parliamentary procedure, public relations, job interviews, and many other speaking type events. Animal projects are also started in the fall months.

As we get to spring time, FFA members start to prepare for career development events. These include: livestock evaluation, wildlife management, poultry evaluation, dairy products identification, dairy cattle evaluation, sales and service, and several more speaking events such as prepared public and extemporaneous speaking. During the spring FFA members travel to many locations throughout the state for competitions. January through March also brings several stock shows for animal project competition. Each year MISD FFA members bring home thousands of dollars in prize money from these shows.

As the end of school comes FFA members can begin work on Agriscience Fair Projects for competition at the State Convention held each summer. Students can compete in several categories of scientific research for the opportunity to win scholarships and qualify for national competition.

Through the years agricultural education has changed from training young men for a career in farming to a dynamic, progressive way to teach all students the value of leadership and teamwork to achieve success. Agriculture is THE MOST important industry in the world – without our ability to feed our people, the United States would not be the world power it is. While very few young people will ever grow up to be farmers and ranchers, there are many career opportunities available to them that fit into the agriculture category. It is our sincere hope that your student will take full advantage of the unbelievable activities available through these courses and the FFA organization.