



VATAT

News

A publication of the Texas Agricultural Education Family ☆ 2013 Volume IV, Issue IX

CTE Student Performance and Post Secondary Readiness

By: Kevin Swor, Diboll

This is the final article of a three-part series.

Post Secondary Remediation

Career and technology students have a smoother transition from high school to post secondary because they need fewer remediation classes. "54% of non-tech prep students required remediation at the community college-level and only 37% of tech prep students required it." (Woodard, 2005, p. 5) According to the National Commission on the High School Senior Year the need for college remediation is astounding. "According to the commission, remediation takes place in all community colleges, in four out of five public four year universities, and in more than six out of 10 private four year institutions. Large numbers and proportions of students require remediation on these campuses. The proportion ranges from a low of 13 percent at private four year colleges to a high of 41 percent at public two year institutes. Well over one quarter of all students (29 percent) require remediation in one or more subjects; 24 percent are required to take remedial mathematics courses, while 13 percent and 17 percent respectfully, are required to enroll in remedial reading and writing courses. The cost of remediation has been estimated to be between \$260 million and \$1 billion, annually." (Hull, 2006, p. 5) "Many students who go on to post secondary education spend their

first year learning what they should have learned in high school. As a consequence, they never get a post secondary credential, which is the hallmark for achieving higher earnings." (Bottoms, 2006, p. 16) One should consider why these students are not prepared for post secondary, as the report states, yet they have passed the test required to exit high school. The answer for this statement is that state mandated tests only test the minimum basic requirements to exit high school rather than what is required for students to be ready for college entrance tests. A better solution would be to test student on both abilities in the 11th grade. This would allow post secondary students time in their senior year to receive the extra help they need to be prepared for post secondary. One reason given was that students do not take math courses their senior year and this hurts CTE students upon entrance to post secondary.

Once remedial courses are taken CTE students will continue to outperform their counterparts. "Also, college students with prior PSEO (CTE) experience tend to have higher mean GPA's than those without the experience." (Kotamraju, 2007, p. 51) This difference is only noticed if CTE students enter college immediately after high school; otherwise there is very little difference.



"Follow up surveys of graduates who have completed the recommended curriculum have found over nine in 10 enroll in postsecondary education, and fewer than 11 percent need remedial math courses in college and fewer than 6 percent need remedial English." (Olson, 2006, p. 21)

More students are entering college immediately after high school than ever before. During the 1980's, only 41.5

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CTE Student Performance

Continued from page 1

percent enrolled immediately upon high school graduation, while in the 1990's 54.7 percent enrolled. "Seven years after graduating from high school, nearly three-fourths of CTE concentrators had participated in postsecondary education or training to some extent. Eighteen percent eventually earned a bachelor's degree, and by eight years after high school graduation, 53 percent of concentrators had earned a postsecondary degree or certificate." (Hoachlander, 2005, p. 2)

"The GPA differences appear to be early in the students' college careers, giving them a head start." (Kotamraju, 2007, p. 51)

Concluding Remarks

The ultimate question that must be answered is as follows: is there a place for career and technical education in high school reform? The answer is dependent on whether schools' only objective is to improve academic achievement, based solely on today's current standardized assessments or if schools' objectives are to improve academic achievement along with the employment and earnings increases, possibly as a result of CTE exposure. If their objective is the latter, then schools should be cautioned to not cast aside, casually, career and technical education. In my opinion, when schools consider avenues for improvement, they should not focus solely on academics with no regard to the aspects that career and technical education can offer to the overall school system and its performance. Instead, academic rigor should be added to career and technical education to boost the overall performance of all students and increase their college readiness and ensure their future career success. Congress can help schools meet this goal if they appreciate the value CTE represents and support future funding of the Perkins Act. The ultimate consequence for educators is of the utmost importance. If all effects are not taken into consideration, understood, and controlled, then career and technology's future will not be positive.

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Does your program have a strategic plan?

Barney McClure, VATAT Executive Director

I am writing this on April 1, 2013. There are 22 job openings for agriculture science teachers on our website. Some listings are very short, almost cryptic, and others are detailed and seem to require a superhuman to complete. I am prompted to think about whose expectations are being articulated.

During my career as a teacher, I remember dealing with many people whose idea of an agriculture program was influenced by their point of contact. I had parents who were interested in scholarships for their child, while others were interested in stock shows and their child winning "big." I had administrators who were supportive of a well-balanced program, and others who didn't care what kind of program we had, as long as no "problems" reached their office. Community leaders wanted a program that supported the community service aspects of FFA and agriculture science.

