



Medina Valley ISD
Agriculture Science & FFA Program Handbook
2021-2022

Medina Valley High School

8449 FM 471 South
Castroville, Texas 78009
(830) 931-2243

Agriculture Science Teachers and FFA Advisors

Eric Davis - eric.davis@mvisd.org
Rodger Welch - rodger.welch@mvisd.org
Kyla Williamson - kyla.williamson@mvisd.org
Callie Riff - callie.riff@mvisd.org

mvhs.ffanow.org
facebook.com/medinavalleyffa
follow Medina Valley FFA on Instagram at @mvffa1969
text 81010 the message @mvffa1969 for Remind 101

MEDINA VALLEY ISD NON-DISCRIMINATION STATEMENT

Public Notification of Nondiscrimination in Career and Technical Education Programs

Medina Valley I.S.D. offers career and technical education programs in Agriculture; Architecture & Construction; A/V Technology; Business Management & Administration; Finance; Health Science; Human Services; Law & Public Safety; Science, Technology, Engineering & Mathematics; Transportation; and Career Orientation. Admission to these programs is based on student interests.

It is the policy of Medina Valley I.S.D. not to discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex or handicap in its vocational programs, services or activities as required by Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, as amended; Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972; and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended.

It is the policy of Medina Valley I.S.D. not to discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, handicap, or age in its employment practices as required by Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, as amended; Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972; the Age Discrimination Act of 1975, as amended; and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended.

Medina Valley I.S.D. will take steps to assure that lack of English language skills will not be a barrier to admission and participation in all educational and vocational programs.

For information about your rights or grievance procedures, contact the Title IX Coordinator at 8449 FM 471 South, Castroville, Texas 78009, (830) 931-2243 ext. 1107, and/or the Section 504 Coordinator, Stefanie Keller-Perkins, at 8449 FM 471 South Castroville, Texas 78009, (830) 931-2243 ext. 1179.

Distrito Escolar de Medina Valley
Programa de Educación de Carreras Técnicas

Notificación Pública de No Discriminación en el programa de Educación de Carreras Técnicas

El Distrito de Medina Valley I.S.D. ofrece programas de carreras técnicas en Agrícola, Arquitectura y Construcción; Tecnología Audio Visual; Administración y Dirección de Empresas; Finanzas; Ciencias de la Salud; Servicios Humanos; Leyes y Seguridad Pública; STEM (Ciencia, Tecnología, Ingeniería & Matemáticas); y Orientación de Carreras. La admisión a estos programas se basa sobre los intereses del estudiante.

Es norma del Distrito de Medina Valley ISD no discriminar por motivos de raza, color, origen nacional, sexo o impedimento, en sus programas, servicios o actividades vocacionales, tal como lo requieren el Título VI de la Ley de Derechos Civiles de 1964, según enmienda; el Título IX de las Enmiendas en la Educación, de 1972, y la Sección 504 de la Ley de Rehabilitación de 1973, según enmienda.

Es norma del Distrito de Medina Valley ISD no discriminar por motivos de raza, color, origen nacional, sexo, impedimento o edad, en sus procedimientos de empleo, tal como lo requieren el Título VI de la Ley de Derechos Civiles de 1964, según enmienda; el Título IX de las Enmiendas en la Educación, de 1972, la ley de Discriminación por Edad, de 1975, según enmienda, y la Sección 504 de la Ley de Rehabilitación de 1973, según enmienda.

El Distrito de Medina Valley ISD tomará las medidas necesarias para asegurar que la falta de habilidad en el uso del inglés no sea un obstáculo para la admisión y participación en todos los programas educativos y vocacionales.

Para información sobre sus derechos o procedimientos para quejas, comuníquese con el Coordinador del Título IX en 8449 FM 471 South, Castroville, Texas 78009, (830) 931-2243 ext. 1107, y/o el Coordinador de la Sección 504, Stefanie Keller-Perkins, en 8449 FM 471 South, Castroville, Texas 78009, (830)931-2243 ext. 1179.

