



*Extended Contracts
for Agriculture Teachers*

**The Position
of the National Association of
Agricultural Educators**

Position: The Board of Directors and the members of the National Association of Agricultural Educators, Inc. (NAAE) believe that agriculture education programs should be funded year round and that agriculture education teachers should be employed year round.

Rationale: The rationale for this position is as follows:

1. Due to the year round nature of Supervised Agricultural Experience (SAE), continued supervision through the summer months is required. SAE remains an integral part of the total school-based agricultural education program. SAE types include employment or placement, entrepreneurship, research, home and farm improvements, and skills. Teachers regularly visit students' SAE programs on-site to access progress and coach students for successful school to work transitions.
2. For agriculture students to fully take advantage of opportunities afforded to them through the intracurricular FFA, advisors need to be available on a year round basis. Many FFA career development events and leadership conferences occur during the summer months to avoid conflict during class time. These activities ensure personal growth and development, along with technical competence, of agriculture students.
3. Because of the dynamic nature of the agriculture industry, instructors need to keep abreast of new technology. Many industry sponsored workshops and conferences happen in June, July, and August. Furthermore, during the summer months, agricultural education associations hold professional development updates to provide up-to-date curricular materials and deliver systems.
4. Most agricultural education facilities require extensive upkeep. Many schools include animal laboratories and/or greenhouses that must be tended on a daily basis. Timely renovation, maintenance and inventory of facilities will best serve learners.

This position statement resulted from the deliberations of the Policy and Bylaws Committee at the 1996 convention in Cincinnati, Ohio, December 4-7, 1996.

NAAE is an equal opportunity organization. NAAE will not discriminate against any individual based on race, creed, color, religion, sex, national origin, ancestry, age, physical or mental handicap, or veteran status.