The challenge we all face is how to balance these expectations to deliver the type of agriculture program of which we can all be proud. The philosophy of your district changes with each new principal or superintendent. A new family can influence booster clubs and other support groups. I suggest developing a strategic plan that is approved by your administration and school board. Before starting this process, engage stakeholders, formally or informally, to obtain input. This would include community leaders, students, parents and administrators. You are going to be surprised that you will receive conflicting input.

Some items a strategic plan should cover might include: how many days away from school are acceptable; the number of stock shows to participate in; CDE and LDE participation; the amount of fundraisers held and how the money will be handled; the management of any school project facilities; and how the instructional program is handled. The plan should be challenging, reasonable, adaptable to changing conditions and serve as a roadmap to where you would like to go. Furthermore, it will send the message to your administration that you are being proactive and supportive of the overall goals of the school. Ask the administration and school board to approve the document. That gives you a clear mandate on the whole process.

The next step is to share the document with students, parents and other stakeholders. Many problems that we deal with could be prevented if this were done.

The development of the strategic plan for your program could develop better relations with your administration, community, parents and students. The plan should be reviewed and updated on an annual basis and anytime a new administrator is hired. If you have one of these plans, or develop one, please share it with me. We will post it on the VATAT website. I know you are all busy, but doing this could pay great dividends. Contact me if you need further information.

Agricultural Sustainable Energy Education Network (ASEEN) Program

Teacher Professional Development Summer Workshop

ASEEN is a 3 year project to promote sustainable energy education in K-12 schools by offering educational summer camps (certification will be available) to teachers and provide sufficient information such as related modules, course documents, online resources, etc. Educational materials and training will focus on STEM education as related to sustainable energy.

Benefits:

1. Each participating district will receive \$2,000 - \$2,500 of supplies and equipment.
2. Each participating teacher will receive \$1,250 for attending the training and completing a fall and spring activity. (Participants will be responsible for their own travel expenses.)

Visit the VATAT website for the application and more information.

VATAT AWARDS ARE ONLINE

The award applications and procedures are available on the VATAT website. Check out the following award categories and make plans to apply or nominate someone!

Each area is responsible for selecting its VATAT Award recipients and giving the winning nomination forms to the VATAT area executive committee member at your area convention. The executive committee member is responsible for turning in the area award winning nomination forms to Julie Vrazel, Communications Coordinator.

Awards

- Outstanding School Administrator
- Outstanding Cooperation Award
- Outstanding Newspaper
- Outstanding Radio Station
- Outstanding Television Station
- Teacher's Media Award
- Texas Turn the Key
- Ideas Unlimited
- Teacher Mentor Award
- 30-Minute Club

If You Are Retiring This Year...

Please contact the VATAT office if you are retiring or if you know of someone who is retiring after this year. We strive to keep our records accurate and would also like to honor members who are retiring from teaching agriculture science. Thank you for your help with this matter.

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Influential agricultural educator passes away

Adapted from the Progress Times



Longtime Mission CISD agriculture teacher Jose "Joe" Correa, Jr. passed away Tuesday, March 5, at Adalante Assisted Living in San Antonio.

Correa's lasting imprint of "service over self" was recently recognized when the district's agriculture farm was renamed in his honor last month. A sign created by students in the welding program now stands at the entrance of the newly-designated "Jose 'Joe' Correa, Jr. Agriculture Science Lab."

Correa dedicated 32 years to the district before retiring in 1997. A Valley native born and raised in San Perlita, he earned his bachelor's degree in agriculture from Texas College of Arts and Industries in 1958 and received his master's degree in education from there in 1966, just before he came to the Mission school district.

During his professional career, Correa was nominated to a number of state and national committees and groups. He served as the first Hispanic president of the Vocational Agriculture Teachers Association of Texas and on the advisory committee for the Texas Examination of Current Administrators and Teachers. He was involved with the Mission Teachers Federal Credit Union, and, in 1996, he was called on by the U.S. Department of Education to participate with the National Work Group.

Correa's service to the community was as vital as his professional associations. He was an active member of the Mission Lions Club, worked with the Texas Lions Camp in Kerrville and with the Texas Citrus Fiesta. For distinguishing himself in service to the community, he was honored in 1981 as Mission's "Man of the Year."

