

# GAINESVILLE FFA & JR FFA

FFA is the largest youth-led organization in the world, with over 600,000 members. The goal of Gainesville FFA is to strengthen agriculture while developing premier leadership, personal growth, and career success. Our members will develop these skills all while serving their community and learning agriculture-related skills.

## **What are my options?**

9<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> grade students may become an FFA member once they are enrolled in an Ag Science course. At GHS, these options are Principles of AFNR, Floral Design, Horticulture Science, Small Animal Management, Equine Science, Veterinary Medical Applications, and Advanced Animal Science.

Active FFA members may participate in a variety of leadership-based contests in the fall semester, several career based contested in the spring semester, and attend various camps, conventions, and meetings throughout the year. We offer activities that range from serving on the state convention journalism team to competing in the talent contest. There truly is an opportunity for everyone, even if you aren't yet familiar with agriculture. Our members are expected to complete community service, either with the FFA chapter or individually. Each active member shall have a Supervised Agricultural Experience in which they dedicate time outside of class toward learning about agriculture. This SAE project can be anything from owning a livestock project to working at an agriculture-based company to shadowing a student who has an SAE.

At the age of 8, students are eligible to enroll in Gainesville Jr FFA. Grades 3<sup>rd</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> grade have the option of being a junior FFA member for only \$5.00. These students are able to get a jumpstart on the SAE program, owning a livestock or horticultural based project to gain Ag knowledge before high school. These

members will be invited to participate in community service activities with the active FFA members, but will not be eligible to compete in contests outside of the SAE program.

### **Where would I keep an animal?**

Gainesville ISD is proud to announce the addition of a new Agriculture facility on the Gainesville High School campus. At the start of the 2018-2019 school year, we hope to have the doors open on an 8,000 square foot facility designed specifically for students to house livestock projects. All students utilizing the facility would be required to follow rules and regulations set in the AFNR facility handbook and utilize the GISD FFA Advisor as the main point of contact. For more information on livestock projects and projected costs, please visit with Ms. Dillard.

### **How can I benefit from involvement in FFA?**

The National FFA Organization gives over \$2 million in scholarships each year, not to mention the local scholarships that are awarded to FFA members annually for their service to the community. In FFA, you will gain lifetime skills that can be utilized in any career field. Colleges recruit FFA members at a higher rate than athletes, UIL academics, and National Honor Society.

### **More information:**

To learn more about your opportunities or to get involved, please email the Gainesville FFA Advisor, Traci Dillard ([tdillard@gainesvilleisd.org](mailto:tdillard@gainesvilleisd.org)), visit our website, or find us on social media.

[www.gainesville.ffa.org](http://www.gainesville.ffa.org)



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