OPPORTUNITIES AVAILABLE FOR AGRICULTURE SCIENCE STUDENTS AND FFA MEMBERS

As a student enrolled in the Medina Valley Agriculture Science Program, your child has the opportunity to become a member of the Medina Valley FFA chapter. This is a group of young people who use agriculture to learn leadership, speaking and communication skills, teamwork, responsibility, and technical skills. While the FFA is based in agriculture, there are many activities to become a part of that do not require working with animals or agriculture.

In the fall FFA members compete in FFA Leadership Development Events (LDEs) such as Skills Demonstrations, Agricultural Advocacy, Parliamentary Procedure, Public Relations, Job Interview, and many other speaking and leadership type events. Most animal projects are also started in the fall or summer months and are called FFA Supervised Agricultural Experiences (SAEs).

During the spring time FFA members start to prepare for Career Development Events (CDEs) or also known as judging season. The speaking competitions take place in late spring and are called Speaking Development Events (SDEs). FFA members travel to many locations throughout the state for competitions in the spring. January through March also brings several livestock shows for animal project competition. Each year Medina Valley FFA members bring home thousands of dollars in prize money and scholarships from these shows and contests.

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 the ability to feed people, the United States would not be the world power it is. The FFA also offers many large scholarships for highly active members.

It is our sincere hope that your student will take full advantage of the unbelievable activities available through these courses and the FFA organization. There is an opportunity for every type of student in the FFA. We would like to encourage both the student and parent to join our text reminder group for the FFA. Text @mvffa1969 to 81010 to join and receive reminders about important information. We are looking forward to a great year!

Thank you,

Kyla Williamson
Eric Davis
Rodger Welch
Callie Riff

GENERAL RULES

Each student enrolled in an agriculture science class is encouraged to join the Local, District, Area and National FFA Organization (FFA). Dues are \$20 per year and must be paid by Friday, October 1st, 2021. Students who do not join FFA are not eligible to participate in any FFA activity, judging contest, livestock show, or for scholarship consideration. All members are encouraged to attend all FFA meetings and activities. Parents are also encouraged to join and participate in booster club activities. Any student with frequent discipline issues can be removed from the program if they are involved with ISS or DAEP. Students must be University Scholastic League eligible to compete in any component of the Medina Valley FFA. In order to be a FFA member, students at Medina Valley High School must enroll in at least one AFNR course per semester each school year.

LIVESTOCK PROJECTS

Students enrolled in the Agriculture Science Program are eligible to participate in the livestock project program. Students may purchase animal projects to care for during the school year and exhibit those animals at stock shows. Students may keep the projects at the Medina Valley FFA Project Center (our school farm) or in most cases the animal can be kept at home. These projects allow students to take on responsibility while having the opportunity to practice the skills learned in class and maybe even earn a little money. Animal projects are not mandatory so the following questions should be considered when determining if a student will participate in the animal project part of the program:

- Can the student or parent afford the project?
- Where will the project be kept?
- Will the student have transportation to and from the animal for care?
- Does the student have means of transporting the animal(s) to and from events?
- Is the student able to care for the animal the entire length of the project? Holidays? Weekends?

Please keep in mind animal projects are a gamble and can become a total monetary loss. Animals can be hurt, fatally injured, or become sick and not recover. The risk can be reduced by hard work, proper management, and desire to learn and apply knowledge.

PURCHASING OF LIVESTOCK PROJECTS

The selection and purchase of an animal project is a cooperative effort involving the student, parent, and teacher. The purchase of projects should be coordinated with the teacher before projects are selected and purchased. The student and parent are responsible for all costs associated with the livestock project. Projects purchased must meet the requirements of the show intended. The teacher will assist in providing the necessary information regarding the care and grooming of projects for each show. In the event a check is returned for non-sufficient funds, only cash or a cashier's check will be accepted for project payment.

The student and parent is responsible for:

- The daily care of their project.
- Informing the teacher regarding any problems and/or progress of the project.
- The entry and validation fees needed for all stock shows.
- The payment of feed, animal costs, and veterinary care.
- Attendance at all mandatory barn clean ups from start to finish.
- Cleanliness of individual pen and barn.