"I was a young teacher when Mr. Correa served as President of VATAT, and was always impressed by the way he conducted himself as the leader of our organization. He was never too busy to help someone else, and I know he will be missed by our profession, as well as his friends and family," said VATAT Executive Director Barney McClure.

Some important news from your Credit Union:

Dormant Accounts:

We are required by the state of Texas to turn over funds from accounts after three years of inactivity. Do not let your accounts become dormant. We now offer direct debits from your local financial institution to either make deposits into your share account or to make loan payments if you have those with us. Visit our website for the form or call us. Remember to keep us updated of any address, phone and email changes to your accounts.

Access to Credit Union Documents:

In accordance to Section 91:315, this notice is to advise you, as a VATAT Credit Union member, you have the ability to request certain documents relating to the credit union's finances and management. These documents are: the balance sheet and income statement, a summary of the most recent annual audit, written board policy regarding access to articles of incorporation, bylaws, rules, guidelines, board policies, and copies of thereof, and the Internal Revenue Service Form 990. Any requests for these documents should be made to management at our main office with advance notice.

Complain Notice:

If you have a problem with the services provided by this credit union, please contact us at: VATAT Credit Union, 614 E. 12th Street, Austin, TX 78701; (512) 472-3258 or (800) 777-1825. The credit union is incorporated under the laws of the State of Texas and under state law is subject to regulatory oversight by the Texas Credit Union Department. If any dispute is not resolved to your satisfaction, you may also file a complaint against the credit union by contacting the Texas Credit Union Department at 914 East Anderson Lane, Austin, TX 78752-1699; (512) 837-9236 or online at www.cud.texas.gov.

Financials: December 2012

| | |
|--------------------|----------------|
| Assets: | \$5,974,727.17 |
| Shares & Deposits: | \$4,646,078.38 |
| Loans: | \$4,330,486.07 |
| Members: | 1,223 |



2013 VATAT TENURE

If you should receive a VATAT Tenure Award this year and you are not listed below, or if you feel you are listed in error, please contact Karen Grumbles at karen@vatat.org, so that we may update our records. Also, don't forget to contact the VATAT Office if you are retiring, or if you know someone who is retiring this year.

5 YEARS

Rowdy Akins, Natalia
 Debbie Arnold, Lamar
 Kyle Baker, Pflugerville
 Tony Beggs, Coleman
 Dennis Bridges, Porter
 Amanda Brooks, Tarkington
 JT Buford, Clear Brook
 Scott Burris, Texas Tech University
 Stacey Byars-Cosby, Anderson-Shiro
 Todd Cash, Santa Maria
 Blake Chudej, Grape Creek
 Heath Clark, Queen City
 William Clifford, Donna
 Ryan Cummins, Burleson
 Rebecca Curry, Lindale
 Trent Davidson, Reagan County
 David Edwards, Brackett
 Sue Elliott, Rudder
 Chelsea Fewell, China Spring
 Ashly Fielder, New Boston
 Kelly Fortenberry, Dekalb
 Kevin Gibbs, Bruceville-Eddy
 Kyle Gilbert, Jersey Village
 Kyle Gilliam, Quanah
 Kristi Hart, Huffman
 Traci Hendrix, Atascocita
 Mark Herod, Gustine
 Annette Hill, East Bernard
 Andrew Hokanson, Amherst
 Jennifer Hunter, Vernon
 Corey Jackson, Jacksboro
 Patrick Kamm, Hereford
 Ruthie Kneupper, Schertz ISD
 Jimmy Maroney, Allen
 State may, Tahoka
 Bryan McCollum, Eldorado
 Timerbly Mercer, McLean
 Curt Muehlstein, Avoca
 Daniel Odom, Newton
 Christin O'Neal, Roxton
 Kevin Parker, Klein Forest
 Scott Pesl, Bryan
 Nathaniel Pettigrew, Advanced Technical Center Ecotr County
 Kristin Pieper, Kilgore
 Steven Rader, Forney
 Trevor Reifel, Friendswood
 Rachel Robinson, Jacksonville
 Aaron Rogers, Marshall

Joy Rogerson, Marlin
 Haley Ross, Mount Vernon
 Robert Sager, Riviera Kaufer
 Maggie Salem, Slocum
 Eduardo Salinas, McAllen Memorial
 Brandon Scheu, Frisco Centennial
 Deana Schroeder, Robinson
 Jeremy Schuessler, Reagan County
 Josie Seale, Chireno
 Elizabeth Slough, Eastland
 Bradley Steffek, Palacios
 Brandon Thomas, Muleshoe
 Adam Thompson, Diboll
 Ardy Tiner, Industrial
 Jonathan Ulmer, Texas Tech University
 Erin Walker, Porter
 Josh Warner, Elgin
 Aimee Welle, Bosqueville
 Kristie Weller, Navarro
 Nicole Willinger, Plano West
 Jeff Wright, Bartlett
 Scotty Wright, Boys Ranch

