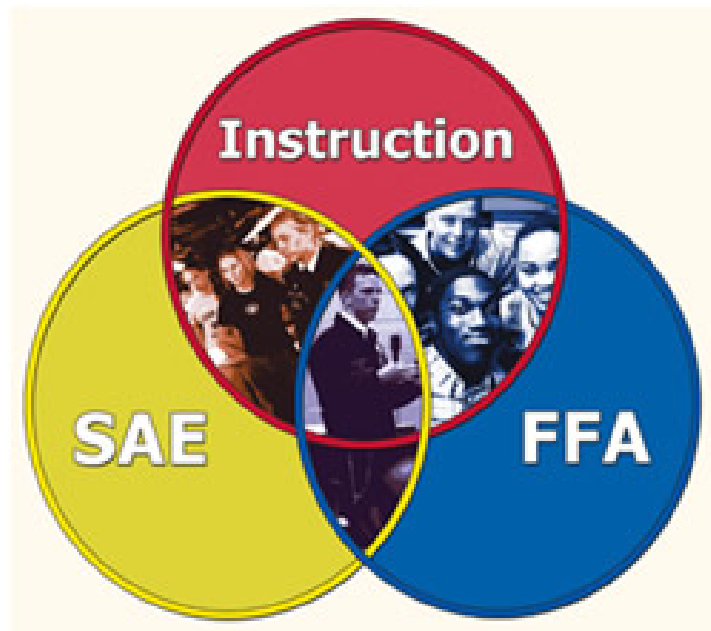




Stamford Agriscience Program Handbook



Stamford Agriscience Program Handbook

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Welcome Letter from Dr. Lisy

The Stamford Regional Agriscience and Technology Center is the most exciting thing to happen to the field of high school agriculture. Here, in a spectacular, state-of-the-art facility on the rolling campus of Westhill High School, students in grades 9-12 will have hands-on exploration of horticulture, dog grooming, aquaculture, and floral design, just to name a few areas of study. Whether heading to college or directly into the career world, students learn that a sophisticated, high-tech field like agriculture is accessible, rewarding, and fun.

Classes in the Agriscience and Technology Center are small, generally no more than 15 students. A distance learning lab enables students to participate in specialty and advanced study worldwide. When it's time for core courses like English, math, social studies, world languages, traditional science, and other electives, students take advantage of the wide variety of courses that Westhill High School has to offer. In addition, students are able to participate in all of Westhill's before and after school clubs, sports, and social activities. It's the best of both worlds.

Included in our program is the opportunity for students to get 19 credits (currently) from UCONN just in their agriculture classes on a UCONN transcript. These credits are transferable to numerous other colleges besides UCONN. Also, note that these credits are only for their Agriculture courses. The college credits cost \$25.00 per credit – much, much less than if the student was to take the course at UCONN. If a student elects these courses they have the opportunity to have at least one semester of college out of the way. This means a huge cost saving to you the parent. Another benefit is that students may take more courses in college or pick up a second major or minor since they have so many courses out of the way already.

Any student accepted to the agriscience program becomes a Westhill High School student. All of the clubs, extracurricular activities, or sports teams will be available to every student.

The Stamford Regional Agriscience and Technology Center serves students from Stamford, Greenwich, Darien, New Canaan, Norwalk, Redding, Wilton, Weston, and Westport. Tuition and bus transportation are provided by the applicant's sending school district.

Applications are available by downloading a copy at www.stamfordpublicschools.org or westhillweb.com. There is also a copy of the application attached to this handbook. Interested students MUST fill out an application and be interviewed by Agriscience and Technology Center staff.