The agriculture science teacher is responsible for:

- Any problems that may occur with the animal project during normal working hours. The teacher is not required to make emergency calls after hours for the purpose of treating sick or injured animals. However, the teacher will make every effort to assist when needed with those problems. Please call a veterinarian if necessary.
- The teacher will visit projects in accordance with Texas Education Agency guidelines.
- Recommending feeding programs for each animal project area.
- Livestock show participation is not a requirement of the program, therefore it cannot be guaranteed that teacher supervision will be available at every show. Every effort will be made for the teacher to attend shows.
- The teacher will assist in giving medications when possible. The teacher will not be held liable for injury to livestock while assisting the student with their project. This includes giving medication, castration, dehorning, docking, worming, trimming or any other activity directly involving the teacher. The FFA advisors prefer that these procedures be done by a veterinarian.

Chain of Command: All questions and concerns regarding animals and the FFA should first be addressed with the supervising advisor. If that does not satisfy the issue then a meeting may be scheduled with all FFA advisors and an administrator. Please communicate with your agriculture science teachers.

LIVESTOCK SHOW PARTICIPATION

To show an animal project a student must be a member of the Medina Valley FFA. In order to participate in a FFA project show, students must be passing all courses as determined by Medina Valley ISD. Students whose projects are not ready or are not of sufficient quality to participate in a show will not be allowed to show. This decision will be made by the teacher. A list of eligible students will be prepared by the teacher to authorize attendance at the show. Any student that attends on an unassigned day will be reported as truant. The parents and student will make arrangements with the teacher for supervision at major shows. Students and parents are responsible for transportation, lodging, and costs at livestock shows. School policies and discipline will be enforced and will be according to school policies. Students who fail to follow rules at shows or contests will be removed from the eligibility list and barred from future participation. School dress code will be enforced at all times. In order to be a FFA member, students at Medina Valley High School must enroll in at least one semester of an agriculture science class each school year.

CODE OF ETHICS

Agriculture science students will honor the FFA Code of Ethics. Failure to comply with the code of ethics will result in removal from the program. Students will conduct themselves at all times in a manner befitting their organization, chapter, school and community by:

- Dressing neatly and appropriately for the occasion.
- Showing respect for the rights of others and being courteous.
- Being honest and not taking unfair advantage of others.
- Respecting the property of others.
- Refraining from loud, boisterous talk, swearing, and other unbecoming conduct.
- Demonstrating sportsmanship in the show ring, judging contests, and meetings.
- Attending meetings promptly and respecting the opinion of others in discussions.
- Taking pride in the Medina Valley FFA.

ANIMAL PROJECTS AT HOMES

When the facilities are adequate, some students may decide to raise livestock projects at home. When making this decision, consider the following:

- It is highly recommended that only experienced feeders keep their animals at home.
- Students must be able to provide transportation for animals to shows, validations, and veterinary visits.
- Selection is the most important part of your animal project. Please communicate with your agriculture science teachers.

BOOSTER CLUB ACTIVITIES

The **Medina Valley FFA Booster Club** is responsible for raising funds to support FFA events and to offer graduating seniors scholarships. The first meeting will be held Monday, September 27th at 6pm at the Medina Valley Agriculture Science Facility. All supporters of the FFA are highly encouraged to attend. Families must pay annual dues to have voting rights.

President - Russell Persyn

Vice President - Kimberly Prukop

Secretary - Marie Whitley

Treasurer - Amy Juarez

Special Events Coordinator - Ashley Echtle

The **Medina Valley Stock Show Booster Club** financially supports both 4H and FFA projects at the Medina County Junior Livestock Show auction. This organization requires students to sell two tickets valued at \$50 each to their fundraiser event on Saturday, November 13th (date subject to change) in order to earn financial support at the auction. The FFA advisors highly recommend selling two or more tickets to earn financial support.