10 YEARS

John Allbritton, Cypress Woods
 Aaron Baker, Weatherford
 Kyle Bates, Whitharral
 Lacey Bennett, Godley
 Jarrett Blessing, Decatur Middle School
 Brandon Bowman, Littlefield
 Patricia Brown, George Ranch
 James Byrd, Lufkin
 Tracey Cortez, Lanier
 Gail Coulter, Pewitt
 Joe Dickson, Clear Falls
 Cody Dugat, Calallen
 Jason Fleming, Medina
 Beth A. Gann, Bynum
 Sean Hightower, Monterey
 Garry Holder, Andrews
 Meredith Holub, Tidehaven
 James Horton, Jonesboro
 Mindy Howard, Troy
 Casey Jones, Slaton
 Joe Lemmons, Kingwood
 Rick Lemons, McKinney
 Philip Lyles, Pasadena Memorial
 Ryan McElory, Medina Valley

Frances Nelson, Calallen
 Summer Neumann, Navasota
 Shawn Peters, El Campo
 Gary Schnitker, Callisburg
 Amanda Smith, Teague
 Jacquelyn Stevens, Harlingen
 Tally Stout, Region 6 ESC
 Bobby Terry, Buffalo
 Kristy Tillman, Forestburg
 Zeb Tindel, Honey Grove
 Rusty Turner, Tom Bean
 D.J. Wernecke, Los Fresnos
 Ronny Wilson, Sweeny
 Tracy Yarbrough, Aubrey

15 YEARS

David Alcala, Pearsall
 Mia Balko, George West
 Rod Brinkman, Klein
 Jimmy Carter, Seymour
 Grant Crowell, Cumby
 Kim Ford, The Woodlands
 Donald Gillit, Ropes
 Jorge Guerra, San Benito
 David Henderson, Irion Co.
 Barbara Hlavaty, Associate Member
 Wesley Jenkins, Poolville
 Joseph Lane, West Sabine
 Traylor Lenz, Angleton
 Monty Main, Bullard
 Brian Martin, Rusk
 Bobby McConathy, Lytle
 Darryl Nowotny, New Braunfels
 Christal Odom, Dayton
 Ryan Pieniazek, Krum
 Donald Procter, Lingleville
 Mike Rempe, Liberty Hill
 Marilyn Seidlitz, Italy ISD
 Robin Senter, Colorado
 Bryan Teter, Riesel
 Michael Van Winkle, Arp
 Bennie Whitworth, Mount Enterprise

20 YEARS

Tim Barger, Dekalb
 Marco Barrientes, Sharyland
 Brad Bevel, Stamford
 Scott Brewer, O'Donnell
 Paul Casey, Peaster
 Jimmy Cox, Harleton
 Tim Flanagan, Pecos
 Mike gann, Meridian
 Andy Gresham, Garrison
 Don Hillis, Clarendon
 Lance Jonas, Canyon-New Braunfels

Felice Marek, Blanco
 Adren Pilger, Carmine
 Alan Reed, Iowa Park
 Palmer Thonsgaard, Hardin
 Troy Webb, Walnut Springs

25 YEARS

Terry Baize, Hamilton
 Brad Bland, Chico
 Dale Collum, Huckabay
 Mando Correa, Lyford
 Richard Lovorn, Winnsboro
 Rodney Martine, Caney Creek
 Keith Ming, Liberty
 Ray Pieniazek, East Central
 Art Ponce, Edinburg
 Kay Richards, Abilene
 Juan E. Saenz, Edinburg Economedes
 Douglas Simmerman, Redwater
 Fritz Steenken, Snook
 Michael Teague, Saltillo
 Parks Tucker, Lake View
 Rod Vincent, Bellville
 Keith Westbrook, Avery

30 YEARS

Mike Alton, Moody
 Paul Booth, Sandra Day O'Connor
 Lacho Garza, Sharyland
 Gina Hale, Orange Grove
 Dennis McBroom, Prairie Valley
 John Osborne, Menard
 Trey Polster, Arlington
 Daniel Trevino, McAllen
 Don Whyte, Hallsville
 Mike Whyte, Hallsville

40 YEARS

Steve Forsythe, Lampasas
 Harry Grmela, Gatesville
 Rob Killingsworth, Rains
 Gary McKinney, Boswell



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Texas FFA

Update

Proposed amendments would alter delegate process, degree requirements, board composition

Tom Maynard, FFA Executive Director

The Texas FFA Board of Directors gave approval to three constitutional amendments, which will be submitted to student delegates in July.