For more information please contact:

Matthew Lisy, Ph.D.
Agriscience Program Coordinator
Stamford Regional Agriscience and Technology Program
Westhill High School
125 Roxbury Road
Stamford, CT 06902
Phone (203) 977-4974
Fax (203) 977-5065
mlisy@ci.stamford.ct.us

Program Overview and General Information

The Agriscience and Technology Program offers an opportunity for all in the lower Fairfield County region to explore the nation's largest commercial business – AGRICULTURE! Over 2000 career areas in the growing agricultural industry from agrimarketing to zoology become available to the students enrolled in the program. Instruction in introductory level information, as well as more advanced technological skills, is provided. Classroom instruction, laboratory/field experience, guest speakers, leadership development through FFA, and career exploration are all areas offered through this broad program. After getting an overview of agriculture, students choose an area (or areas) of specialty during their last two years.

Students enrolled in the Stamford Regional Agriscience and Technology Program attend Westhill High School full time. All activities, including sports, offered at Westhill are available to students enrolled in the program. All students are prepared to go on to college, but may choose to enter directly into the workforce upon completion of the program. Students are encouraged to participate in internships and entrepreneurship that give them the professional experience to apply what is taught in the classroom to the real world of work.

This program follows the three circle model of agricultural education which includes classroom instruction, FFA and SAE (Supervised Agricultural Experience). Students are required to participate in all three components of the program.

Classroom instruction in introductory topics is given during the first two years of the program (Ag 1 and Ag 2). During the third and fourth years (Ag 3 and Ag 4), students may choose classes in the topic or topics they would like to know more about. Some of the classes are offered in conjunction with the University of Connecticut's Early College Experience program which allows students to receive college credit for classes taken while in high school. By design, these classes are the same quality, material, and caliber as the same classes offered at the University of Connecticut (UConn). Students must receive a grade of C or better to receive UConn credit. The cost to the student is \$25 per UConn credit. These classes are denoted below by having the word "UConn ECE" in the title.

FFA, the nation's largest youth leadership organization, allows students to participate in local, district, state, and national career development events and leadership activities. Scholarships and Fellowships are available to members.

SAEs provide students with agricultural experience outside of class time. Freshmen are required to complete 50 hours a year, while sophomores, juniors, and seniors are required to complete 200 hours. Students may choose the type or topic of SAEs based on their interests.

With limited space available, all students interested in the Agriscience and Technology Program must fill out an application and be interviewed. They will receive a letter in the mail informing them of the status of their application.

For further information call the Agriscience & Technology Center at 977-4974.

Faculty of the Stamford Agriscience Program

Matthew Lisy, Ph.D.

Dr. Lisy earned his B.S. in Biology from Baldwin-Wallace College in Berea, Ohio in 1998. Following his passion for organisms he earned his Ph.D. in Ecology from the Pennsylvania State University in 2006. For his dissertation, he discovered six new species of African cichlid fish from Lake Malawi and described a new genus. During his tenure as a graduate student, he managed an off campus aquaculture facility, wrote for grants, and worked on many research projects involving fish, speciation, and the environment. At Penn State he taught an Ichthyology Laboratory class, was a guest instructor for an institute for high school teachers, and was involved in agricultural extension work. While at Westhill High School, he has received grants to incorporate innovative science strategies into his classroom, and received the Spotlight on Teachers award for excellence in teaching. Dr. Lisy is also the recipient of the Connecticut Science Teaching Association, Excellence in Secondary Science Teaching Award given to only one science teacher in the state each year. He is an adjunct instructor for the University of Connecticut in Horticulture, Biology, Marine Science, and Environmental Science. With a long history of agriculture-related work experience and hobbies, he enjoys teaching in his areas of certification in Biology and Agriculture.

Ms. Danielle Jeffries

Ms. Jeffries is a graduate of the University of Connecticut where she received her B.S. in Animal Science in 2009. As a student there, she studied many subjects including laboratory animals, veterinary science, anatomy and physiology, floriculture, and even agricultural mechanics. She was also an avid member and officer of livestock clubs, worked on the UConn dairy farm, and obtained her commercial drivers license in order to drive the campus shuttle buses for the UConn Department of Transportation.

