



## Greenbelt District FFA

Childress

Chillicothe

Clarendon

Claude

Groom

Guthrie

Hedley

McLean

Memphis

Motley Co.

Paducah

Patton Springs

Quanah

Shamrock

Silverton

Spur

Valley

Wellington

# Greenbelt District FFA Constitution

*Adopted/Revised on mm/dd/yy*

## ARTICLE I - Name, Mission and Strategies

**Section A.** The name of this organization shall be the Greenbelt District FFA (District 2) of the National FFA Organization and the Texas FFA Association.

**Section B.** The mission and strategies for this chapter are as follows:

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**.

1. Develops competent and assertive agricultural leadership.
2. Increases awareness of the global and technological importance of agriculture and its contribution to our well-being.
3. Strengthens the confidence of agriculture students in themselves and their work.
4. Promotes the intelligent choice and establishment of an agricultural career.
5. Encourages achievement in supervised agricultural experience programs.
6. Encourages wise management of economic, environmental and human resources of the community.
7. Develops interpersonal skills in teamwork, communications, human relations and social interaction.
8. Builds character and promotes citizenship, volunteerism and patriotism.
9. Promotes cooperation and cooperative attitudes among all people.
10. Promotes healthy lifestyles.
11. Encourages excellence in scholarship.

## ARTICLE II - Organization

**Section A.** District Alignments will be considered by the Area 1 FFA Executive Committee when deemed necessary. Considerations will be made based on geography and membership numbers or any other concerns addressed by the committee.

**Section B.** The Greenbelt District FFA (District 2) shall include the following FFA Chapters: Childress, Chillicothe, Claude, Groom, Guthrie, Hedley, McLean, Memphis, Motley Co., Paducah, Patton Springs, Quanah, Shamrock, Silverton, Spur, Valley and Wellington. New chapters will be added and inactive chapters will be removed from the district as determined by the Texas FFA Association through the charter process.

## ARTICLE III - Membership

**Section A.** Membership in this district shall be of four kinds: (1) Active; (2) Alumni; (3) Honorary and (4) Junior, as defined by the National and Texas FFA Constitutions and by Texas FFA Association membership policies.

**Section B.** The regular activities of this district shall be carried on by the active membership.

**Section C.** To be eligible for active membership in this district, a student must meet the membership eligibility requirements of the National FFA Organization, Texas FFA Association and his/her local chapter. Active members in good standing may vote on all business brought before the district. An active member shall be considered in good standing when he or she:

1. While in school, be enrolled in at least one agriculture, food and natural resources course, as defined in Texas FFA Association membership policies, during the school year and/or follow a planned course of study. Either course must include a supervised agricultural experience program, the objective of which is preparation for an agriculture, food and natural resources career.
2. Shows an interest in the affairs of the organization by attending meetings, striving for degrees of membership, and participating in other organized activities of the chapter.
3. Pays all current local, district, area, state and national dues by the date determined by the chapter.
4. Displays conduct consistent with the ideals and purposes of the National FFA Organization, Texas FFA Association and with the school district's code of student conduct.
5. Meets all other local standards and requirements described in this chapter's bylaws and policies.

**Section D.** The membership year for this chapter shall begin on August 1 and end on July 31 of each year.

## **ARTICLE IV - Emblems**

**Section A.** The emblem of the FFA shall be the emblem for the district.

**Section B.** Emblems used by the members shall be designated by the National FFA Organization.

## **ARTICLE V – Officers and Executive Committee**

**Section A.** The offices of an FFA district shall be: president, vice president, secretary, treasurer, reporter and sentinel. Other officers may be elected as deemed appropriate by the district, such as Student Advisor, Parliamentarian, Historian and Chaplain. The teacher(s) of agriculture, food and natural resources shall be the FFA advisor(s). District officers shall be elected annually by the members present at a regular meeting or called special meeting of the district. Procedures for electing officers and specific duties of each office are described in the bylaws of this chapter.

**Section B.** Pursuant to the provisions of the national and state constitutions, all district officers shall have attained the chapter FFA degree.