DEGREE REQUIREMENTS

Current degree standards require a member to earn and productively invest a minimum money amount and record a minimum number of hours. The sum of the two must meet a minimum. Since these standards were adopted, students increasingly engage in supervised agricultural experiences which do not include earnings. Students whose sole focus is research and experimentation, unpaid community service or school facility-based work must still create ways to meet the \$200 threshold, even though their declared SAE does not include earnings as a success measure.

The proposed constitutional amendment allows a student to earn a chapter and state degree by earnings, hours or a combination of both. The proposed standard is consistent with the National FFA Constitution. Any student who meets the current standard for hours and dollars will also meet the proposed standard.

Article VI, Section D, subsection 4: Have earned and productively invested at least ~~\$50~~ **\$150** and ~~or~~ worked at least ~~fifty~~ **forty-five** hours in excess of scheduled class time, ~~or a combination thereof~~ and have developed plans for continued growth and improvement in a supervised agricultural experience program. The combination of hours **multiplied by a factor of 3.33** and dollars must equal or exceed the number ~~200~~ **150**.

Article VI, Section E, subsection 4: Have earned and productively invested at least ~~\$200~~ **\$1,000** and ~~or~~ worked at least ~~200~~ **300** hours in excess of scheduled class time, ~~or a combination thereof~~ and have developed plans for continued growth and improvement in a supervised agricultural experience program. The combination of hours **multiplied by a factor of 3.33** and dollars must equal or exceed the number ~~200~~ **1000**.

DELEGATE PROCESS

The board also approved a package of amendments

which divides the delegate process into two separate processes and two separate delegate bodies—election delegates and business delegates. The proposal is the result of two years of study by a delegate task force, most recently chaired by Lubbock attorney and board member Zach Brady.

The proposed business delegation is composed of 400 delegates elected by area delegations to conduct the business of the state association. The creation of the smaller business session delegation is intended to create a more skilled, mature delegate body to consider and approve resolutions budgets, strategic plans, amendments and other business of what has become a multi-million dollar association.

The smaller body also allows for students to be engaged in a hands-on leadership development experience which cannot be achieved in a delegate body of 2,400. The 400-member business delegate body can engage in training, caucusing and employ time-saving tactics such as electronic voting. The proposed plan creates a new delegate vetting and election process at the area level, similar to what is found in delegate selection procedures in political organizations.

Some of the liveliest debate was centered around allocation of delegates in the business session delegates. The task force forwarded to the board a recommendation that set each delegation at 40, evenly distributing delegates in spite of the disparity in area memberships, ranging from 3,927 in Area II to 16,316 in Area III. The task force's rationale was that aside from the largest area and the three smallest, the remaining areas are within a few delegates of each other. The board opted to adopt an allocation plan that would distribute the first 100 delegates evenly and the remaining 300 by percent of membership. The plan guarantees proportional representation, but blunts, to some extent, the disparity between the areas.

The amendment also slightly reduces the size of the election delegate body by adjusting the constitutionally mandated allocation of delegate from the current one delegate per 50 to one per 75. The purpose of the adjustment is to allow for floor seating for the entire delegate body, since it is difficult to manage delegates and control access to the delegate sections when these sections are seated amongst the general public in the stands.

Article XIII. Meetings and Conventions

Section B. At the State Convention, each local chapter shall be entitled to send one delegate from its active membership, plus one additional delegate for 50 members, or any fraction thereof, above the first 50 members. A quorum shall exist when delegates representing more than 50% of the chapters registered for convention are present.

Section B. At the State Convention, two bodies shall convene to conduct the business of the Texas FFA Association. Those two bodies shall be known respectively as the "Business Delegate Body" and "Election Delegate Body."

