Douglas County Residents:

This is a special announcement from the Douglas County Extension Council and the Douglas County Fair Board regarding the convening of a joint meeting of these two bodies at 7:00 PM on Tuesday, May 26, 2020. The purpose of this meeting is to consider a framework that has been drafted by a joint task force consisting of individuals representing Extension and Fair Board. For the last two months, we have been working hard to develop contingency plans in the event that we will not be able to jointly host the Douglas County Fair as we have traditionally done. The task force mentioned above has been convening since the Extension Council and the Fair Board held their May board meetings and has drafted a two-scenario plan for executing the 2020 Douglas County Fair that is dependent upon which phase of the Governor’s Ad Astra Plan we are in at fair time. The sole item on the agenda for this joint board meeting is the consideration of adopting this framework. You can find that framework document on the Douglas County Extension website at https://www.douglas.k-state.edu/.

The Douglas County Extension Council and the Douglas County Fair Board are interested in hearing what members of the public think about this agenda item. Members of the public who wish to provide public comment to the Extension Council Board are strongly encouraged to submit written comments to Marlin Bates, County Extension Director at batesm@ksu.edu before 12:00 PM on Tuesday, May 26. Members of the public who wish to provide public comment to the Fair Board are strongly encouraged to submit written comments to dgcountyksfair@gmail.com before 12:00 PM on Tuesday, May 26. Comments for either board may also be dropped off at the Extension Office located at 2110 Harper St. Lawrence, KS 66046 during normal business hours before 12:00 PM on Tuesday, May 26. Please note that the Extension Office will be closed on Monday, May 25 in observance of Memorial Day. All comments received before the deadline will be distributed to board members prior to the meeting.

Members of the public who wish to provide live comments during the meeting must register their name with Marlin Bates, County Extension Director at batesm@ksu.edu or by calling the Extension Office at 785.843.7058 no later than 12:00 PM on Tuesday, May 26. Members of the public who wish to provide live comments during the meeting are strongly encouraged to do so by remote participation in the meeting. For cases where that is not possible and in keeping with the Kansas Open Meetings Act, public commenters and other members of the public who wish to observe the meeting but lack the technology to do so remotely may attend in the Deal Six Auditorium of the Extension Office located at 2110 Harper St. Lawrence, KS 66046. Live public comments during the meeting will be limited to three (3) minutes per commenter. Members of the public who wish to observe the meeting remotely need to email Marlin Bates, County Extension Director at batesm@ksu.edu so that a link to the meeting site can be shared in a secure manner.

Sincerely,

Marlin A. Bates
County Extension Director
K-State Research and Extension – Douglas County

Margaret Kalb
Executive Secretary
Douglas County Fair Board
For all static projects. Dog, Pets and Cat projects will follow the same plan where applicable.

Scenario A (Phases <3 of Ad Astra Plan)

- 4-H/FFA divisions only.
- Entirely Virtual.
- Use FlipGrid system to submit videos of each project entry.
- Judge will respond with recorded video and/or written comments via Flipgrid. Only exhibitor and Extension staff will have access to their feedback.
- Champions and special awards will be awarded.

Scenario B (Includes Phases 3-Phase Out of Ad Astra Plan)

- 4-H/FFA divisions only.
- Exhibit and go for all static projects.
  - Projects will not be on public display.
  - All purple ranking projects will be kept for consideration of champions.
    - Purple ranking projects will be released at a later date.
    - Blue-white ranking projects will be taken home by the 4-H’er the same day as judging.
- Conference judging and/or project judging for larger project areas will take place on Monday of fair week.
- Conference judging and/or project drop off will be scheduled by last name after entries close.
- Conference judging participants and judges will also practice proper social distancing.
- Virtual entry is available for exhibitors upon request with approval from Fair Board and Extension Staff. Requests to exhibit virtually are required to be submitted by July 1.
- All 4-H’ers, immediate family members and volunteers are encouraged to wear cloth face coverings. Face coverings will be available on grounds for those without masks.
- Social Distance between family units and exhibitors strongly encouraged.
- Exhibitor and immediate family only on grounds. A limit on immediate family allowed with each exhibitor may be implemented to follow crowd capacity rules.
- Handwashing and hand sanitizing stations will be located throughout the fairgrounds.
- Bathrooms and door handles will be disinfected every hour during the judging process.
- Signs will be posted to encourage COVID-19 healthy precautions.
- All buildings will have markers on the floor to assist with social distancing during the check-in and judging process.
For all livestock projects. (Cattle, equine, goats, llamas, rabbits, sheep and swine)

Scenario A (Phases <3 of Ad Astra Plan)

- 4-H/FFA divisions only.
- Entirely virtual experience for exhibitors to submit pictures and videos of their projects to be judged and provided confidential feedback. Showmanship classes will be blended, consisting of the exhibitor showcasing their animal and a project talk on topics specific to their age divisions. Judging contests will be held in a similar format.
- No Round Robin contest.
- Livestock auction will be hosted virtually through an online platform. Auction will be premium only and each exhibitor can sell one market project. Project chosen for auction will be submitted prior to fair and bidding will be open for an extended period of time during the fair. Grand and Reserve Champion market projects will not be required to sell.

Scenario B (Includes Phases 3- Phase Out of Ad Astra Plan)

- 4-H/FFA divisions only.
- Show and go livestock showcase experience. Livestock will arrive the morning of their schedule show date, weigh-in, show, and then be dismissed that same day. No livestock will stay overnight.
- Exhibitors are encouraged to show out of trailer when possible. Socially distance spaced pens will be available for those unable to pen at trailer.
- All exhibitors and spectators are encouraged to wear cloth face coverings. Face coverings will be available for those without.
- Handwashing and hand sanitizing stations located throughout the fairgrounds.
- Signs will be posted to encourage COVID-19 healthy precautions.
- Social Distance between family units and exhibitors strongly encouraged.
- Exhibitor and immediate family only on grounds. A limit on immediate family allowed with each exhibitor may be implemented to follow crowd capacity rules.
- Immediate family to only be in the show area when their exhibitor is in the show ring or holding area. Show will be broadcasted live online.
- Smaller number of showman in each class to maintain social distance inside the show ring. Cattle, sheep, goats, llamas, equine will be set up 6ft apart while in the ring. Swine classes will be broken into smaller classes to ensure distance can be obtained.
- No Round Robin.
- Virtual entry is available for exhibitors upon request with approval from Fair Board and Extension Staff. Requests to exhibit virtually are required to be submitted by July 1.
- Virtual livestock judging experience.
- Livestock auction will be hosted virtually through an online platform. Auction will be premium only and each exhibitor can sell one market project. Project chosen for auction will be submitted prior to fair and bidding will be open for an extended period of time during the fair. Grand and Reserve Champion market projects will not be required to sell.