**Section C.** Officers shall serve from the end of the district meeting at which they are installed to the end of the next succeeding district meeting at which officers are installed.

**Section D.** The elected officers of the district shall constitute the executive committee which shall convene to plan the activities of the district. Standing committee chairpersons may also be named as members of the executive committee. All policy decisions of the executive committee must be approved by the district. Telephone conferences of the executive committee may be called and considered meetings provided that all participating members may participate and be heard simultaneously.

**Section E.** Pursuant to the applicable constitutional, bylaw and policy provisions of the area and state associations and of the National FFA Organization, this district may nominate candidates for offices above the district level in a manner consistent with the provisions of its bylaws and policies. Candidates for area office shall have attained the chapter degree at the time of the district or area election. Candidates for state office shall hold the state degree at the time of the state election. Candidates for national office shall hold the American Degree at the time of their election to office.

## ARTICLE VII - Committees

- Section A.** The standing committees of the district shall be described in the bylaws. The district may, at any meeting, create additional standing committees.
- Section B.** The district president shall appoint all committees and committee chairs. The terms of all committees shall expire on a date described in the district's annual strategic action plan. Committee expiration may vary depending on duties but no standing committee term shall extend past the end of the fiscal year. The president shall have the authority to remove or reassign any committee chairperson or member, with the consent of the advisor.
- Section C.** No committee shall have the authority to expend district funds (unless expressly authorized to do so), amend the district's constitution, bylaws or policies, appoint or remove a committee member, or take any action outside the scope of authority delegated to it by the district.

## ARTICLE VIII - Dues

- Section A.** District dues in this district shall be fixed annually by a majority vote of active members.
- Section B.** Full local, district, area, state and national dues shall be paid by all active members.
- Section C.** No member shall be considered as active and in good standing unless he/she pays full local, district, area, state and national FFA dues.

## ARTICLE IX - Meetings

- Section A.** Meeting dates and times shall be fixed by the district's executive committee with the advice and consent of the district advisors. Special meetings may be called by the president, by a majority vote of the executive committee or by the district advisor(s). Meeting agendas shall be posted in a manner consistent with operating rules or procedures adopted by the district.
- Section B.** A quorum shall exist when the delegates from the majority of the chapters registered for the meeting/convention are present.
- Section C.** Proxy and cumulative voting are prohibited.

## ARTICLE X - Amendments

- Section A.** This constitution may be amended or changed at any regular or special chapter meeting by a two-thirds vote of the votes cast by a quorum of active members present providing it is not in conflict with the National FFA Organization or Texas FFA Association constitution, bylaws or policies. Amendments must not conflict with the policies and/or regulations of the Area 1 FFA Association. Members shall be notified by mail, electronic mail or classroom announcement at least 30 days prior to a meeting at which any constitutional amendment is to be considered.
- Section B.** Bylaws may be adopted to fit the needs of the district at any regular or special district meeting by a majority vote of a quorum of active members present providing such bylaws do not conflict in any way with the constitution, bylaws or policies of the Texas FFA Association, National FFA Organization or the Area 1 FFA Association. Members shall be notified by mail, electronic mail or classroom announcement at least 30 days prior to a meeting at which any amendment to the bylaws is to be considered.

## ARTICLE XI – Parliamentary Procedure

- Section A.** The *Parliamentary Guide for FFA* by Jarrell D. Gray shall be used as a guide for all district meetings. The latest edition of *Roberts Rules of Order* shall be the final authority in governing the actions of all district meetings.

# Greenbelt District FFA Bylaws

## ARTICLE I. – Relationship to Constitution

The Bylaws shall be a part of the Constitution of the Greenbelt District FFA.

## ARTICLE II. – Location of Offices

The headquarters and principal office of the Greenbelt District FFA shall be at the office of the district president's advisor.

## ARTICLE III – Procedures for Electing Officers

**Section A.** The district shall adopt rules related to the election of officers which shall include, but not be limited to, designation of elections committee, filing deadlines, application forms, testing procedures and election date.

