

How North Hollywood High School's ag program is taking AFNR to the next level

Customer profile

Name of school:

North Hollywood High School

Location:

North Hollywood, CA

Student population:

2,600

North Hollywood High School boasts one of the largest and longest-running agriculture programs in L.A., offering its students a unique and comprehensive education in horticulture and animal science.

Driving interest in animal science

The ag department is home to a variety of animals, enabling students to get hands-on experience with animal anatomy, maintenance, and medicine.

Department Lead Andrew Lepore cultivates a high level of engagement by focusing on interactive experiences. After being trained in animal well-being and safety, students are put in charge of the farm, heading out every morning to clean stalls, feed, brush, and trim the animals, and check them over for any issues.

When they find a problem, students are responsible for writing vet reports and have the opportunity to work right alongside the vet to perform surgeries and necropsies.

These vet tech tasks prepare students to earn certification for Animal Science Level I, providing them with a competitive advantage with future schooling and employers.



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— Andrew Lepore, CTE Agriculture Teacher

Along with credits and certification, students can earn a paycheck helping Lepore care for the farm over the summer, all of which has inspired many of them to go on to major in veterinary science.

Helping the program thrive

Working with Nasco Education has been a game-changer, said Andrew, as he can get everything he needs to care for the animals and has been able to make upgrades to increase their comfort and improve efficiency.

"The majority of our supplies on the farm are from Nasco. We've been able to completely improve our farm with their materials," said Lepore. "100% props to our Nasco rep. She's been the biggest help for our farm the last few years. She's amazing — truly a great person to work with."

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