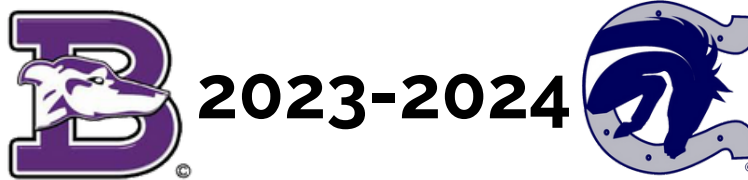


Boerne ISD

1307 River Road
www.boernisd.net



AGRISCIENCE FACILITY

Prepared By:

**BISD CTE
Department**

Facility Handbook



AGRISCIENCE FACILITY

The Boerne ISD Agricultural Complex is located on the property of the Kendall County Fair Association grounds in Boerne, TX. The purpose of the Agriscience Facility is to provide an extension to classroom instruction that maximizes learning and allows FFA and 4H members to utilize the complex for their Supervised Agricultural Experience Program (SAEP).

The raising of livestock as a project is a popular SAE that may be conducted at the Agriscience Facility. The project is a cooperative effort between the student, parent, and advisor. It is designed as a training instrument allowing students the opportunity to apply information acquired in the classroom.

It is our goal as a district to provide a safe, educational, and rewarding atmosphere that is conducive to learning.

The raising of livestock at the Agriscience Facility is a student's privilege. Feeding rules, regulations, and guidelines must be strictly followed in order to reap the benefits of this privilege. The student is responsible for the initial cost of the animal as well as any expenses incurred while feeding and caring for the animal for the duration of the project. This includes, but not limited to, feed costs, entry fees, validation fees, supply fees, and medical expenses. The ultimate purpose of the livestock project is to have the student learn and understand the true meaning of responsibility and approved practices that will allow an animal to reach its full genetic potential.

REGULATIONS & GUIDELINES

Eligibility

- All students are expected to follow all rules and guidelines set forth within the BISD Student Handbook and Student Code of Conduct.
- Only current FFA and 4-H members attending BISD schools in good standing may utilize the agriculture facilities.
- Students that are unable to house a project at home will be given priority for use of the facility.
- Livestock projects allowed to be raised on the Agriscience Facility, at this time, are: breeding and market sheep, breeding and market goats, and breeding and market swine.
- All animals that are raised at the BISD Agriscience facility must be entered and exhibited under a BISD FFA or 4H Chapter (either Boerne or Boerne Champion FFA or 4H).
- All students are subject to UIL eligibility rules in accordance with BISD policy.
- Students will receive instruction on an approved computerized record keeping system acknowledged by the FFA and 4H to utilize with all livestock projects.
- Animals raised at one of the facilities and are entered in a show under any group other than a BISD FFA and 4H chapter will lose their facility privileges for one calendar year.
- Students must complete the following steps within a minimum of 2 weeks prior to bringing any animal onto agriculture facilities grounds:
 - Attend a meeting with their parent/legal guardian and Barn Advisors to review procedures and expectations;
 - Obtain prior approval from an agriculture teacher and get an assigned pen;
 - Complete a pen reservation application, complete with exit plan for each project;
 - Students requesting additional pens for more than two head of livestock must submit in writing to the supervising Ag teacher prior to purchase of the animal; and
 - Understand and sign the rules agreement and attached forms.

Safety

The safety for one's self and animal project is the sole responsibility of the student.

Any damage to the facility should be reported to a Barn Advisor immediately. The Agricultural Science Department at BISD will not be liable for injury, loss, or theft of a project.

In addition:

- No pets will be allowed at the project center, this includes dogs of all sizes.
- Any accident or safety hazard is to be reported immediately to a Barn Advisor.
- All emergency contact information (student and parent) must be current.
- In the event of an emergency with an animal – please contact your veterinarian.
- Do not administer medications, feed, or water to another student's animal.

Facilities

The Agriscience Facility is supervised by the agriculture science teachers, high school administration, and the Boerne Police Department by physical monitoring and through the use of video surveillance.