Section C. The "Business Delegate Body" will be charged with conducting the business of the Association, including but not limited to: approving Lone Star Degree recipients; approving Honorary Lone Star Degree recipients; adopting an operating budget and a program of activities; considering and acting upon student committee reports, amendments to the constitution and bylaws and resolutions reflecting the sentiments of the student body. The "Business Delegate Body" shall be comprised of 400 student delegates. Each area association will be entitled to at least 10 business delegates, with the remaining delegates apportioned among the individual areas on the basis of membership. Such apportionment shall be reviewed annually and approved by the Texas FFA Association Board of Directors. A quorum shall exist when delegates representing seven of the ten area associations are present, and a majority of the registered business delegates are present.

Each area association will select their own delegates using criteria as may be adopted from time to time by the Texas FFA Association Board of Directors.

Section D. The "Election Delegate Body" will be charged with casting ballots in the officer election process, and other selection processes deemed appropriate by the Texas FFA Association Board of Directors, such as but not limited to talent team winners. Each local chapter will be entitled to send one chapter representative from its active membership, plus one additional representative for 75 members, or any fraction thereof, above the first 75 members. A quorum shall exist when election delegates from a majority of chapters registered for convention are present.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

The board approved a recommendation from the standing committee on nominations to expand the membership of the Texas FFA's adult board to include a school administrator and an additional agricultural/agribusiness position. The current board structure calls for five industry positions along with seven agricultural educators—five VATAT representatives, an at-large agricultural science

teacher and a teacher educator—and the executive directors of the VATAT and the Texas FFA Foundation. As a matter of practice, the board has been electing a school administrator to one of the industry positions to maintain an administrator perspective in the board process and to foster agricultural education advocacy in administrator ranks. The proposed amendment codifies the administrator position in the association's governing document and frees up an industry position. In adding another industry position, the board seeks to bring to the process an employer perspective and proven business expertise.

Article XV. State FFA Board of Directors

Section A. Governing Body

1. The governing body of the Texas FFA Association shall be the Texas FFA Board of Directors consisting of the current president, vice president and secretary-treasurer of the VATAT, the immediate past president of the VATAT and the past immediate past president of the VATAT, a current agricultural science teacher elected at-large, the Executive Director of the VATAT, ~~five~~ **six** representatives of agribusiness/agriculture, **one school administrator**, one teacher educator, and the Executive Director of the Texas FFA Foundation...The Program Director of Agricultural Science and Technology, Executive Director of the Texas FFA and a Texas FFA Alumni Association representative shall be ex-officio members of the Board of Directors. The Board of Directors may appoint consultants as deemed necessary.



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Foundation Update

Board of Directors

- Dan Taylor - Chairman**
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- Ken Johnson - Vice Chairman**
Attorney - Fleming Law Firm
Houston, Texas
- Pam Dolenz - Secretary**
Retired Teacher - Philanthropist
Arlington, Texas
- Barney McClure - Treasurer**
Executive Director - VATAT
Austin, Texas
- Bruce Cobb**
General Manager
Consolidated Beef Producers
Canyon, Texas
- Mitchell Dale**
Owner - McRee Ford
Texas Ford Dealer
Dickinson, Texas
- Wayne Goldberg**
President/CEO - La Quinta
Irving, Texas
- Victor Guerra**
LaMuneca Cattle Co.
Linn, Texas
- Hon. Brooks Hagler**
District Judge
Anson, Texas
- Dewey Hukill**
State Director
Texas Farm Bureau
Olton, Texas
- Rex Isom**
Executive Director
Texas Soil & Water Conservation
Temple, Texas
- Paul Jordan**
Attorney - Sneed, Vine and Perry
Georgetown, Texas
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President - CEV Multimedia, Ltd.
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Glenn Alan Phillips
Assistant Executive Director
-
San Antonio Livestock
Exposition
San Antonio, Texas

Tom Maynard
Executive Director
Texas FFA Association
Austin, Texas

Neely Nelson
Corporate Public Affairs
Advisor
ExxonMobil
Dallas, Texas

Kevin Swor
President - VATAT
Board of Directors
Diboll, Texas

David Reiley
Chairman - Texas FFA
Board of Directors
Seguin, Texas

Stan Ray
Chief Administrative Officer
Farm Credit
Austin, Texas

Brad Snyder
President - NewScope
Marketing
Granbury, Texas

Randy Watson
President/CEO - Justin
Boots
Fort Worth, Texas

Ex-Officio

Ron Whitson
Director of Agriculture,
Food and Natural Resources
-
Texas Education Agency
Austin, Texas

Staff

Aaron Alejandro
Executive Director

Joanne Shelton
Executive Assistant /
Scholarship Administrator

Dear Friend of the Texas FFA:



As a former FFA member, agricultural science teacher and business owner, I have had the pleasure of working in all aspects of agriculture education and with the Texas FFA. I am inspired by the impact it is having on the lives of so many young people. Texas FFA members are learning life skills and are building character which will serve them far beyond high school.