President - Janet French

JUNIOR FFA MEMBERSHIP

Junior FFA is a statewide organization with the purpose of enhancing and encouraging the education of younger students. The organization of the Junior FFA is entirely optional with the need of such an organization to be determined by the local school district. Junior FFA is for Medina Valley ISD students enrolled in grades 3-8 only that are the sibling of a student that is currently a member of the Medina Valley FFA or who was a Junior FFA member before their sibling graduated. Children of Medina Valley ISD employees are also eligible for membership. Junior FFA members that had membership prior to 2020 remain eligible for Junior FFA membership in the future.

Junior FFA member dues are \$20 per school year and are due on Friday, October 1st, 2021. Junior FFA members must meet the same requirements and follow the same rules as FFA members. Junior FFA members are not permitted to vote at meetings. Junior FFA members must attend mandatory FFA activities to include barn clean ups and county show set-up and clean-up if they show livestock. It is recommended that Medina Valley Junior FFA members are also members of the local 4-H club. The local 4-H club is able to offer more opportunities for involvement. Please contact the Medina County Extension Office to identify who the 4-H leaders are for your region.

FFA OFFICER TEAM

The Medina Valley FFA hosts officer elections during the month of April. To become an officer in the Medina Valley FFA, students must be in good academic standing. Scores are comprised of core teacher evaluations, agriculture science teacher evaluations, an application score, a chapter vote and balloting, and the student's past FFA participation. Outgoing seniors do not have voting rights regarding the next year's officer team. Members must be present on balloting day to vote. The incoming FFA officers are installed at the annual FFA banquet. Campaigning in the form of social media posts, passing out brochures, candy, or treats is prohibited.

President - Allison Whitley

1st Vice President - Emma Mueller

Vice Presidents - Sydney Aelvoet, Hannah Vierling, Riley Chafin, Kiley Winkler, Emily Jaquez, Tyler Tschirhart, and Brady Prukop

FFA LETTERMAN JACKET CRITERIA

In order to qualify for a letterman jacket, FFA members must obtain one of the following goals: place top three in area or be a state qualifier in a Leadership Development Event, qualify for state, or if automatically qualified, be top ten in the state in a Career Development Event, qualify for state in a Speaking Development Event, or place top three in the state in the Agriscience Fair. The Medina Valley FFA will only pay for the cost of the letterman jacket. Any extras ordered are the financial responsibility of the student and their family.

TENTATIVE DATES FOR 2021-2022 SCHOOL YEAR

Please visit our website at mvhs.ffanow.org for the most up to date list of events.

Dates for judging contests will be shared once dates are set. Please communicate any time conflicts with your FFA advisor. Contests have registration deadlines that lock in registration fees, do not permit refunds, and can become costly for the chapter.

MEDINA VALLEY AGRICULTURE SCIENCE DEPARTMENT FORMS

The following forms (if applicable) must be returned by October 1st, 2021 with payment for FFA dues if membership is desired. Please attach payment to the form if applicable. Checks can be made payable to the Medina Valley FFA. Money will not be accepted without the proper form.

MEDINA VALLEY AGRICULTURE SCIENCE DEPARTMENT CONSENT FORM AND PERMISSION FORM

TRANSPORTATION CONSENT: It is often necessary for an agriculture science teacher to provide transportation for a student enrolled in ag classes for the purpose of participation in school sponsored activities, to check animal projects, or for other reasons dealing with school business. Activities may occur before, during, or after school hours. By agreeing to the statement below, you hereby release the teacher and Medina Valley ISD from any liability in case of accident while involved in such activities.

AGRICULTURE SCIENCE POLICY HANDBOOK AGREEMENT: Every student and parent is responsible for reading and adhering to all policies and procedures outlined in the Medina Valley Agriculture Science Program Handbook which is provided to each student at the beginning of each year. By signing below you are indicating that you have read and understand the rules and regulations in the handbook. You agree to abide by the rules and policies set forth in the handbook.

THIS FORM WILL BE USED FOR ALL MEDINA VALLEY FFA ACTIVITIES IN 2021-2022.

