

# New York Ag in the Classroom Middle School Articulation Agreement 2007

This is an articulation agreement between \_\_\_\_\_ (AITC school), \_\_\_\_\_ (LEA School), New York Ag in the Classroom under the charter of the State Education Department Career and Technical Education division, and the New York State FFA association to establish middle school FFA chapters and provide agricultural education to students across New York State. Based upon mutual concern that there is a need for increasing the opportunities for students in middle schools within New York State to be active in the New York State FFA and the inability for these schools to meet the necessary requirements set forth by the New York State FFA Association to charter local FFA chapters. New York Ag in the Classroom will provide programming that is necessary to meet the following requirements set forth by the New York FFA Association to establish middle school FFA chapters:

1. Provide Agricultural curriculum that meets the New York Learning Standards and is aligned with the New York State middle school curriculum. This curriculum will provide LEA middle school Agricultural and Science teachers with units of study that will meet the New York State FFA Association requirement for active State FFA membership as expressed in its constitution under article IV Membership, Section B: Active Membership State and National

**Any Student:**

- a. While in school, be enrolled in at least one agricultural education course 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 agricultural career

**Section C:**

**New York State membership is only available to any student in grades 6, 7, or 8 who is enrolled in a course or class in which there is instruction in agriculture skills**

2. Instruction in agriculture skills will be met through the context of the following agricultural core content that has been established through the Ag in the Classroom and related projects;
  - a. Animal Sciences
  - b. Plant Sciences
  - c. Natural Resources
  - d. Food and Nutrition
  - e. Other project
3. LEA middle schools will implement the curriculum via an interdisciplinary curriculum matrix and/or stand alone programming via middle school Science Education courses that teach agricultural skills and are approved by the State Education Department. Length of instruction must have a minimal equivalent of 180 hours over the duration of middle school instruction (Appendix A; New York State Ag in the Classroom Curricula Guidelines). Sufficient documentation will be kept on file with the New York Association of FFA and New York Ag in the Classroom, and will be updated annually through the renewal of this articulation agreement.
4. Students who enroll in LEA middle schools programs that have an approved articulation agreement filed before September 1<sup>st</sup> each year and have paid their annual New York State FFA dues will be eligible and in good standing with the New York State FFA Governing Board, which is the governing body of the New York State FFA Association. This status will provide these students with New York State FFA membership and entitle them to said rights of the NY State FFA Association as stipulated in the constitution and policy handbook. Including but not limited to eligibility to participate in all New York State sponsored Career Development Events under the advisement of the undersigned middle school teacher. It is the understanding, of the undersigned, that FFA is an inter-curricular component of a

quality agricultural education program in accordance with Public Law 105-225 as revised at the federal level in 1998.

5. Ag in the Classroom middle school FFA chapters will become affiliated with a New York State chartered FFA chapter to be eligible for National FFA membership, eligibility will be contingent on membership in the NYS Association of FFA. The affiliate chapter and members will be entitled to all rights as specified under the National FFA Organizations Constitution. This articulation agreement will serve as documentation if signed by a Certified Teacher of Agricultural Education who advises an FFA Chapter in good standing within the State FFA district in which the affiliated chapter resides. The local Chartered FFA chapter constitution and by-laws will be supreme and provide leadership and direction to the articulated middle school program. This documentation must be registered and approved by the State Education Department.
6. Educators involved in providing agricultural instruction to students enrolled in this program are encouraged to obtain a minimum of 6 hours of Agriculture in-service credits annually that are provided by the staff of Cornell Agricultural Outreach and Education.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Middle School Principal

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Middle School Teacher (FFA Advisor)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Certified Teacher of Agriculture (if applicable)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
New York State FFA Governing Board Chair

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Director of New York State Ag in the Classroom

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
NYS SED Representative to Agricultural Education

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

