



GCFFA

Grapevine-Colleyville FFA
Guidebook 2017-2018





Grapevine-Colleyville FFA

Welcomes all students to be a part of the largest student lead organization in the world!



The Advisors of the Grapevine-Colleyville FFA encourage membership from everyone - regardless of background, experience, career or future goals, because membership and participation in the FFA lays a strong foundation of leadership and responsibility upon which any dream can be built.

"Many people may not realize there are more than 200 different agriculture-related careers out there for our young people to explore. Agriculture today is technically advanced, diverse, efficient and innovative. It takes a close partnership with education to grow the knowledge and skills necessary to produce the clothes we wear, the houses we live in, the food we eat, the medicines that heal us and the energy that powers our lives."

Todd Staples, Commissioner of Agriculture

GCISD FFA Communication Connections

Advisors:

Heather Bemenderfer - heather.bemenderfer@gcisd.net

Taylor McGrew - taylor.mcgrew@gcisd.net

- **Text Reminders:** Text @9ae88 to 682-237-8297
- **Website:** grapevine-colleyville.ffanow.org
- **Twitter:** @gcffareporter
- **Facebook:** Grapevine-Colleyville FFA



2017-2018 GCFFA Officer Team

President: Cort Ewing

Vice President: Hannah Gallegos

Secretary: Brenna Casella

Treasurer: Sydney Turgeon

Reporter: Madison Klein

Sentinel: Cristine Trimmer

Student Advisor: Matthew Vance

Leadership is provided by student officers who are elected each year by the chapter's members, and by the agriculture teachers who serve as advisors for the chapter.

Tell Me More About FFA



What is FFA?

"Future Farmers of America" was founded by a group of young farmers back in 1928. Their mission was to prepare future generations for the challenges of feeding a growing population. They taught us that agriculture is more than planting and harvesting-- it's a science, it's a business and it's an art. In 1988 the official name of the organization was changed from "Future Farmers of America" to "**The National FFA Organization**" to reflect the growing diversity of agriculture. We use the acronym GCFFA for our local chapter.

FFA continues to help the next generation rise up to meet those challenges by helping its members to develop their own unique talents and explore their interests in a broad range of career pathways. So today, **we are still the Future Farmers** of America. But, we are the Future **Biologists**, Future **Chemists**, Future **Veterinarians**, Future **Engineers** and Future **Entrepreneurs of America**, too.

THE FFA MISSION - 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.

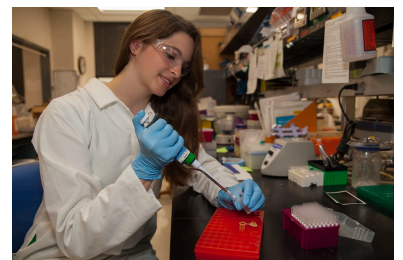
What is the structure of the FFA?

FFA is structured on three levels: local, state and national. FFA programs are funded through sponsorships and private donations from the local, state and national level. The local membership fees includes membership at the state and national level. Members are eligible for programs offered at all levels.



The **Texas FFA Association** operates programs which support the work of local chapters. These programs include membership operations, competitive events, scholarship and awards programs, student leadership operations, annual state convention and statewide trademark licensing.

According to the U.S.
Department of
Agriculture,
23 million jobs
in the U.S.
encompassing over
300
careers, exist in
the field of
agriculture.



The FFA Motto

Learning to Do, Doing to Learn, Earning to Live, Living to Serve

Does everyone have to raise an animal in FFA?

No, livestock projects are very popular, but there are many options: placement in an agricultural job, internships, experimental work in agri-science, horticultural projects and crop projects are just a few. There are also **Supervised Agricultural Experience (SAE)** programs available. An SAE is a project or enterprise that gives members hands-on training and a chance to apply what is learned in the classroom.



Is Western wear a requirement?