STUDENT'S NAME _____ PHONE # _____
PARENT'S NAME _____ PHONE # _____
PHYSICIAN'S NAME _____ PHONE # _____
HOSPITALIZATION INSURANCE COVERAGE: YES () No ()
NAME OF COMPANY _____ INSURANCE # _____
REQUESTED HOSPITAL TO USE IF NECESSARY _____
STUDENT'S MEDICAL CONDITION(S) _____
ALLERGIC REACTION(S) TO _____ What happens? _____
Does student carry an Epi Pen or require Benadryl for reactions? _____
CURRENT MEDICATIONS _____
MEDICATIONS SENT FROM HOME (for overnight trips only) _____
(If sending medication, send original container, clearly labeled with student's name/instructions for use.)

We have given our permission for our son/daughter to participate in this school-related activity and all of its planned events. He/she will conduct himself/herself in such a way that credit will be reflected upon the school and our community. He/she has agreed to apply ALL MEDINA VALLEY HIGH SCHOOL RULES to the area that will be visited.

It is understood, that the students will be chaperoned both en route and during the planned event; and that normal precautions will be taken in the interest of their safety and well-being. We agree that the school and chaperones will not be held responsible for any accident and /or misfortune which might occur in connection with this trip.

The parent/guardian of each student grants the sponsor or school designated chaperones in charge permission to obtain medical help if necessary for any occurrences in relation to the trip and relative activities.

Parent/Guardian'S Signature

Student's Signature Student ID #

Sponsor's Signature

Administrator's Signature

FFA MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION - GRADES 9-12 ONLY
(NOT FOR JUNIOR FFA MEMBERSHIP)

Student's Information

Student's Name: _____ ID: _____

Address: _____ City: _____ Zip Code: _____

Phone Number: _____

Email Address: _____

Graduation Year: _____ Grade: _____ Date of Birth: _____ Gender: _____

Current Agriculture Science Classes: _____

Ethnicity: Asian Pacific-Islander Black Filipino Hispanic Native American White Other

Adult Unisex T-Shirt Size: _____

If you are planning to join the Medina Valley FFA, please complete other necessary forms found in the handbook and attach \$20 for your FFA dues. Your FFA dues and membership forms are due by Friday, October 1st. Please make checks payable to the Medina Valley FFA. If interested in exhibiting livestock, it is crucial that you notify your FFA advisor immediately.

JUNIOR FFA MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION - GRADES 3-8 ONLY
(SEE HANDBOOK ON REQUIREMENTS FOR JR FFA)

Student's Name: _____ ID: _____

Address: _____ City: _____ Zip Code: _____

Phone Number: _____

Email Address: _____

Graduation Year: _____ Grade: _____ Date of Birth: _____ Gender: _____

Campus: _____ Campus Attendance Clerk: _____

Name of Older Sibling(s) in FFA: _____

Ethnicity: Asian Pacific-Islander Black Filipino Hispanic Native American White Other

Youth Unisex T-Shirt Size: _____

FFA JACKET ORDER FORM

FFA JACKETS ARE ONLY RECOMMENDED FOR LDEs AND ARE OPTIONAL
MEDINA VALLEY FFA HAS A SET TO LOAN FFA MEMBERS WHEN NEEDED!

OFFICIAL DRESS FFA JACKETS (OPTIONAL): FFA jackets are utilized in FFA contests, district and area meetings, and banquets. FFA jackets are not required for livestock shows. Jackets are ordered once a year (September) and can only be ordered from the National FFA. Price of the jackets and tie or scarf is \$75. Sizes are based on the chest measurement and come in even sizes only. Sample jackets may be available at school for sizing purposes. It is advised to order big so that the jacket may be worn several years.

GENERAL INFORMATION

Student's Name: _____

Grade: _____

Phone Number: _____

Class Period: _____

FFA JACKET ORDER

Please see Mr. Welch for assistance with jacket sizing as he has a chapter set of jackets that students can try on for sizing purposes. Please circle size to be ordered. Student's name will appear as it does in the above section on the front of the jacket. Please visit the links below for further assistance in selecting a size. Jackets are not returnable to the National FFA Organization in the event of an error.