Ms. Jeffries then received her M.A. in Curriculum and Instruction with a concentration in Agricultural Education from the University of Connecticut in 2010. Ms. Jeffries has also been employed at an animal hospital as a veterinary assistant performing the duties of a veterinary technician. These duties included assisting with surgeries, administering medications, as well as working with patients for animal disease prevention and treatment. Ms. Jeffries also has a wide array of agricultural knowledge in areas of dog and cat grooming, kennel management, biotechnology, animal behavior, animal rehabilitation, pet fostering, and adoption.

Emily Lisy

Mrs. Lisy is a graduate of the Pennsylvania State University where she received her B.S. and M.S. in Wildlife and Fisheries Science in 2001 and 2003 respectively. For her master's research, she studied the effect of residential development design on bird diversity in State College, Pennsylvania. Her thesis work developed a model that planners and developers could use to incorporate best management practices to promote bird diversity in residential developments. While at Penn State, she was a Maurice K. Goddard Fellow and helped organize three Goddard Forums on Developing Sustainable Communities, Global Warming, and Biodiversity. She also is an editor of the Biodiversity Conservation Handbook, 2006. During her short time at Westhill High School she has received grants to incorporate innovative science strategies into her classroom, and received the Spotlight on Teachers award for excellence in teaching. Mrs. Lisy is also the recipient of the Connecticut Science Teaching Association, Excellence in Secondary Science Teaching Award given to only one science teacher in the state each year. She is an adjunct instructor for the University of Connecticut in Environmental Science, Floral Art and Marine Science.

Stamford Agriscience Courses

054_AGRISCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY 1

5 Points

This introductory Agriscience and Technology course introduces students to the exciting world of plants, animals, the environment, floral design, aquaculture, marine science, agricultural mechanics, food science and the many educational opportunities and careers that involve these areas of study. Classroom activities are reinforced with technology and basic lab work. Skills in leadership and teamwork through FFA instruction are stressed.

065_AGRISCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY 2

10 Points

Prerequisite: Agriscience & Technology 1

This course provides students with the opportunity to investigate with more depth the broad field of Agriscience and Technology. Students apply field and laboratory methods to enhance lecture material while expanding on their knowledge of agricultural topics. In addition to covering more Agriscience and Technology 1 topics in depth, biotechnology, parliamentary procedure, and marketing are added.

0661, 0671 AQUACULTURE

5 Points

In this course, important water parameters, how they affect the organisms, and how to test for them are taught. The chemical composition of water, how to obtain and dispose of water, and the processes of moving water are discussed. Proper husbandry, biology, life history, historical uses, and human uses for important aquaculture species are emphasized. The students apply what they learn in our state of the art aquaculture laboratory. We have many different species of live organisms from around the world that are used for ornamental or food purposes.

0665, 0675 UCONN ECE MARINE SCIENCE

5 Points

This course examines the processes governing the geology, circulation, chemistry and biological productivity of the world's oceans. Emphasis is placed on the interactions and interrelationships between physical, chemical, biological and geological processes that contribute to both the stability and the variability of the marine environment. 3 credits from UCONN are given for this course.

0666, 0676 UCONN ECE PRINCIPLES OF BIOLOGY 1

5 Points

The course is designed to provide a foundation for more advanced college courses in Biology and related sciences. Topics covered include molecular and cell biology, and animal anatomy and physiology. Laboratory exercises include dissection of preserved animals. 4 credits from UCONN are given for this course.

0667, 0677 UCONN ECE PRINCIPLES OF BIOLOGY 2

5 Points

The course is designed to provide a foundation for more advanced courses in Biology and related sciences. Topics covered include ecology, evolution, genetics, and plant biology. 4 credits from UCONN are given for this course.

0663, 0673 UCONN ECE FUNDAMENTALS OF HORTICULTURE

5 Points

This course examines the science and practice of horticultural plant propagation and culture. The laboratory reinforced learning of the basic concepts of plant structure, growth and function, integrated pest management, impact of new technology, and horticulture's impact on the environment will be discussed. 3 credits from UCONN are given for this course.

