

## **Congratulations on your acceptance into the CTE Veterinary Science program for the 2024-2025 school year!**

Kalamazoo RESA Career and Technical Education (CTE) invite you and your parent/guardian to attend an orientation highlighting next year's CTE Veterinary Science experience. This orientation is important, and we encourage a parent/guardian to attend with the student. Please join us on **Wednesday, May 15<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 p.m.** in the Veterinary Science Classroom at Vicksburg High School (501 E. Highway St, Vicksburg, MI 49097). The classroom is located next to the greenhouse building to the east of the high school. Park in the lot on the east side of the high school (corner of East Highway and South Wilson Street).

In this meeting, you will have the opportunity to:

- Meet the instructor
- Learn about the program's year-long expectations, dress code and logistics
- Learn about the 2<sup>nd</sup> semester internship
- Learn how successful completion of the course can lead to future opportunities
- Ask questions

The attached program guidelines will be discussed in detail during the orientation, so please have this packet with you. *Please note that Veterinary Science is a drivers' only course.*

**Special Note:** You are receiving this packet because your name was provided to us by your school counselor as enrolling in a CTE program. If in doubt, check with your counselor. We apologize if this packet was sent to you in error.

**Instructor:**

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KRESA Career and Technical Education

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# VETERINARY SCIENCE

## OVERVIEW

CTE Veterinary Science prepares students with the knowledge and skills required to evaluate their potential future in veterinary medicine, prepare for college-level work, and to function as a veterinary assistant within a veterinary practice. Within the Veterinary Science curriculum, a student will gain marketable skills, career awareness, and the key characteristics necessary to be successful in the broad scope of veterinary medicine. Enrollment means you have made a commitment to attend a rigorous college-prep level occupational program. Students enrolled in the course will have the opportunity to complete and document their hours of veterinary experience required for veterinary school application after successfully completing their undergraduate (bachelors) degree, if desired.

Veterinary Science is a full-year course that **meets at Vicksburg High School**, Monday through Friday from 12:45 – 2:15 p.m. Students must provide their own transportation. The Agriscience building is located next to the school's greenhouse. This class has met in a hybrid format for several years. For next school year, students will meet 4 days in-person with 1 day as required online instruction. Be sure you are ready to make this commitment!

## CAPSTONE PROJECTS

Veterinary Science students will, in addition to their regular coursework, complete a semester-long capstone project each semester. These opportunities allow students to work at very high levels and gain skills that will be helpful both in college and career.

First semester, students will formulate a question, perform original research, and write up their experience in a professional publication format. In addition, they will prepare an explanatory video and a professional poster display. Students will submit this project to the statewide Arthur Berkey Agriscience Fair, and if selected will present a poster of their project at the FFA State Convention.

Second semester, students will be placed in an internship, and will produce a Case Report based upon a case that they have seen in their placement. This will include a written paper (again, publication format) and a presentation before their peers, clinicians, families and school personnel at the conclusion of the semester.

## CAREER AND TECHNICAL STUDENT ORGANIZATIONS (CTSO)

Veterinary Science students will have the opportunity to participate in HOSA (Health Occupations Students of America, Future Health Professionals) and FFA to expand leadership opportunities, practice clinical and employment skills and network with others with similar interests. Students earning an FFA State Degree may receive 6 general education credits at Michigan State University.

## CERTIFICATION/CREDENTIALS

Students will also have the opportunity to complete a Certified Veterinary Assistant course online and take the certification examination.

## CLINICAL INTERNSHIPS AND GRADES

Veterinary Science students who successfully complete first semester with at least a **“B”** in each of the grading categories will be placed in an internship for second semester. Successful completion of an internship is a course requirement. All students must have their own reliable transportation to and from internships.

To receive a passing grade in Veterinary Science, the student must successfully fulfill academic and skill expectations. Student progress is evaluated each marking period. In order to be successful, students must study (review notes, read text, study diagrams, review flashcards) for at least 20-30 minutes a night in addition to any regular homework assignments.

Internships are an opportunity for students to practice job readiness skills, and their internship supervisor in their clinic will evaluate them regularly. These evaluations will be factored into their semester grade as exam grades. Students who are late, who do not show up for their scheduled shifts, or who are not following the professional standards that they have been taught will not pass their internships. Every effort is made to place students into internships that meet their interests and that are a reasonable driving distance from their home school and their home. Once internships begin, no changes in placement will be made.

