

# ***“Give Me 10”***

*This program is designed to develop FFA Alumni Chapter/Booster Group that can help agricultural education teachers, involve volunteers and expand opportunities for current and future FFA members.*

## **TO THE TEACHER:**

Yes, everyone has heard the war stories about community members wanting to run the program, and the best way to prevent that scenario is developing the Alumni Chapter/Booster Group correctly from the beginning. It is true that most members of the community have no idea the demands on your time from school, FFA, and family, but if they did, they would be willing to help without adding to your already full plate. Alumni Chapter/Booster Group members can give you more time to teach.

## **TO THE ALUMNI CHAPTER/BOOSTER GROUP:**

Thank You for stepping up and asking to become part of an organization this is going to allow the agricultural education program and FFA chapter to grow and offer the members expanded opportunities. As an Alumni Chapter/Booster Group member you can provide three things that every agriculture teacher needs to move their students to the next level: extra time, the ability to raise funds, and expertise and experiences to share.

## *10 Steps to the “GIVE ME 10” Program*

### **STEP 1**

#### **Agricultural education teachers with no Alumni Chapter/Booster Group chapter or an inactive Alumni Chapter/Booster Group chapter:**

Invite 3 or 4 community members to your school that you feel will help develop a support group for your agriculture program.

#### **Alumni Chapter/Booster Group chapters with new agriculture teachers:**

Set up a meeting with the teacher and 3 or 4 Alumni Chapter/Booster Group members to start the process.

#### **Alumni Chapter/Booster Group Chapters that want to do more with the agriculture education program:**

Select 3 or 4 Alumni Chapter/Booster Group members and set up a meeting with the agriculture teacher.

### **STEP 2**

After introductions, spend just a few minutes talking about the future, but stop short of setting goals.

### **STEP 3**

Set a date to trade your “10” list, with time for each side to address their list. Set this date at least 10 to 14 days later but no more than a month. Both sides need time to think and consider the 10 items they want to trade.

### **STEP 4**

Decide who will attend the “10” list review meeting:

- 3 or 4 Alumni Chapter/Booster Group members max- we want representatives, not the entire group
- Agriculture teacher
  - Consider inviting your principle and/or a school board member, so that they can see the support you have and better understand the help and support you need.
- 2 or 3 FFA Officers – to see where the agriculture teacher needs help, what the Alumni Chapter/Booster Group is willing to offer, and how students can get involved

### **STEP 5:**

#### **Build Your “10”**

- **Agriculture Teacher:** Build your list of 10 with things that you need and things that would make the job easier. You may want to compile a list of 15 to 20 items and then cut it to the 10, and only 10. Your list also needs to be

somewhat specific. Don't just ask for money, but what it is for. If you need help with a team, which team, and if you need help with a field trip, where and what time of year.

- **Alumni Chapter/Booster Group:** Involve as many members as possible to compile the list and brainstorm a lot of ideas, but realize that not everyone's ideas will make the list. As you build the list, discuss what you can do and identify people that could help with each item. Realize that you do not know what the teacher is going to ask for, and that they can identify what should be at the top of the list. You are building a list of items that could help support the program, not telling the program what to do.
  - Remember to build your list with a range of small simple tasks (someone to run to the store one or two days a week) to events that are going to raise several hundred dollars to fund the program and/or FFA Members.
  - Realize the agriculture teacher is going to only select 4 items off of your list and that they are going to become your top priority to accomplish during the year. That does not mean you can't do other things on the list, but they should not start until the prioritized events are planned.
  - Understand that you are going to get a list of 10 activities that the agriculture teacher is going to give you to work on, and from that list of 10 you are going to commit to working on 5 of them this year, as well as working to help with several more.
  - Remember you are building a list that your group is willing to do. These may involve the teacher and students, but should not require their time or presence. They could be asked but should not be expected to be involved. We want to help give them time, not take more of it.
  - This is a group commitment, not just one person. You may want to vote on your final list.

#### **STEP 6:**

Trade your lists. You may need to clarify some of the things on the list. Set the time/date for your list selection meeting, giving you plenty of time to review and discuss. The teacher should select 4 from the Alumni Chapter/Booster Group list and the Alumni Chapter/Booster Group should select 5 from the teacher's list.

- Remember that our goal is to develop long term working relationships between agriculture teachers, FFA members, and Alumni Chapter/Booster Group. Rome was not built in a day, and neither will this relationship.

#### **STEP 7:**

Meet to address your selections. Enter this meeting with a very open mind. Both groups selected items that they felt were meaningful, so work with that thought process. The agriculture teacher should also be able to trade for something that they see a major need for. Alumni Chapter/Booster Group efforts are to meet the program and agriculture teacher's needs. Upon leaving this meeting, the Alumni Chapter/Booster Group should be smiling and excited and the agriculture teacher should be able to see more off their plate.

#### **STEP 8:**

Build the Alumni Chapter/Booster Group program of activities. Use the list to build the activities and committees, and set the calendar for the year in accordance to what fits best with the FFA chapter program of activities. (Ask the agriculture teacher for theirs.) Share the final Alumni Chapter/Booster Group program of activities with the agriculture teacher so that the teacher and students are aware of all Alumni Chapter/Booster Group activities.

#### **STEP 9:**

The Alumni Chapter/Booster Group has offered to help and support, and should follow through with that plan in order to ensure the success of the relationship.

#### **STEP 10:**

Complete an annual Alumni Chapter/Booster Group activities report to the local school board of the activities completed making sure to include the volunteer hours and money raised. This can help you advocate for your chapter and reflect on what you can do to continue to build for the future!