The Texas FFA Foundation has diligently worked to increase sponsor engagement, individual giving and community support. Over the past decade, new levels of sponsor involvement have increased Texas FFA leadership development empowering our young people to be tomorrow's leaders.

Our dedicated educators, staff, sponsors and board members are committed to having an impact on the youth of Texas. The generosity of so many provides the resources to strengthen our work and honor our mission.

We are fortunate to be part of the Texas FFA – supporting our educators and students while connecting sponsors with our established brand. If we can answer any questions or provide any additional information about the Foundation, please let us know.

The Texas FFA Foundation Board of Directors is proud to be of service to Texas Team Ag Ed. We value your feedback and encourage your input.

Sincerely,

Dan Taylor
Chairman
Board of Directors
Texas FFA Foundation

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WILDLIFE CONSERVATION CAMP

July 14-20, 2013
Welder Wildlife Foundation
Sinton, Texas

Registration Deadline: May 1

This camp is designed for high school students who have completed the 9th grade or higher and focuses on hands-on activities with presentations led by Texas Chapter members and wildlife professionals from across Texas.

APPLY TODAY!

Send applications to:
Wildlife Conservation Camp
Attn: Mandy Krause
P.O. Box 384
D'Hanis, TX 78850
mcorso11@aol.com

For more information, visit www.tctws.org
Contact: Mandy Krause, Camp Director
mcorso11@aol.com | (956) 655-4731



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Texas FFA Alumni

Update

\$ MONEY \$

Kelly White, Texas FFA Alumni President

*"Money isn't the most important thing in life, but it's reasonably close to oxygen on the 'gotta have it' scale."
Zig Ziglar*

Times are tough! Money is tight! No one is going to just give you money... or will they? The Texas FFA Alumni is willing to give you money. However, there are a few strings attached. First, let's talk about the money.

THE MONEY

Each year, the Texas FFA Alumni gives out the following monetary awards: two \$1,000 scholarships; ten \$500 local grants; four \$500 Washington Leadership Conference Scholarships; and lastly we graciously give \$1,000 each to the Texas FFA, the Texas FFA Foundation and the VATAT. The Texas FFA Alumni Association also supported the VATAT Family Night by donating four \$50 door prizes.

The money we give is raised at our Annual Alumni Auction held in conjunction with the Texas FFA Convention. Items such as scales, airline tickets, boots, retreats, FFA memorabilia, outdoor items and much more are bid on and goes home with the fortunate bidder. FFA Alumni Affiliates/ Chapters also contribute to our auction by entering in the Alumni Basket Contest. Rules for this contest can be found on the alumni website.

\$500.00 Grants:

How do you receive the grant money? How must it be used? Be prepared to answer the following questions: What is your project? What do you want to accomplish? What is your plan of action (who, what, when, where, why, how)? How will this project make an impact on your members and/or program, and be prepared to have a cost estimate for your project. Grant money has been used to assist the local FFA Chapter to purchase t-shirts for its members. The money has been used to start a community garden, as well as used in assisting the local FFA Chapter to purchase new livestock equipment. So, how could you use the money?

THE CATCH

You are asking yourself about how to get free money, and what is the catch? All a chapter must do to be considered for the above mentioned awards is to have an active local FFA Alumni Affiliate, which is a minimum of 10 members who pay their annual state and national dues by Feb. 1, and to submit the applications to the Texas FFA Alumni Association by the June 1 deadline. Grants and scholarships have been denied, because they did not meet the requirements or missed the deadline.

Applications can be found on the Texas FFA Alumni website at <http://texasffaalumni.ffa.org>. Register to receive updates about the Texas FFA Alumni.

Thanks for all you do! You can read more about the auction in next month's newsletter. We are always seeking donations for our annual auction. More information can be found online by visiting the website.

What does the Texas FFA Alumni Value?

- We value the integral nature of FFA and agricultural education.
- We value agriculture as an essential part of society.
- We value diversity in serving all populations.
- We value the impact of a teacher on a student's life.
- We value the impact and involvement of parents/ guardians and communities on a student's life.
- We value the community's support of agricultural education teachers and programs.