### **COURSE MATERIALS**

Students are responsible for the materials checked out to them and will be charged for materials lost or not returned in the condition that they were issued. This includes laptops/cases, charging cords, smocks/aprons, textbooks and other materials that may be loaned to students.

### **DRESS CODE**

As aspiring professionals, you are expected to dress the part. Each day, you will receive points based upon your choice of dress. Expectations for each class and points awarded are explained below. Most students can find very acceptable attire at a re-sale/consignment shop for very little cost.

2/4 points (kennel assistant): Jeans (no rips, pulled up and secured), Plain T-shirt or Oxford shirt, clean, closed toe shoes. Clean, unwrinkled smock and name tag.

4/4 points (assistant/technician): Slacks/chinos/crops (not denim), button-up shirt, blouse or sweater, matching socks and closed-toe, non-skid dress shoes. Slacks or skirt/dress (at least fingertip length, suggest longer as you will be bending!!!), button-up shirt with tie or blouse/sweater, matching socks and closed-toe, non-skid dress shoes. Clean, unwrinkled smock and name tag.

6/4 points (professional): Above with tie and belt for males, slacks or skirt with blouse or sweater or dress for females. Clean, unwrinkled smock and name tag.

Zero points will be awarded for unacceptable dress. This includes torn clothing, exposed undergarments, leggings not covered by skirt/dress/top of fingertip length, skirts/dresses shorter than fingertips, shorts, sweatpants/sweatshirts, pajamas or loungewear, sandals or flipflops.

Long hair must be tied back, and dangly and facial piercings should be removed for any activity involving animal handling.

### **FIELD TRIPS**

Students will participate in periodic field trips. Through these experiences students will be exposed to different segments of the animal industry, such as dairy farms, horse farms, and sheep farms. These field trips are mandatory and are considered excused absences at a student's high school.

Students are also offered opportunities to assist with lambing locally and take part in other volunteer opportunities. These opportunities are above and beyond the class requirements.

## **So, You Say I'm in FFA?** **What does that mean?**

Since you are enrolled in the Veterinary Science class at KRESA CTE you are automatically a member in the FFA organization, a Career and Technical Student Organization (CTSO).

### **What is FFA?**

FFA is an organization for students who are interested in future careers in the agriscience and natural resource field.

You can participate in many activities such as:

- **Rural Education Day** (Project Red) – educating the community, especially third graders on different areas of agriculture.
- **Leadership Contests** – an opportunity for students to gain career skills in public speaking, interviewing, demonstrating and conducting meetings.
- **National FFA Convention** – a week-long trip to Indiana where you learn about FFA, your chapter, other chapters, and each other by participating and supporting others in competitions, going to concerts, site-seeing, going to career fair, talking to colleges, and having a lot of fun.
- **State FFA Convention** – the finals of leadership contests, also meet new people and receive awards.
- **Region I Camp** – work with other chapters in the region, brainstorm new ideas, and learn leadership skills.
- **Banquets and Picnics** – honor those who help us through the year.
- **Fall Leadership** – conventions to attend to learn more about certain subject areas.
- **Retreats** – travel to different places to take part in leadership, recreation, and more.
- **Agricultural Career Development Events** – all students will participate in some area of competition in April. These range from Greenhouse, Floriculture, Landscaping, Crops, Animals, Marketing, Forestry, etc.
- **FFA Official Meetings** – come help us make decisions about your chapter, your voice counts, and ideas are always welcome, be a part of each of the activities by planning and working to put them on. Win door prizes and learn about careers in agriculture, premier leadership and student success.
- **Fundraising** - of course all the fun takes finances, help us raise money by selling products that we make such as Christmas items and plants.

### **FFA is also...**

- |                               |                           |
|-------------------------------|---------------------------|
| • Having fun                  | • Help the community      |
| • Getting to meet new people  | • Gain self confidence    |
| • Win awards                  | • Go on field trips       |
| • Earn cash prizes            | • Meet influential people |
| • Gain valuable career skills | • Make career connections |
| • Learn something new         | • Dancing                 |
| • Try new things              | • Singing                 |
| • Go new places               | • Exciting!!!!!!!         |

**Please** take an **ACTIVE** role in **FFA**. We are always looking for new projects to take on. Any ideas about community service projects, fundraisers, and any other ideas to have fun and learn are greatly welcomed and needed.