Western wear is popular among many FFA members, but is definitely not a requirement. FFA members come with all kinds of styles and interests. What brings FFA members together is a common interest in agriculture, leadership and community service. While working in the Ag Barn, most members wear rubber/waterproof boots and comfortable clothing that is easy to move around in and get dirty. During stock shows, many opt for a dressier look where showmanship and animal behavior are judged.

What's up with blue corduroy jacket?

The blue corduroy jacket was adopted as the official dress after the Fredericktown, Ohio chapter had the blue jackets made for their local chapter in 1933 and came to the National FFA convention wearing them. The delegates at that convention voted to make that the official jacket, and they have been part of the official uniform ever since.



Uniforms are not required to be part of the GCFFA. However, there are some situations where uniforms are required, such as if the member is an officer or attending an official FFA event (excluding livestock shows) or certification class where uniforms are required by the state or national level. The Advisors will inform the members of situations where uniforms are required. Wearing the uniform to monthly member meetings is encouraged!



What is the difference between 4-H and FFA?

We do many of the same things and have lots in common. The 4-H is part of the cooperative extension service and is coordinated by local extension agents through county government and by volunteers. 4-H is not limited to agriculture, but takes in things like family and consumer sciences and other areas as well.

FAQ's about GCFFA



What kind of work is required in raising livestock?

The work involved in raising a barn animal depends on the specific animal type. Overall, animals must be cared for daily, sometimes 2-3 times a day— which includes **feeding, bathing, medical treatments, exercising, training and cleaning the living area** of the animal. You will learn how to care for your animal from your Advisors and Ag classes. The rewards you gain from raising your barn animal are priceless.

Fun Facts!

44% of all FFA members are female; women hold approximately 50% of state leadership positions.



As a parent, how much time is expected of me if my child decides to raise livestock?

You can give as little or as much time as you and your student feel is necessary. While the FFA experience is designed for your student, it's helpful to become familiar with the duties and responsibilities that a project entails and be willing to hold your child accountable. The bigger the animal, likely the more family involvement is needed.

How often is the FFA member required to go to the Ag Barn at GHS?

With livestock, you will need to care for your animal **daily**. However, the barn is used by all of GCFFA. In order to help keep the barn clean and free of rodents, bugs, disease, infections, etc., EVERY Monday 4 to 6pm is Barn Clean Up Day and every member with a project at the barn is expected to participate in the Monday cleanings.

GCFFA by the Numbers

In 2016-2017, 60 of our students from schools all over GCISD raised 7 lambs, 6 goats, 14 rabbits, 1 chicken, 6 steers, 25 heifers and 27 pigs!



Friends of Grapevine Colleyville FFA

Who are the Friends of Grapevine Colleyville FFA?

Friends of GCFFA play a very important part in keeping agricultural education and FFA programs in our local schools.

The GCFFA relies on us to:

- garner support from our local communities
- raise funds for chapter activities and scholarships
- assist at FFA leadership camps and conferences and much more.

You don't have to be a former FFA member to support FFA, agriculture education and the future of agriculture ... in fact, this is a new experience for many of us! **Previous experience in FFA is definitely NOT required.**



2017-2018 Friends of GCFFA Officers

President: Kristie Gallegos - kristiegg@hotmail.com

Vice President: Lorri Singleton - lorrisingleton@sbcglobal.net

Secretary: Dawn Turgeon - dawnturgeonrdh@yahoo.com

Treasurer: Cathryn Wells - cathryn.wells@hotmail.com

Committee Members

Marketing

Christi Trimmer - christi.trimmer@gmail.com

Cory Klein - rcsmklein@verizon.net

Julee Vorachard - julee.vorachard@gcisd.net

Fundraising

Anne Magee - anne@dfwon-site.com

Open Barn

Stacy Blaxton - stacyblaxton@gmail.com

Brandi Gilbreath - brandigilbreath@att.net

Barn Sanitation

Beverly Ward - beverly.wa@icloud.com

Friends of GFFA Communication Connections

- **Website:** grapevine-colleyville.ffanow.org (select Friends of GCFFA in tabs)
- **Twitter:** @gcffafriends
- **Facebook:** Friends of Grapevine Colleyville FFA



Friends of GCFFA - What we do

Friends of GCFFA Dues : \$25 individual/\$40 per family. October 15th deadline.

