

**POLICY TITLE: Use of Animal in Agricultural Education Programs – Student Permission Form**

**POLICY NO:**  
**D232.200F**  
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**Minidoka County Joint School District # 331**

Student Permission for Exposure to Animal(s)

To be used in all agriculture science courses at the beginning of each course.

Student: \_\_\_\_\_ Grade/Teacher: \_\_\_\_\_

Dear Parent(s)/Guardian(s):

As allergies, asthma, immune problems, and/or other health concerns may make animal contact inappropriate for some students, I require prior parent/guardian permission for student contact with animal(s) in school.

Live animals are an integral part of our Agriculture Science curriculum throughout the entire course, the list of animals that may reside and / or visit the classroom may include but is not limited to the following:

<input type="checkbox"/> Cat	<input type="checkbox"/> Bird	<input type="checkbox"/> Ferret
<input type="checkbox"/> Guinea Pig	<input type="checkbox"/> Dog	<input type="checkbox"/> Rabbit
<input type="checkbox"/> Hamster	<input type="checkbox"/> Reptile or amphibian	<input type="checkbox"/> Rat
<input type="checkbox"/> Mouse	<input type="checkbox"/> Gerbil	<input type="checkbox"/> Chickens
<input type="checkbox"/> Turkeys	<input type="checkbox"/> Cows	<input type="checkbox"/> Horses
<input type="checkbox"/> Goats	<input type="checkbox"/> Sheep	<input type="checkbox"/> Pigs
<input type="checkbox"/> Llamas	<input type="checkbox"/> Alpacas	<input type="checkbox"/> Fish
<input type="checkbox"/> Other _____		

The following animals are prohibited in schools and will not be allowed in agricultural classrooms:

1. Venomous or toxin-producing animals (ie certain spiders, insects, reptiles, and amphibians);
2. Wild or exotic animals
3. Mammals at high risk for transmitting rabies (ie bats, raccoons, skunks, foxes, and coyotes);
4. Non-human primates
5. Stray animals
6. Aggressive or unpredictable animals; and
7. Any animal on the Idaho Invasive Species List

Students and parent(s)/guardian(s) need to be aware that animals will be handled in an appropriate manner and students will be taught safe behaviors and handling techniques. Human

behavior can initiate aggressive, frightened, or startled behaviors from any animal in the classroom and can cause uncharacteristic reactions that may be dangerous or cause injury. These human behaviors will not be tolerated in any agricultural classroom for any reason. Examples include, but are not limited to: screaming, rough handling, running and quick, unpredictable movement, inattentiveness, etc. Any unsafe behavior by the student will be grounds for immediate removal from the activity and a resulting incomplete grade for participation and completion of the laboratory experience.

The building principal or designee will ensure that the District's policies and the following procedures for the use of animals in agricultural education programs are followed.

- Supervision will be provided for the entire student-animal contact session.
- A clean area for showing the animal(s) will be maintained.
- No food or drink will be allowed in the animal area.
- Students will be taught appropriate animal waste control will appropriately dispose of animal waste.
- Students will be expected to help care for the animals in the classroom, including waste disposal and cleaning and disinfecting animal housing areas.
- All students will be required to wash their hands and use sanitizer following each animal handling session.

Please complete and return this form to the teacher by \_\_\_\_\_ . If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact the at:

**To Be Completed by Parent/Guardian:**

\_\_\_\_\_ I DO permit my student identified above to be exposed to the animal(s) listed above. I further agree to indemnify and hold harmless the School District and its employees and agents against any claims, except a claim based on willful and wanton conduct, arising out of my student's exposure to the animal(s) listed above.

\_\_\_\_\_ I DO permit my student identified above to be exposed to the animal(s) listed above with the following exceptions or under the following conditions:

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\_\_\_\_\_ I further agree to indemnify and hold harmless the School District and its employees and agents against any claims, except a claim based on willful and wanton conduct, arising out of my student's exposure to the animal(s) listed above.

\_\_\_\_\_ I DO NOT permit my student identified above to be exposed to the animal(s) listed above. I understand that these are agriculture science and technology courses that utilize animals

in a large part of the educational experience. I understand that these are not mandatory or required courses and therefore will work with the counselors to explore options for classes better suited for my student.

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Parent/Guardian Name (please print)

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Parent/Guardian Signature

Date