



United States
Department of
Agriculture



United States
Department of
Education

July 24, 2008

Dr. Larry D. Case
Chairman
Board of Directors
National FFA Organization
6060 FFA Drive
Indianapolis, IN 68960

Dear Dr. Case:

The United States Department of Education (Education) and the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) affirm support of the National FFA Organization (FFA) as an important youth development organization and as an integral part of agricultural education. We support FFA's mission to make a positive difference in the lives of students by developing their potential for leadership, personal growth, and career success.

Education and USDA share an appreciation for the role FFA plays throughout the Nation and recognize the important role that agricultural education can play in meeting the objectives of No Child Left Behind. We also recognize that agricultural education provides young people the knowledge, skills, and ability to enhance their leadership skills and pursue career opportunities in agriculture and related industries.

Education and USDA will continue working collaboratively to advance FFA's long-range goals of expanding students' access to agricultural education, raising the quality of programming, and increasing students' academic achievement.

Education and USDA will also pursue individual activities and use respective resources to continue support of FFA and its mission. Each department, when appropriate, will carry out its activities in a coordinated and mutually beneficial manner.

Sincerely,

Handwritten signature of Edward T. Schafer in blue ink.

Edward T. Schafer
Secretary of Agriculture

Handwritten signature of Margaret Spellings in blue ink.

Margaret Spellings
Secretary of Education