- Cleanliness is a requirement. It is your responsibility to keep your stall area along with other areas you may use neat, clean, and orderly.
- All students are responsible for the gate being closed and locked.
- Modifications or construction relating to electricity, carpentry, plumbing, or pen location can not be made without prior approval from BISD staff.
- Any district-owned equipment lost, stolen, or damaged while in the possession of a student or parent will be replaced at their expense.

Animal Care

It is the responsibility of the student to provide the following for their livestock project and the facilities every day (including weekends, holidays, etc.):

- Monitor the well-being of the livestock project daily.
- Fresh feed for the livestock project must be provided at a minimum of twice daily for most livestock projects.
 - You must provide your own feed, hay, water trough, tack and show supplies. Hay bags are not permitted.
- Fresh water for the livestock project (clean water buckets or watering areas each day).
- Remove manure, soiled bedding, and debris from the pen into the dumpster with a Barn Advisor daily.
- Clean and maintain bedding as determined by Barn Advisors.
- Grooming of the livestock project should be done weekly.
- Exercise of the livestock project should be done every day.
- Clean feed areas, alley ways, exercise areas (arena), wash racks, and grooming areas after each use.
- Return all equipment to its proper storage place.

Cruelty to animals will not be tolerated and will be cause for immediate eviction from the facility. Please refer to Texas Agri Life extension and the Livestock Program of Ethics Policy.

Animals may only enter the facility after a visual inspection from a Barn Advisor for health security.

Students must approve the administration of medications or have the animal examined by a veterinarian when advised to do so by the Barn Advisors.

Students and family members may not feed, move, water, or provide any other care, regardless of the intent, to help another student's project without prior permission from the owner and Barn Advisors.

All market and breeding animals and show supplies must be removed from the project center within 2 weeks of the species' livestock show.

All veterinarian bills are the responsibility of the animal owner and must be paid before the end of the school year.

Cleanliness

The appearance of the Agriscience Facility is a priority. A monthly clean up will be scheduled and will be mandatory for students with animal projects housed at the facility. If students are unable to attend for any reason, they are responsible for finding a suitable replacement (ie. parents, sibling or friend).

Livestock Shows

To be eligible to participate in any livestock show, students must abide by the following requirements:

- Be enrolled in an agriculture science class and be a member in good standing of the Boerne FFA and 4H Chapter or Boerne Champion FFA and 4H Chapter.
- FFA and 4H dues must be paid in full within two weeks after the start of school.
- Attend all mandatory meetings for the specific livestock project.
- It is the sole responsibility of the student to be familiar with all rules pertaining to his/her livestock project (i.e.: weight limits, entry requirements, age, etc.).
- Have entry fees paid on time and meet show requirements.
- The student will be responsible for all feeding, care and grooming of his/her livestock project while it is at the livestock show.
- Livestock in poor condition due to disease, injury, or neglect will not be allowed to participate in livestock shows. The final decision will rest with the supervising Barn Advisors.
- Students will be responsible for all personal travel to and from all livestock shows. This may include the transporting of their livestock project when a Barn Advisor cannot provide transport.
- Exhibit the proper conduct as stated in the BISD Code of Conduct while in attendance at livestock shows.

Animal Removal

Removal of Deceased Livestock: Any swine, sheep, or goat projects that die while in the complex during the feeding period, needs to be removed by the student. Please call the Boerne Animal Shelter at 830-249-2456. Remove the animal in a wheelbarrow, covered with a tarp. Place it by the green dump and notify the shelter where the animal was placed. If a student is not able to be remove the animal, they must contact a Barn Advisor. The cost of this removal will be the responsibility of the student.

In addition to the above, the BISD Agriscience Department 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
- Animals not being fed for show purposes
- Student is no longer involved in the program

Hours of Operation

The hours of operation for the facility will be 5:00 am to 11:00 pm daily.

Guests

All guests, beyond the exhibitor and immediate family, must be authorized and/or accompanied by a Barn Advisor. Guests are the sole responsibility of the student; therefore, guests must follow all Agriscience Facility rules and BISD rules and regulations.