

Dear Senator Toni Harp,

My name is Olivia Still and I am a sophomore in the Agriscience and Technology program in Glastonbury. I live in Amston and I attend this regional agriscience school choice program because of the infinite potential the program offers students. Currently, I am heavily involved in the floral design section of this program. I take floral design classes to develop skills for a future career in the floral industry. I also take expanded agricultural classes. I have taken a Horticulture class, a Landscape and Design course, and next year I will continue on this path and take a Botany course, as well. I am also considering taking a Fish and Marine course and an Animal Science course.

The program extends beyond this. Every student enrolled in the agriscience program is required to take an extra class every year which focuses on improving our leadership and organization. These courses also focus on public speaking and planning for the future. During senior year, the first half of this extra course focuses on college applications, trade school applications, and other options for a future beyond high school.

This extra course also guides us towards our parent organization, The National FFA Organization. The FFA is a nationwide organization which focuses on agriscience learning in the classroom. This course helps us to learn the history of the FFA, and all the opportunities it holds.

Every member who enrolls in this program is also part of the FFA. One aspect of the FFA that requires every student to complete a project outside of the classroom, which extends our learning to a hands on experience. We call this project our Supervised Agricultural Experience, or our SAE for short. We can have a wide variety of projects: you can have a garden, have a dog training program, volunteer at the Humane Society, operate a landscaping business, and so much more. My SAE has given me so much more than something to do. It has helped me to learn outside skills that I will use for the rest of my life. I have completed over 230 hours doing this project and I am proud of my accomplishments. I look forward to expanding my home garden and adding in a new perennial bed this spring.

This is simply just our school's portion of the program, however. The FFA gives students the opportunity to participate in CDEs: Career Development Events that help us gain skills for everyday life, not just in the area of agriculture that we are interested in. I have had the ability to do creed speaking, in which I stood in front of judges and recited the FFA creed. I then proceeded to answer questions about the five paragraph creed. I know this has helped me tremendously with speaking projects in school, and even when talking to my basketball team. I have also had the opportunity to participate in The Big E's floral expo for agriscience students, as well as the Northeast Floral Expo. In the Floral Expo, students had the ability to help set up and attend workshops alongside professional florists. It was neat to see the things they did with the flowers. These events have affected me greatly and I look forward to future opportunities.

The first part of the report deals with the general situation of the country and the position of the various groups. It is a very interesting and well-written account of the situation in the country and the position of the various groups. The author has done a great deal of research and has written a very interesting and well-written account of the situation in the country and the position of the various groups.

The second part of the report deals with the economic situation of the country and the position of the various groups. It is a very interesting and well-written account of the economic situation in the country and the position of the various groups. The author has done a great deal of research and has written a very interesting and well-written account of the economic situation in the country and the position of the various groups.

The third part of the report deals with the social situation of the country and the position of the various groups. It is a very interesting and well-written account of the social situation in the country and the position of the various groups. The author has done a great deal of research and has written a very interesting and well-written account of the social situation in the country and the position of the various groups.

The fourth part of the report deals with the political situation of the country and the position of the various groups. It is a very interesting and well-written account of the political situation in the country and the position of the various groups. The author has done a great deal of research and has written a very interesting and well-written account of the political situation in the country and the position of the various groups.

The fifth part of the report deals with the cultural situation of the country and the position of the various groups. It is a very interesting and well-written account of the cultural situation in the country and the position of the various groups. The author has done a great deal of research and has written a very interesting and well-written account of the cultural situation in the country and the position of the various groups.

Our agriscience program also had the honor of being able to attend the FFA National Convention in Indianapolis this past October. This was a life changing experience for me. 55,000 members all wearing the blue FFA jacket flooded the streets of Indianapolis. To see what I was a part of was absolutely amazing. We visited a 2,000 acre farm, an award winning donkey farm, as well as visiting a vet tech facility. We also attended workshops where we talked about our personalities and our future. It was a life changing conference and I treasure the experience. In the future, I plan to apply to become an officer in the program, as well as expanding my SAE, and I plan on continuing to participate in monthly meetings and in CDEs. I hope I might have the opportunity to attend the Washington Leadership Conference in Washington, D.C. this summer.

I am writing this letter to encourage you to please urge the Appropriations Committee to pledge 9 million dollars of the school choice funding increases, as proposed in the Governor's budget, to the State's 19 regional (Vo-Ag) agriscience programs.

Our agriscience programs have been drastically underfunded for 20 years in comparison to magnet schools, charter schools, vocational technical schools and the other school choice funding programs. (Please see attached flyer with details). Increased funding will allow hundreds of more students like me to enroll in these successful programs so they will have the same positive experience I am having now.

Thank you for your time and attention to this important matter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Olivia Still". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above the printed name.

Olivia Still

The first part of the report is a general introduction to the project. It describes the objectives of the study and the methods used to collect and analyze the data. The second part of the report is a detailed description of the results of the study. This includes a discussion of the findings and their implications for the field of research. The final part of the report is a conclusion that summarizes the main points of the study and offers suggestions for further research.

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