**Section B.** Qualified members shall declare intent to be considered for district office by filing the required forms by the prescribed filing deadline pursuant to the rules adopted by the district.

**Section C.** Officers shall be selected by a combination of written exam score (20%), a personal interview (30%), and a score derived from a secret ballot vote of the members present a regular or called special chapter meeting (50%). Any ties will be broken by the personal interview score.

**Section D.** All written materials related to a district election shall be deposited and retained in a secure location for no less than 30 days following the announcement of election results.

**Section E.** Appeals or protests related to a district election shall be filed pursuant to the grievances procedures of the Area 1 FFA Association.

## ARTICLE IV – Duties of Officers

**Section A.** It shall be the duty of all officers to fulfill the responsibilities described in the officer contract adopted by the district and agreed to by each officer at the time of declaring candidacy for district office.

**Section B.** The president shall preside at all of the district's meetings, shall sign all official documents or authorize execution of said documents, appoint student committees and serve as an ex-officio member of all student committees, coordinate all district operations, represent the district in official functions and perform other such duties as usually pertain to the office of president.

**Section C.** The vice president shall perform the duties of the president in the event of the disability, death, resignation, removal or other inability of the president to perform such duties, develop the district's program of activities, coordinate the operations of all student committees, serve as an ex-officio member of all student committees and perform such other duties and further duties as may be imposed upon him or her by the district.

**Section D.** The secretary shall make and keep correct records or minutes of proceedings of the district and executive committee, prepare and post meeting agendas, file reports, maintain member activity records, issue membership cards, update policy documents as directed and perform such other duties and further duties as may be imposed upon him or her by the district.

**Section E.** The treasurer shall have responsibility for accounting of all funds and property of the district. The treasurer shall provide direction and oversight to any and all who handle the monies of the district, assuring that the financial policies of the district are followed completely, shall present a proposed budget at a regularly scheduled or called special chapter meeting, present monthly financial reports at chapter meetings, chair the budget and finance committee and perform such other duties and further duties as may be imposed upon him or her by the chapter.

**Section F.** The reporter shall chair the district public relations committee and develop public relations strategies to accurately define the public image of the agricultural education program and FFA district, develop or cause to be developed press releases concerning district activities, maintain or cause to be maintained a district website, develop working relationships with all local and school district media, ensure a complete photographic record of all district activities and perform such other duties and further duties as may be imposed upon him or her by the district.

**Section G.** The sentinel shall have responsibility for all meeting related equipment and shall maintain an inventory of all such equipment, ensure that all meeting and social venues are ready to receive members and guests prior to each function, take charge of candidates for degree and award ceremonies, assist the president in maintaining order, ensure a welcoming environment for guests and perform such other duties and further duties as may be imposed upon him or her by the district.

**Section H. (OPTIONAL)** The historian shall have responsibility for documenting events to create a complete and accurate district history and compile such documentation such as, but not limited to newspaper and magazine articles, photographs, video footage, significant web-based content, ceremony and banquet programs and other memorabilia which may be maintained to provide future generations a glimpse into the district's history. The historian shall also maintain records of historically significant anniversaries, past degree and award recipients, officers and alumni of distinction and periodically create displays which foster pride among the members and perform such other duties and further duties as may be imposed upon him or her by the district.

**Section I. (OPTIONAL)** The parliamentarian shall achieve a level of proficiency in parliamentary law, as prescribed in policies adopted by the district and shall rule on all questions of parliamentary conduct at district meetings, conduct parliamentary workshops for younger members or develop other content or achievement benchmarks that foster value for mastery of parliamentary procedures. The parliamentarian shall have custody of the district's parliamentary reference texts and shall perform such other duties and further duties as may be imposed upon him or her by the district.

**Section J. (OPTIONAL)** The chaplain shall present invocations or benedictions at district functions and conduct or cause to be conducted reflections and camps, conferences and workshops as deemed appropriate by the district and shall perform other such duties and further duties as may be imposed on him or her by the district.