Offset Cost of Projects

Just like the cost of any other sport or clubs, there's a financial commitment that goes along with the projects of the FFA - livestock and horticulture. In order to offset some of those costs, the Friends of GCFFA hosts fundraisers throughout the year to help supplement the GCFFA budget.

Purchase Equipment and Supplies

The Friends of GCFFA work in tandem with the Advisors to purchase equipment and supplies not covered by the GCISD Agri-Sciences budget.

Scholarships

FFA members in their senior year are eligible to apply for scholarships. The scholarship amounts vary depending on the amount of money raised for the scholarship fund and the number of FFA members who apply.

Support Team

Volunteers are always needed to help with the fundraisers that we hold throughout the year. Dates and details of fundraisers are communicated via email, texts, social media, & FFA Website.

If you wish to volunteer, please contact any of the Friends of GCFFA Officers or Committee members.

Our group usually meets monthly on the same night as the FFA members. The meetings provide an open forum for the exchange of ideas and improvements for the FFA program to provide a top notch FFA program for our kids.



Friends of GCFFA - continued



We're always looking for new ways to raise funds for FFA!

Annual Fundraisers

- Grapefest Parking Lot/Gate Fundraiser (Sept) \$3,500
- Open Barn Silent Auction & Dinner (November) \$3,500
- Pig Raffle (March) \$2,500
- Main Street Days Parking Lot/Gate (May) \$2,500

Purchases/Funding (previous years)

- Barn Supplies (Tools, Wheel barrows, Water Troughs, Hay Ring, etc)
- Barn, Fence and Pasture Repairs
- Leadership Camps Fees for Officers
- Open Barn & Banquet Tickets for Supporters
- Teacher/Advisor needs (class rooms, contests, supplies, travel, etc)
- Show Supplies (matching feed pans, water buckets, halters, etc)
- Panels & GCFFA Signs for Shows & Displays
- County Show Sponsorship (Belt Buckles)
- General Support of the FFA Program Needs



FFA Membership

There is a **Membership Fee** to become an official FFA member, as well as additional costs depending on the extent of the member's involvement. For those members raising animals, there will be costs associated with each animal type, including the purchase of the animal. We've put together a list of expenses, though not exhaustive, based on previous years of experience of raising a show animal for FFA.

FFA Membership fee: \$30.00 per school year/\$25 for Jr Member



- Black skirt - Skirt is to be at least knee length, hemmed evenly across the bottom, with a slit no longer than 2 inches above the knee, excluding the kick pleat
- White collared blouse & Official FFA blue scarf (\$10.00 per scarf)
- Black dress shoes with a closed heel and toe (no boots, sandals, open-toed shoes, tennis shoes)
- Black nylon hosiery
- Official FFA jacket zipped to the top. (approx. \$60.00)
- Black Slacks may be appropriate for traveling and outdoor activities.



- Black dress pants (no jeans - blue or black, leather, pleather, etc.)
- White dress shirt & Official FFA tie (\$12.50 for tie)
- Black dress shoes with a closed heel and toe. (no boots, sandals, open-toed shoes, tennis shoes)
- Black socks
- Official FFA jacket zipped to the top (approx. \$60.00)

FFA Uniform (Official Dress): Costs will vary depending on specific needs.

There are many factors that can affect the total cost of raising livestock. These lists are meant only to give you and your student a general understanding of the investment that you are about to make. Talk to a FFA member or Friends of GCFFA Member about their experience.

