



PROPOSAL KIT SAMPLE

Ranching Educational Grant Funding Sample Proposal

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February 5, 20xx

Warren Pepperdine
Chairman of the Board
Future Food Center
1000 HoneyHill Drive
Lincoln, NE 68505

Dear Mr. Pepperdine,

Please find enclosed our proposal in application for a \$10,000.00 Future Food Education Grant.

At Ragged Ridge School, our mission is to prepare our students to live in harmony with other people as well as with the environment. While we give our 520 students (grades 7-12) a well-rounded education, we place special emphasis on examination of how the world works scientifically and economically. We pride ourselves on raising future leaders in the fields of science and business.

With this mission in mind, we're sure you will agree that funding our school project to raise and sell organic chickens and eggs matches your organization's goals of helping a broad audience understand agricultural practices.

We've tried to provide all the information you may need in this proposal, but we would be happy to answer any further questions you may have.

We look forward to hearing from you soon and to beginning our exciting new agriculture project at Ragged Ridge School this coming spring.

Sincerely,

Petra Nugent
Principal
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PROPOSAL

February 5, 20xx

Future Food Education Grant Application

Prepared for: Warren Pepperdine
Chairman of the Board

Prepared by: Petra Nugent
Principal



DESCRIPTION

Ragged Ridge School is applying for a \$10,000 Future Food Education Grant.

Your grant will enable us to create both an educational experience for our students as well as a sustainable source of income for our school.



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GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

Ragged Ridge School plans to achieve the following goals with our poultry project:

- ***Teach Our Students About Raising Food Animals***

Many youngsters these days believe that meat and eggs come from grocery stores. We want to educate them about the entire process of raising animals and delivering food to the consumer's table.

- ***Teach Our Students Responsibility to Other Living Creatures***

Making our students responsible for the care of our chickens will teach them compassion and respect for other living creatures.

- ***Teach Our Students the Business Side of Agriculture***

We will not only raise chickens and gather eggs, but we will sell poultry and eggs to the public. Our students will learn how to budget for expenses, how to advertise and sell products, and how to balance the books for a small business enterprise.

- ***Teach Our Students Organic Farming Practices***

Our poultry project will be an organic farming project. This means our students will have to learn how to meet organic standards, as well as learning how different farming methods can affect our environment.

- ***Raise Money for Charity or for Special School Projects***

After our poultry project has earned its first profits, we plan to hold a referendum and let students decide how to use those profits. Options could be for other special projects to be accomplished within the school, or to donate profits to a worthy cause, such as supporting a sister school in Africa, Asia, or Latin America.

Summary

As you can see from the list above, our goals for the poultry project are 100% aimed toward educating and benefiting our students.





SUPERVISION

Although we want our students to run our poultry project, of course they will need to be taught what to do, and the project will need to be closely supervised to be sure both students and animals fare well and that the project achieves its goals. Please see the Education page for details about what and how we plan to teach our student volunteers.

To ensure proper supervision of the project, we plan to do the following:

- ***Appoint a committee of three faculty supervisors each quarter to oversee the project.***

This will be a rotating duty overseen by the school principal. We hope that faculty members will volunteer for this interesting duty, but the principal is prepared to appoint members if needed. The first quarter will be the most time-consuming, as we will all be learning how to run a poultry business, and one of the duties of the first committee will be to create an instruction booklet for all following committees.

- ***Check the poultry area at least two times per day.***

A faculty supervisor will check the poultry area at least twice a day to be sure that students are carrying out tasks as expected.

- ***Hold weekly meetings during the quarter with team members.***

A faculty supervisor will hold a weekly meeting with the student team members to make sure everything is going smoothly and resolve any problems.

- ***Provide status reports to the principal on the project.***

Each month the supervisory committee will report on the status and successes or failures of our poultry project.





OUTREACH

Ragged Ridge School has already done preliminary community outreach to ensure the support of our neighbors for our poultry project.

Goals

We had two goals in mind when reaching out to our neighbors:

1. Inform them that we may be keeping hens (no roosters) at Ragged Ridge School. This was especially important for our closest neighbors, as they may hear clucking and other normal chicken sounds.
2. Gather the names of any neighbors who are interested in purchasing fresh organic chicken and/or eggs from our project.

Outreach Efforts

We sent 247 letters to all neighbors who live within a five-mile radius of our school. We received 189 replies via email and regular mail. These consisted of 185 expressions of support, 6 expressions of concerns (3 about the potential to spread viruses, 1 about possible attraction of predators like coyotes, 2 vegetarian issues), and 139 potential customers who were interested in purchasing eggs when they became available. We responded to those who expressed concerns and created a mailing list of those who were interested in our products.

Benefits

By contacting neighbors in advance of the project, we ensured that we have enlisted community support and that we have a customer base for future sales.





PARTICIPANTS

Although we plan to educate all students about our poultry project and use examples from our project whenever feasible to demonstrate scientific, math, or economic principles, every student at Ragged Ridge cannot participate in the daily tasks of our poultry project. This means that we must have a method of selecting students for participation.

We anticipate great demand for participation among students. Therefore, we propose to select 30 students each quarter to care for our chickens and collect eggs and actively sell our products. We will develop a list of job titles and descriptions, and select one student to fill each slot at the beginning of every quarter, based on the following criteria:

- ***Desire to Participate***

The student must apply for a particular position in writing, stating why he or she is qualified to do that job and what he or she expects to gain from the experience.

- ***Availability/Dependability***

Different jobs within the project will demand specific time commitments. Applicants must be available to carry out the tasks when needed.

- ***Overall Academic Record***

Applicants must have demonstrated their ability to carry out their normal school activities and assignments with satisfactory grades. We don't want academic studies to suffer as a result of taking on extra tasks in our poultry project.

- ***Random Drawing***

Names of qualified applicants will be placed into a pool at the beginning of each quarter, and one name will be drawn at random to fill each of the 30 positions.

Summary

We anticipate having an enthusiastic group of participants of varying ages and dispositions each quarter. Students will learn to work together to make decisions and maintain schedules.





BUDGET

We anticipate the following costs for the project for our first year. Note that all costs are estimated and will change somewhat due to changing prices and start time for the project.

Materials for chicken coop/associated structures, and fenced enclosure	\$4500.00
Expert construction assistance (optional)	\$800.00
Chicks (50 hen chicks up, 1 day to six weeks old, \$3/chick)	\$150.00
Organic chicken feed – (Avg of \$.10/day per hen * 50 hens) *365 days	\$1825.00
Electricity to warm chicken coop and light structures – Avg \$1 per day * 365	\$365.00
Water for chickens – (Avg \$.01/day per hen * 50 hens) * 365 days	\$182.50
Egg cartons (500)	\$95.00
Tools	\$300.00
Advertising budget	\$1200.00
Estimated total	\$9417.50

As you can see, we project that our costs will come in at slightly less funding needed than the \$10,000 grant, but these are all estimated costs. Depending on weather and health of our chicks, we may need to pay for extra heat or cooling or replacement animals.

During the last half of the first year, we hope to be bringing in money from egg sales.



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