0662, 0672 UCONN ECE FLORAL ART

5 Points

The study of flower arrangement as an art form with emphasis on historical background, artistic principles, color harmony and care of perishable media is covered in this course. Individual expression is encouraged in the creation of floral composition. 2 credits from UCONN are given for this course.

8820 UCONN ECE/AP ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE

5 Points

Prerequisite: CP Biology and CP Chemistry

This course is an introduction to basic concepts and areas of environmental concern and how these problems can be effectively addressed. Topics include human population, ecological principles, conservation of biological resources, biodiversity, croplands, rangelands, forestlands, soil and water conservation, pollution and water management, wildlife and fisheries conservation, energy resources

and consumption, and global change. This course also prepares students to take the AP Environmental Science Exam. 3 credits from UCONN are given for this course.

0668, 0669 UCONN ECE BIOTECHNOLOGY

5 Points

This course explores the scientific, legal and ethical aspects of Biotechnology including its application in agriculture, health medicine, forensics, and the environment. 3 credits from UCONN are given for this course.

PROPOSED NEW COURSES:

FOOD SCIENCE

5 Points

This course focuses on a variety of topics involving the food science industry and the products derived from agriculture. Topics covered in this course are the study of food safety and inspection, sanitation, regulation, grading, processing, biochemistry, food additives, food supply, environmental concerns of food production, food preparation, and nutritive value of meat, dairy, poultry, and fish products. Students will also study meat, poultry, and dairy judging. The food science course will also take a deep look into the educational and career opportunities available in the food science industry.

EQUINE SCIENCE

5 Points

The equine science course offers a wide array of scientific topics involving the horse industry. This course focuses on horse types and breeds, equine nutrition, anatomy, breeding, health care, disease management, evaluation, conformation, behavior, horsemanship, and husbandry. Also covered is an in-depth look into the educational and career opportunities as well as the practical, hands on approach to horse care, safety and management.

VETERINARY SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

5 Points

This is a course designed for junior and senior Agriscience students interested in pursuing an education and career in the field of veterinary science for common domestic animals. This course provides a hands-on experience learning animal behavior, handling, restraint, bandaging, pet first aid, and anatomy and physiology. This course also focuses on veterinary hospital management, surgical principles, physical examinations, nutrition, medication and vaccination administration, disease and parasite prevention and treatment, and medical terminology and abbreviations.

Field Trips

Through the year, our center takes field trips to various locations to reinforce our curriculum. These trips may include the Boston Flower Show and Quincy Market, the Bronx Zoo, the Durham Fair, the Maritime Aquarium, etc. Also, field trips may be scheduled in class (like a trip to the Stamford Museum and Nature Center), or we may bring professionals to our campus.

Sample Four Year Agriscience Student Schedule

The sample schedule below is meant to serve as a guide for students, parents/guardians, and guidance counselors. It is by no means the only possible schedule, but is meant as an example. It portrays the seven-period schedule at Westhill High School. Agriculture courses are in italics and bold. Remember that as an ag 1 student (generally freshmen), there is only one period of agriscience a day. As a sophomore, junior, and senior, there are two agriscience periods a day.

Freshman Year:

1 ***Agriscience and Technology 1***

2 English

3 Social Studies

4 Health & Gym

5 Algebra 1

6 CP Physical Science

7 Spanish 2

Sophomore Year:

1 Geometry

2 Carido Fit (Gym)

3 Honors Biology *Note: Bio & Gym switched off.

4 Honors English

5 Spanish 3

6 ***Agriscience and Technology 2***

7 ***Agriscience and Technology 2***

Junior Year:

1 Honors Spanish 4

2 Honors Algebra 2

3 CP Chemistry

4 ***Agriscience and Technology 3 – UConn ECE Floral Art***

5 ***Agriscience and Technology 3 – UConn ECE AP Environmental Science***

6 AP English

7 Honors Modern World & Civics

Senior Year:

1 AP Spanish

2 AP English

3 Pre-Calc

4 ***Agriscience and Technology 4 – UConn ECE Marine Science***

5 Health

6 ***Agriscience and Technology 4 – UConn ECE Biology 1 and 2***

7 Honors US History

Stamford Regional Agriscience and Technology Center

SAE Requirements

To: Agriscience and Technology Students and Parents

From: The Stamford Regional Agriscience and Technology Center Staff

Re: Supervised Agricultural Experience Requirements (SAE)

It is the mission of the Stamford Regional Agriscience and Technology Center to produce students ready and willing to go directly into the work force or to college upon graduation from Westhill High School. The Connecticut Legislature feels this goal is so important that it has enacted laws and regulations regarding how to achieve this outcome. One very important regulation is Section 10-65-7, which deals directly with Supervised Agricultural Experience Projects (SAE) and School to Career Projects. The regulation reads as follows:

“... agriscience students at all grade levels shall have a planned, supervised, occupational experience program in agriculture which is related to the student’s goals and abilities. The program shall be in addition to regularly scheduled class activities.”

This document is to inform you about the Supervised Agricultural Experience requirements and to notify you that if a student does not comply with this, he or she will be processed for separation from Stamford’s Regional Agriscience and Technology Center. Students are required to maintain an SAE portfolio of activities performed during their SAE project. The Stamford Regional Agriscience and Technology Center’s staff is available to consult with students, parents and/or guardians in planning and establishing this integral part of the Agriscience Program. Students will have the first quarter of the school year to develop and have in place their SAE project that meets with the staff’s approval.

What is an SAE?

The Supervised Agricultural Experience (SAE) is an integral part of agricultural education. SAE is defined as a practical application of classroom concepts designed to provide “real-world” experiences and develop skills in agriculturally related areas. The SAE program must be conducted outside of instructional class time. The SAE may take place at home, agriculturally-related businesses, school laboratories, farms or the community. Examples of student SAE opportunities include working at any of these places as well as numerous others: golf course, pet store, tractor dealership, parks department, garden center, farm, dog groomer, arborist, veterinary clinic, nursery/greenhouse, taxidermist, dairy farm, florist, bait and tackle shop, boarding kennel, nature center, animal shelter, riding stable, landscaping. Students may also conduct various types of research (experimental and non-experimental) as well as work on supplemental and improvement projects.

FFA

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. Agricultural Education prepares students for successful careers and a lifetime of informed choices in the global agriculture, food, fiber and natural resources systems. FFA is a school-based part of agricultural education programs in public schools and is federally chartered by Congress through the U.S. Department of Education.

Nearly half a million students across the country are becoming leaders, building self-esteem and preparing for career success. They're members of the FFA, the organization for students in agricultural education. Whether you're planning a career in agriculture or another field, you'll benefit from the world class opportunities in FFA. Some of the benefits of being a member of the FFA include:

Leadership

FFA members strengthen their personal skills, learn to manage their time and discover how to respect themselves and gain respect from others. They run chapter meetings, serve on committees, work in the community and hold chapter, state and national offices. While they're learning to lead they're also learning to be strong, cooperating members of a team.

Scholarships

The National FFA Organization awards nearly \$2 million in scholarships to more than 1,500 FFA members each year. Many local and state businesses also offer FFA scholarships. Plus, FFA experience and skills give members an edge over the competition for scholarships from other groups and schools.

Experiences

FFA members start their own businesses or work for an agricultural company throughout high school as part of a customized program that lets them apply what they're learning in the classroom to the real world. Some FFA members have earned hundreds of thousands of dollars by the time they graduated from college by reinvesting their profits in their own businesses.

Members also gain experience that puts them way ahead of their classmates when it comes to applying for college or finding a job. You'll learn how to work with people and handle business finances while you're still in high school.