Starter Supply Lists

Swine

Approx Cost

Purchase of Animal—various breeds

\$300—\$1000

Daily/Weekly

Shavings (Plan on 2-3 bales to begin, then 1 bale a week)

\$8-10 each

Feed (expect cost to increase as animal matures)

~\$25 bag

Barn Supplies (Troughs, soaps, heat lamps, buckets, etc.)

~\$75

Show Supplies

~\$50

Not Required, but nice to have:

Rubber/Rain Boots

\$25

Baby Wipes

\$2

Supplements, optional but can be helpful

\$30-80



Lamb

Approx Cost

Purchase of Animal—various breeds

\$300—\$1,000

Daily / Weekly

Feed 50 lb bag (expect cost to increase as animal matures)

\$20—\$25 bag

Shavings (Plan on 2-3 bales to begin, then 1 bale a week)

\$8-10 each

Barn Supplies (Troughs, soaps, heat lamps, buckets, etc.)

~\$100

Not Required, but nice to have:

Rubber/Rain Boots

\$25

Baby Wipes

\$2

Supplements, optional but can be helpful

\$30-80

Goats

Approx Cost

Purchase of Animal—various breeds

\$300- \$1000

Daily/Weekly

Shavings (Plan on 2-3 bales to begin, then 1 bale a week)

\$8-10 each

Feed (expect cost to increase as animal matures)

~\$25 bag

Barn Supplies (Troughs, soaps, heat lamps, buckets, etc.)

~\$100

Show Supplies

~\$50

Not Required, but nice to have:

Rubber/Rain Boots

\$25

Baby Wipes

\$2

Supplements, optional but can be helpful

\$30-80



Heifers/Steers

Approx Cost

Purchase of Animal—various breeds, many factors

See Advisors for info

Daily/Weekly

Hay - Square Bales for Pen

\$8.00-\$12.00 per bale

Feed (expect cost to increase as animal matures)

~\$15 bag

Barn Supplies (Necktie, Feed Pans, Buckets, Brushes, Conditioners, etc) * *Long Hair Cattle do have additional grooming expenses*

~\$150

Show Supplies (Halter, Show Stick, Number Harness, etc)

\$75

Show Box

See Advisors for info

Fan/Mister (long hair primarily)

\$100-\$300

Blower (optional)

\$200-\$300

Not Required, but nice to have:

Rubber/Rain Boots

\$25

Supplements, optional but can be helpful

Prices Vary

Spring Semester Animals

Poultry

A 6-8 week commitment. Raised for County Show only. Talk to Advisors for details. More information to be updated on the FFA website.

Rabbits

An 8-10 week commitment. Raised for County Show only. Talk to Advisors for details. More information to be updated on the FFA website.



TCJLS Youth Fair

Students can participate at the County Youth Fair in March with Agricultural mechanics projects, art, baked goods, crafts, decorated cakes, leatherwork photography & sewing/handwork. Talk to Advisors for details.



**An important note from GCISD Administration about Volunteers
AND any parent/adult assisting on a GCISD campus:**

ALL parents/adults helping out with GCFFA on the GHS campus or in the Ag Barn (as it is part of the GHS campus) must register as a Volunteer with Grapevine-Colleyville ISD. You can use this web link to get registered ...it takes less than 1 minute!

<http://www.gcisd-k12.org/site/Default.aspx?PageID=474>

If you will be entering the school building during school hours, you will need to buzz in at the door and check in at the front office first. Be prepared to show your government issued ID (driver's license, etc.)

Following GCISD's higher security focus and diligence in following procedure, the Friends of GCFFA are required to request every volunteer be approved prior to entering the GHS campus. The Raptor security software being used by all GCISD Schools positively identifies every visitor who enters the campus. This is to ensure the visitor has legitimate business at the school and so that the school has an accurate accounting of who is in the building in case of emergency. The system also provides an added security feature that is used to screen visitors against a national sex offender database and other legal processes.

Please refer to the GCISD website for more information about the Volunteer process or to have a better understanding of the Raptor check in system.

www.gcisd-k12.org