## **ARTICLE V – Resignation, Removal of Officers, Officer Vacancies**

**Section A.** The advisor or the executive committee with the advice and consent of the advisor, may, with good cause, remove any officer elected by the district. Good cause shall include, but not be limited to, violation of the provisions of the district's officer contract, violation of district, chapter or departmental rules of conduct, violation of the school code of student conduct or violation of state or federal laws.

**Section B.** Any officer may resign at any time by giving written notice to the advisor, president or secretary. Such resignation shall take effect at the time specified in the notice, and, unless otherwise specified in the notice, the acceptance of such resignation shall not be necessary to make it effective.

**Section C.** Should the office of president become vacant; the vice president shall assume the title and duties of president. The executive committee may appoint an interim officer to fill any other vacancy until the chapter elects a qualified replacement.

## **ARTICLE VI – Committees**

**Section A.** The standing committees of the district shall be in harmony with the National FFA Organization's Quality Standards for Local Chapters. The committee designations and descriptions contained in these bylaws shall be amended to reflect the most current Quality Standards for Local Chapters adopted by the National FFA Organization for the membership year following revision of such standards. Such amendments shall be made without action by the district.

**Section B.** Each active member of this district shall be assigned to a committee which is deemed commensurate to the member's interests, talents and skills. The district shall not be obligated to staff all committees,

but any of the standing committees may be activated by the district president without the action of the district.

**Section C.** Each standing committee shall develop and submit to the executive committee a plan within the committee's scope of responsibility and a corresponding budget within the timelines prescribed by the president. Each committee shall make regular and timely reports to the district concerning progress towards its respective goals.

**Section D.** The standing committees of the district and their respective duties are:

- (1) Growing Leaders-Leadership shall plan and execute activities which help the individual develop technical, human relations and decision-making skills to grow leaders.
- (2) Growing Leaders-Healthy Lifestyles shall plan and execute strategies which promote the well-being of students mentally or physically, in achieving the positive evolution of the whole person.
- (3) Growing Leaders- Scholarship shall plan and execute strategies which develop a positive attitude toward lifelong learning experiences.
- (4) Growing Leaders-Personal Growth shall plan and execute strategies which improve the identity and self-awareness of members, striving to enhance the quality of life and contribute to members' life goals and development.
- (5) Growing Leaders- Career Success shall plan and execute strategies which promote student involvement and growth through agriculture-related experiences and/or entrepreneurship and promote career readiness.
- (6) Building Communities-Environmental shall plan and execute strategies to preserve natural resources and develop more environmentally responsible individuals
- (7) Building Communities –Human Resources shall plan and execute strategies which improve the welfare and well-being of members and citizens of the community
- (8) Building Communities-Citizenship shall plan and execute strategies to encourage members to become active, involved citizens of their school, community and country.
- (9) Building Communities –Stakeholder Engagement shall plan and execute strategies to develop teamwork and cooperation between the local chapter and stakeholders.
- (10) Building Communities –Economic Development shall plan and execute strategies to improve the economic welfare of the community.
- (11) Strengthening Agriculture-Support Group shall plan and execute strategies to develop and maintain positive relations among FFA, parents and community leaders interested in supporting agricultural education.
- (12) Strengthening Agriculture –Chapter Recruitment shall plan and execute strategies to increase agricultural education enrollment and/or FFA membership and encourage greater participation.
- (13) Strengthening Agriculture -Safety shall plan and execute strategies intended to enhance safety in the community
- (14) Strengthening Agriculture –Agricultural Advocacy shall plan and execute strategies to articulate and promote agricultural programs, practices, policies and/or education to elicit action.
- (15) Strengthening Agriculture -Agricultural Literacy shall plan and execute strategies to help consumers become better informed about the production, distribution and daily impact of food, fiber and fuel.

**Section E.** Subcommittees of a standing committee may be created by the president, executive committee, advisor or by the committee with the permission of the president and advisor.

## **ARTICLE VII – Transactions of the Chapter**

**Section A.** The fiscal year of the district shall begin on September 1 and end on August 31.

## **ARTICLE VIII – Grievances and Appeals**

Grievances and appeals shall be addressed under the auspices of the student grievance policies and procedures of the Area 1 FFA Association.