Careers

FFA can help you develop the skills you will need for a career. FFA can also help you figure out which of agriculture's more than 300 exciting career options match your interests, skills and abilities. Consider the fact that the industry employs more than 24 million Americans in careers ranging from marketing and biotechnology to wildlife management and genetic engineering. Even if you don't choose a career in the science, business and technology of agriculture, the skills and training you gain through FFA will lead to success in any industry.

At the Stamford Agriscience and Technology Center FFA meetings we expose students to speakers in various careers in agriculture and students have the opportunity to ask questions to these speakers as well as learn about these careers.

Service

FFA members contribute to their communities through projects. They teach younger students about agriculture and become important friends and role models through FFA. As you help others, you'll benefit by developing leadership skills, meeting new people and having fun. You'll also gain valuable experience that looks good on a job, scholarship or college application.

Competition

FFA offers so many opportunities for recognition at the local, state and national levels. You can compete as a member of a team or on your own in a variety of diverse events ranging from public speaking to food science and technology. Whatever your skill, there's a place for you to shine in FFA. In addition to the satisfaction of knowing your stuff and doing your best, you could walk away with money for school, cash prizes and exciting trips, not to mention plaques, ribbons and trophies.

While being a student in the Stamford Agriscience and Technology Program you will be required to attend FFA meetings each month and participate in fundraising opportunities. During the FFA meetings you will learn Parliamentary Procedure, teamwork, public speaking and career options in agriculture. As a member of the FFA you will learn how to run a business as well as agriculture knowledge. All of the money that is raised from fundraising goes to seniors in the program pursuing a career in agriculture.

The Stamford Agriscience and Technology center offers some unique opportunities to its students:

Holiday Shop – Each December, students run a holiday shop where they sell poinsettias and other holiday plants, decorated wreaths and centerpieces.

Spring Plant Sale – Throughout the school year students maintain the greenhouses, grow plants and start annuals and vegetables from seed, cuttings, and plugs for their Spring Plant Sale. During this sale students sell numerous varieties of annual flowers, vegetables, herbs, and perennials.

Floral Shop – Students also have the opportunity to see how a floral shop is run. Students learn floral design skills and have the ability to make bouquets, centerpieces and numerous special orders for the public and for school functions.

Doggie Daycare – Students learn how to run a dog daycare business. Proper dog handling techniques and training is also taught.

Dog Grooming – Students learn dog grooming skills that they can use either at their own business or working at a vet office or dog grooming facility.

Stamford Regional Agriscience and Technology Center
FFA Membership

To: Parents and Guardians of the Stamford Regional Agriscience Students

From: The Staff of the Stamford Regional Agriscience Program

Re: FFA Membership and Requirements

Students enrolled in the Agriscience Program in Stamford have the exciting opportunity to become members of the FFA organization, the largest youth organization in the world. The FFA offers your child many areas of fun, knowledge and leadership exposure that only those students in the Agriscience program can take advantage of. Contests, trips, scholarships and making new friends are all a part of the FFA experience.

This letter has two purposes: the first is to inform you about membership dues that are required for your child to become or remain an active FFA member. Only active members are entitled to FFA sponsored trips, awards and the FFA banquet. All students are required to participate in the FFA meetings; in class FFA work and to attend the FFA awards banquet. The FFA part of our program makes up a portion of your child's grade. Dues for the school year are \$20.00, which pays for national, state, and local membership. Checks may be made out to the Stamford FFA. Payment of dues offers your child the opportunity to attend several field trips throughout the school year. The second purpose of this letter is to inform parents and students about required attendance at our after school FFA meetings. The year's officer team has decided to make all meetings required for all students. Meetings are held the third Thursday of every month and are generally over by 3:00 PM so students can take the late bus home. We sincerely hope that by sending this letter home that you will help your Stamford Regional Agriscience student become more involved in reaching their full potential in the Agriscience Program.

Stamford Regional Agriscience and Technology Program Rules

Use appropriate language at all times. This includes in and out of the building, during class, field trips, and all program functions.

Be to class on time.

Follow the teacher's directions.

