### Guidelines for the handling and care of pets used in Meridian APEX Fair

1. Pets used as part of a demonstration or display at the APEX fair should have instructional value and are limited to animals that live in cages. These animals may only be a part of the after school presentations. It is the responsibility of the pet owners to ensure the pets’ well-being during the fair. Videos of pets, large or small, may be submitted for use in lieu of physically bringing them in as well.
2. All animals shall be maintained in a sanitary condition and in a manner to prevent health hazards or nuisance conditions. Pet enclosures shall be constructed with easily cleanable surfaces and maintained in good repair.
3. All animals must remain in their enclosures at all times. At no time should an animal be allowed to roam freely.
4. Students handling animals must wash their hands with warm soap and water or hand sanitizer before leaving the designated area of the fair.
5. No psittacine birds will be allowed per district guidelines. Specifically parakeets, parrots and lovebirds.
6. The school principal shall have final decision making authority as it pertains to allowing any pets to be on display during the APEX Fair.
7. Anyone interested in having a live pet as a part of the APEX Fair must include this information as a part of their APEX Fair proposal. Additional information regarding the use of the animal during presentations will need to be included along with the type of enclosure being utilized during the display. We want to ensure the health and well-being of the pet during the presentation times.