Texas Young Farmers Update

From the President's Pen

Barry Choate, Texas Young Farmers President

I hope everyone is enjoying spring time in Texas. Let's think of different seasons to choose from: planting season has finished for some and beginning for others, calving season and baseball season. The days are getting longer, which means it is growing season and haying season has screeched to a halt.

The Texas Young Farmers has been in the middle of planning season for the National Institute to be held in San Antonio this December, along with our state convention. I hope you will be able to take advantage of this great opportunity to see diverse agriculture and some local culture in our great state.

Participation for the Young Farmers scholarships has increased. Thanks to everyone who applied and good luck! Graduation is a great part of growing up. Many decisions will be made on where to attend college and what major, and possibly minor, to choose. Some of these decisions will last all the way through college, but some will change many times. The important thing to remember is that college is a marathon and it is important to finish.

Texas Young Farmers sponsored a scholarship at the Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo Ag Mechanics Show for the grand champion project. This year Priddy FFA entered a buffalo working chute and attachments. It was a great project and an excellent group of students. Bob

Tallman was exactly right when he said the proof was in the pudding.

If you had the chance to walk through and look at all the projects and visit with the students showing their projects, there is no way you could deny that some serious teaching had taken place. I don't know of any other program in our schools that teach the lesson, show a student how to do it, apply the lesson in a lab, come out of the lab with a finished product and have the students speak to strangers and judges about the construction and planning process of the projects. These are great life lessons, and I want to say thanks to all of the FFA chapters and students for participating. Thank you to the teachers and parents for supporting a super group of students. The ag mechanics show builds character and leadership skills, not to mention projects.

Texas Young Farmer members must remember that adult education is what we hang our hat on. There are several audiences we have the opportunity to visit with. Make each interaction count, and tell the positive stories of agriculture and agriculture students in your communities. There are many good things happening in our own backyard that no one ever hears about. So, let's not miss an opportunity. Remember, the proof is in the pudding.



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PRIDDY FFA WINS CHAMPION AG MECHANICS PRIZE



Priddy FFA constructed the Grand Champion agricultural mechanics project at the 2013 Houston Livestock Show.

From left to right: Glenn Lillie, Vice President of the Ag Mechanics contest; Barry Randolph, Priddy agriculture science teacher; Priddy FFA members; Barry Choate, Texas Young Farmers President; David Stratton, Committee Chairman.

Not pictured is Doug Kingman, ag mechanics professor at Sam Houston State University.

TOMORROW'S LEADERS, TODAY



“Thanks to the great people at Texas Farm Bureau and their scholarship program, I am able to become closer to my dream of serving Texas agriculturalists as an eminent domain abuse attorney.”

—Peyton Gilbert
2011-2012 FFA State President

To learn more about Texas Farm Bureau scholarships visit: TEXASFARMBUREAU.ORG





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TEXAS AG ED FAMILY EVENTS

May 2013

3rd - State CDEs - SHSU, Huntsville

4th - State CDEs - Texas A&M, College Station

31st - Late swine tag order ends - Austin

June 2013

1st - Public Speaking entry deadline

1st - 7th - State Fair Priority Tags, Fax only - Austin

8th - 12th - State Leadership Conference

12th - 14th - State Degree Check

13th - State Scholarship Selection Interviews

18th - Agriscience fair deadline

30th - Last day to validate swine

July 2013

2nd - Deadline for National FFA Band & Chorus applications

5th - Deadline for all swine validation materials

8th - 12th - State FFA Convention

July 29th - Aug. 3rd - VATAT Professional Development Conference

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2013 State Fair Validation Information

Tags for the late tag orders are \$11 during May 1-31, 2013. The priority tag orders must be faxed to (512) 476-2894, and the tags are \$11 per tag, plus \$20 priority postage and handling fee during June 1-7, 2013.

All swine must be validated on or before June 30, 2013. Validation chairperson must be present when animals are validated. Change of ownership is due in the Texas FFA office on or before June 30, 2013. All manila forms, hair envelopes, ethics policies, committee forms and excel spreadsheets are due in the FFA office on or before July 5, 2013. They must be submitted in alphabetical order.

In regards to tag alterations, any change to size, shape, form or color will void the tag. The tag will be replaced at the stock show and the replacement cost will be charged to the individual. Ear notch correction and ear tag replacement forms must be faxed (512) 476-2894 into the FFA office on or before July 16, 2013. Any required validation information not in the FFA office by July 16, 2013 will not be validated.

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 250 qty - \$48
 500 qty - \$72

Texas Jr Angus Show
211

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