Male - https://shopffa.org/docs/jacket_guide_male.pdf

Female - https://shopffa.org/docs/jacket_guide_female.pdf

Male or Female

28 30 32 34 36 38 40 42 44 46 48 50 52 54 56

PAYMENT INFORMATION

ITEM	AMOUNT
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FFA Jacket and Tie/Scarf	\$75
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Please make checks payable to Medina Valley FFA.

MEDINA VALLEY FFA FACILITIES AGREEMENT
ONLY NECESSARY IF HOUSING LIVESTOCK AT PROJECT CENTER

Please submit \$30 per animal (this fee is per project and not per pen).

1. All policies of Medina Valley ISD governing students' conduct apply to students. This includes policies governing smoking, illegal weapons, and alcohol for any person on school property.
2. Students and parents are responsible for transportation to and from the facilities.
3. Use of tobacco, alcohol, or vaping by students or parents on the premises can result in immediate removal of the student and project.
4. Each student is responsible for keeping his/her pen, the surrounding area, and any assigned areas clean. Pens must be cleaned on a daily basis.
5. Each student is responsible for feeding and general care of his/her project. Students may not feed animals that do not belong to them unless prior arrangements have been made with the owner or agriculture science teacher.
6. Each and every student who uses Medina Valley facilities is expected to attend all workdays from start to finish or can send a family representative in the event of a time conflict.
7. A student should not be in another student's pen unless permission is given by teacher, owner, or parent.
8. Firearms, pets, and dogs are prohibited.
9. Projects are considered complete within seven days of the student's last show and must be removed from the facilities.
10. If it becomes necessary to remove a student's animal, the owner will have three days to remove the animal. If the animal is not removed at that time, it will be taken to auction at the owner's expense. The remainder of the money from the sale of the animal will be sent to the owner after the pens have been fully cleaned and sanitized.
11. Only students currently enrolled in the Medina Valley FFA Program are eligible to use the Medina Valley FFA facilities. Students not enrolled in the program should not loiter at the facilities.
12. Visitors with any member must have approval with the agriscience teacher prior to visit. Any unapproved visitor can be cited for trespassing by Medina County Sheriff's Department. Agriculture science teachers have the right to remove and ban any visitors from the facilities.
13. Animal pens must be cleaned within seven days after the project is completed. All students using the facilities must attend all workdays determined by the teachers. Failure to attend all workdays or clean pens could result in checks being held or being denied the privilege of using the facilities in the future.
14. No mechanical, wooden, electrical, or metal structures may be placed in pens without the teacher's approval.
15. Students who are present must be working with their animal or cleaning pens.
16. Students and parents must observe opening and closing times for the facilities. The hours are 5:00am to 9:00pm.
17. The FFA advisors will use their best discretion to assign pen assignments.

18. Upon paying project center pen rent, families will be given the entrance gate combination lock code. Failure to lock this gate when leaving the project center may result in denial of use of project center facilities.
19. Animals kept at the school farm are raised for livestock production purposes. The Medina Valley FFA Facilities are not a permanent home for animals. Family domestic animals do not meet the required project criteria. Only sheep, goats, and swine can be housed at the Medina Valley FFA Project Center. Rabbits, cattle, and poultry may be exhibited through the Medina Valley FFA, but must be kept at home.
20. Families parking at the Medina Valley FFA facilities are to park in the parking lot and not in the street or in the grass.

COVID-19 Addendum

Families are required to provide a secondary location on this form that they can house their livestock projects at in the event of a school facility shut down. Families will only have 7 days to remove their projects or they may be subject to removal.

COVID-19 Secondary Housing Location (Physical Address):

I agree to the above rules and regulations and well as the guidelines set forth by the Medina Valley Agriculture Science Program Handbook.

Student's Signature: _____ Date: _____
Parent's Signature: _____ Date: _____
Phone Number: _____
Type of Project: _____
of Head: _____