Greetings, first off let me tell you how excited I am to be a part of the James Madison Agriscience Magnet Program. With the transition from teacher to teacher in the goat barn, I am doing my best to make the transition as smooth as possible. With this being my first year in Texas, there are many things in which I have to learn and ask for your cooperation and understanding during this time. If you have comments or concerns, I ask that you please communicate with me either via email (jblair@neisd.net) or via remind (text: @goatbar to 81010).

With school starting that means that prospect shows are right around the corner. Below are the three prospect shows in which I will be pulling a trailer to.

-East Central FFA Booster Club Show Sunday, September 18, 2016

-Comal County Fair Livestock Show Sunday, September 25, 2016

-Judson FFA Alumni Prospect Show Saturday, October 15, 2016

Information for each show is included in this packet. Please pay attention to entry deadlines. **The entry deadline for Comal County is September 9, 2016.** The other two shows, East Central and Judson are pay at the show.

A few things in which I would like to go over with exhibitors and parents are:

1. Students are not to “doctor” or diagnose another student’s animal unless permission has been given.
2. A proper diagnosis of the goat cannot be completed by myself if the goat has already been tampered with, therefor my judgement will be hindered and could affect the animal.
3. Students are to feed twice a day. I highly recommend that you spend at least 30 minutes each time feeding, this means that you are to watch your goat eat and drink. This is to monitor the health and wellness of the goat. Also, please take away any feed that is left over when you are done feeding. DO NOT leave food in their pens, unless I instruct you do so. The goats should eat on your schedule, if you leave it out all day they will not acclimate themselves to a feeding schedule. Spending time with your goat inside and outside of the pen helps to build trust between the animal and you, this should make working with them easier when preparing for shows.
4. Guests and outsiders: you as an exhibitor are allowed to have guests: parents, family and friends. Exhibitors, please do not bring a posse into the barn. If they are not helping you, they should not be in the barn.

If there is an unwanted guest in the barn, please notify myself or Mr. Drury. I suggest that everyone does not have any interaction with the unwanted guest unless necessary. When interacting with unwanted guests, please proceed with caution. Ask them politely to leave, do not cuss or threaten any unwanted guests. You may explain that the barn is for goat exhibitors only and that they are back as a feeder/exhibitor or as a guest of an exhibitor. There are exceptions to this rule, if they are genuinely feeding for someone.

1. Cleaning your pen and sand. Should be done on a regular basis. This includes the area directly outside of your stall, both behind and in the front of the stall. It is everyone’s responsibility to help keep the barn clean. Please work together not only with your stall mate and other exhibitors in the barn to help keep our facilities clean.
2. Remember to be updating your AET record book on a regular basis.
3. Feeding logs should be turned in every two weeks as you finish that paper. There is a binder in my classroom for them to be placed in. Please make sure this is done on a regular basis.

If you have not done so, you and your parents should subscribe to the remind account for the barn.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact me.

Goat barn meetings will be on the following dates:

September 13, 2016 @ 4:30 p.m.

September 27, 2016 @ 4:30 p.m.

October 4, 2016 @ 4:30 p.m.

October 18, 2106 @ 4:30 p.m.

Barn Rules:

-No cussing

-No hot shots

-No other pets

-No other barn animals

-No PDA (Public Display of Affection)

-Guests: limit the number of people with you. Unless it is a purposeful/helpful visit aside from family then they do not need to be in the barn.

Dress Code:

-If it is questionable, do not wear it.