Be respectful of all fellow students and staff in the building. Be respectful of all animal and plant life.

Respect other people's property as if it were your own.

Come to class prepared to work (notebook, pen, pencil) and appropriate attire for the day's activities.

No food or drink in the building. Lunches are to be finished in the main building cafeteria.

Pick up after yourself. Trash goes in garbage cans.

No I-Pods, cell phones, radios, pagers, walkmans, or laser pointers.

DO NOT handle animals without supervision or permission.

DO NOT use computers without permission.

Membership in the FFA. Attend FFA meetings.

SAE project: 50 hours per year for 9th graders; 200 hours per year for 10th-12th graders.

No coats, hats or outside clothing is to be worn inside.

College/Career Pathways

Agriculture is not just farming anymore. Farming is only one small part of today's agriculture. National studies show that in the coming decades, companies and agencies of every size will be looking for people trained in agriculture. Courses in science, mathematics, communications and agriculture will help open doors for you. Here are just a few of the many careers you could have if you study agriculture.

World Feeders: agronomist, animal breeder, aquaculturist, cash grain farmer, cattle producer, dairy farmer, farm management consultant, food scientist, food technologist, fruit grower, greenhouse manager, horticulturist, human nutritionist, plant breeder, pork producer, vegetable grower.

Problem Solvers: agricultural engineer, agronomist, animal nutritionist, animal scientist, botanist, chemist, crop scout, ecologist, entomologist, extension specialist, farm manager, forester, microbiologist, plant pathologist, policy analyst, rural development specialist, seed scientist, sociologist, soil scientist, soil conservationist, veterinarian, weed scientist.

Science Explorers: agricultural engineer, agronomist, animal scientist, biochemist, biophysicist, chemist, ecologist, economist, environmental engineer, fish and wildlife specialist, forest engineer, geneticist, marine biologist, ornithologist, pathologist, sociologist, soil scientist, veterinarian.

Environmental Protectors: agricultural engineer, agronomist, animal scientist, chemist, ecologist, environmental engineer, extension specialist, farmer, forest engineer, forest scientist, hydrologist, marine biologist, park ranger, rancher, soil conservation specialist, soil and water engineer, soil scientist, weed scientist.

Business People: accountant, appraiser, business manager, credit analyst, commodity broker, economist, farmer, financial analyst, retail manager, securities broker, wholesale manager, food broker, grain merchandiser, insurance agent, livestock buyer, market analyst, marketing manager, rancher, rural development specialist, sales representative, technical service representative, timber buyer.

Educators and Communicators: agriculture teacher, advertising executive, broadcaster, college of agriculture faculty member, cooperative extension specialist, copywriter, editor, 4-H and youth specialist, journalist, marketing analyst, media buyer, photographer, public administration specialist, public policy analyst, public relations specialist, rural development specialist, science writer, videographer.

Open Houses

There are numerous ways for prospective students and their parents/guardians to see what the Stamford Regional Agriscience and Technology center has to offer. Our open houses are held concurrently with our Holiday shop and Spring Plant Sale/Dog Wash Saturday hours. These dates vary by year, but are generally held on select Saturdays in December and May. This is a great way to see our program in action and some of our accomplishments. Please call (203) 977-4974 for more information and the current year's schedule.

Tours

Private and small group tours can be arranged should the open house hours prove not to be convenient. This may be scheduled during the school day or after school hours. This is a great way to see our facility and ask any questions. Please contact the Program Coordinator at (203) 977-2747 to schedule an appointment.

Student Shadowing

Prospective students may arrange to shadow one of our current agriscience students. This is a great way to see what a typical day in the life of an agriscience student would be like. Days of appointment can be scheduled on an individual basis. Please call the program coordinator at (203) 977-2747 for more information.

