TeachKind
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November 20, 2026

Dr. LaTonya M. Goffney
Superintendent
Aldine Independent School District

Via email: [redacted]

Dear Dr. Goffney,

I'm writing from TeachKind, PETA's humane education division, which works with thousands of schools across the U.S. to integrate compassion for animals into the learning experience. We were saddened to learn of the deaths of a goat and two pigs after dogs reportedly attacked them in the Davis High School barn where animals used in Aldine High School's Future Farmers of America (FFA) program were temporarily housed. For the sake of the remaining animals and in honor of those who died, will Aldine Independent School District (AISD) send the surviving animals to a reputable sanctuary and stop using animals in its agricultural program? **PETA is ready to donate $5,000 to AISD to develop a plant-based agriculture program if you commit to no longer using animals.**

Students' own words have been especially powerful. Jovany Jaimes described Manchitas the goat as "my baby," while Priscilla Sosa reportedly stayed with a pig named Chunks as he was euthanized, explaining that she wanted him to know that he was comforted. These students' sentiments reflect the empathy and compassion for animals that so many young people naturally feel—and they underscore the importance of channeling that compassion into positive, forward-thinking educational experiences. Yet FFA projects put that empathy in direct conflict with what students are ultimately expected to accept: that an animal they have fed, comforted, and come to love can eventually be sold off to be slaughtered.

With PETA's $5,000 contribution, AISD could support hands-on learning in areas such as:

- **horticulture and crop production**, giving students experience growing nutritious foods;
- **hydroponics and other controlled-environment agriculture**, introducing students to innovative methods of producing food;
- **plant and soil science**, connecting agriculture with biology, chemistry, and environmental science;
- **sustainable food systems**, helping students investigate real-world questions involving land, water, climate, and food security; and
- **agriscience research, entrepreneurship, and leadership**, strengthening career-connected learning, allowing students to turn their compassion into constructive action, while complementing FFA Plant Systems opportunities.

Most importantly, such a transition would recognize what Aldine students themselves have demonstrated so movingly: **Animals matter to them as individuals.** Priscilla Sosa put it simply when discussing

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animals: "[*w*]*e just want to give them the best life that we can*." We hope the district will build on that compassion by giving students agricultural experiences that never require an animal to suffer or die.

Will Aldine High School commit to transitioning to fully plant-based, animal-free agriculture programming and accept PETA's $5,000 contribution to help make that transition possible?

On behalf of PETA and our many members and supporters in Texas, thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Julie Everett
Senior Writer and Engagement Coordinator
TeachKind | PETA's Humane Education Division

Cc: Sheila Adams, Chief Communications Officer ([redacted])
Dr. Faviola Cantu, Chief Academic Officer ([redacted])
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