Admission Process

1. Fill out the attached application. The sooner you get your application in the better your chances are of getting into the program. There are only a limited number of seats available in this program, so it is very competitive. Be sure that your application is complete when you send it in or it will not be processed.
2. Give your application to your guidance counselor to sign and attach your report card.
3. Mail to:

Dr. Matthew Lisy
Stamford Agriscience and Technology Program
Westhill High School
125 Roxbury Road
Stamford, CT 06902
4. Be available for a possible interview with Stamford Agriscience Program staff.
5. You will receive a letter telling you if you have been accepted to the program or not. This letter will have the information you will need to register for your courses and register at Westhill if you are out of district.

5a. For students districted to attend Westhill High School:

The next step is to take this letter to your guidance counselor and make sure you are scheduled for Ag 1 next year.

5b. For out of district students (not districted for Westhill High School):

1. Applicants and their parents/guardians must fill out and mail the enclosed "Request for Out-of-Attendance Zone Placement 2012-2013" form (follow instructions on the form).
2. Once the Office of Family and Community Engagement processes the above form, you will be contacted.
3. The new student and a parent/guardian must then come to Westhill High School to register. Please see the enclosed "Registration Guidelines for New Students."

Application for Admission

STAMFORD REGIONAL AGRISCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY PROGRAM Westhill High School ~ 125 Roxbury Road ~ Stamford, CT 06902 Phone (203) 977-4974 ~ Fax (203) 977-5065

This application is to be filled out by all students interested in attending the Agriscience program located at Westhill High School. Be sure to fill out all parts completely and return to your Guidance Counselor.

TO BE COMPLETED BY THE APPLICANT

Applicant's Name _____

Address No. and Street _____

Town _____ Zip Code _____

Current Grade Level _____

Guidance Counselor _____ Phone _____

Current School _____ Districted for Westhill? Y or N

The reason I would like to attend the Stamford Regional Agriscience Program is:

My future career goal is: _____

My main area(s) of interest in Agriscience is (are). Please circle:

Animal Science Plant Science Environmental Science Aquaculture Agricultural Mechanics

List or describe any Agriscience experience you have had.

List three people that you feel would be willing to give you a recommendation. They may not be relatives but could be employers, neighbors, counselors, or clergy.

1) Name _____ Relationship _____

Phone _____

2) Name _____ Relationship _____

Phone _____

3) Name _____ Relationship _____

Phone _____

I understand that if I am accepted to the Agriscience Program I will be a full time student at Westhill High School. I will follow all of the rules and regulations that are expected of me as a Westhill student and as an Agriscience student. I must have a Supervised Agriscience Experience and participate in the FFA to remain as an Agriscience student. If for some reason I choose not to obey the rules and regulations, I will no longer be allowed to continue as an Agriscience student. In addition, if I do not live in the Westhill district, I must return to my local high school for my secondary education.

Student signature _____ Date _____

TO BE COMPLETED BY THE PARENTS OR GUARDIANS

Father or Guardian Name: _____

Phone: (Day) _____ (Night) _____

Mother or Guardian Name: _____

Phone: (Day) _____ (Night) _____

I understand that as a student in the Stamford Regional Agriscience and Technology Program my child will be attending Westhill High School full time. Agriscience students are expected to participate in the FFA, the largest youth organization in America, which is an integral part of the total program. Students are expected to obtain and maintain a Supervised Agricultural Experience to help support their learning in the total program. I will support my child in all components of the Stamford Regional Agriscience and Technology program at Westhill High School.

Parent or Guardian signature _____ Date _____

TO BE COMPLETED BY THE SENDING SCHOOL

Please attach a copy of the student's most recent report card and return to: Stamford Regional Agriscience and Technology Program Westhill High School, 125 Roxbury Road, Stamford, CT 06902.

Please write a brief summary as to why this student would benefit from the Stamford Regional Agriscience and Technology Program. (You may attach a separate sheet if you prefer.)

_____ I do recommend this student to attend the Stamford Regional Agriscience and Technology Program at Westhill High School.

_____ I do not recommend this student to attend the Stamford Regional Agriscience and Technology Program at Westhill High School.

Signature _____ Date _____

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