**4-H “I Love America” Clubs starting in Box Elder County**

**Purpose**

*The Box Elder County 4-H “I Love America” Club is a multi-denominational club to give children an opportunity to study* ***United States History and the principles of liberty included in the United States******Constitution****. Children of all religious beliefs are welcome, and respectful dialogue regarding the beliefs of others will be encouraged. The Bible will be used as a historical record. We also recognize the Founding Fathers of America believed in the Bible and we want to be open and honest about the religious beliefs of those who founded this country. Parental input is encouraged so that we can include the values and beliefs in our class discussions that allow all members to feel respected and included.*

**What is 4-H**

4-H is a youth development program available in every county in the United States! It provides an ideal environment for children to learn history, become engaged in community service, and develop life skills that will help them be a positive contributor to the community they live in. Parents may choose their level of involvement in the 4-H program. You can participate only in the History Club if you choose. However, I would encourage you to learn more about 4-H as the year progresses as there are many opportunities for youth development that will be available to you.

*"The 4-H vision is that 4-H wants to become a world leader in helping youth to become*

*productive citizens and catalysts for positive change to help meet the needs of a*

*diverse and changing society."*

**The strength of America is found in the strength of families and communities. By creating a**

**4-H “I Love America” club in your community, you are working at the grass-roots level to promote and preserve freedom and liberty for the next generation.**

**George Washington: “A primary object should be the education of our youth in the science of government. In a republic, what species of knowledge can be equally important? And what duty more pressing than communicating it to those who are to be the future guardians of the liberties of the country?”**

**To Register contact the Box Elder County coordinator at:**  [**marci.borg@usu.edu**](mailto:marci.borg@usu.edu)

Why 4-H?

4-H provides a solid foundation for the education of youth. Over 100 years of experience and research have contributed to a solid program for educational success including:

1. **Parent directed:** Parents work with their children to identify projects and topics that promote family values and satisfy personal interests.
2. **Student centered:** 4-H uses a child-centered approach to learning. This means the program focuses on the needs and interests of the youth. For example, 4-H club members set their goals for the year, make their plans to reach these goals, carry out their plans, and assess their progress.
3. **Learning by doing:** 4-H members "learn by doing". In this experiential learning model, teaching is an interactive relationship between leader and learner. This differs from traditional learning where the leader lectures and the learner is expected to absorb facts. Experiential learning involves the learner with the subject matter in active, hands-on activities which involve children in doing, sharing, and applying.
4. **Whole child learning:** the four Hs in the 4H program encourages the development of the whole child – the Heart, Head, Hands, and Health. This includes learning about any topic imaginable, building relationships, acquiring life-skills, serving the community, developing talents, and improving health and physical development. The 4-H pledge is:

*I pledge . . .*

*My head to clearer thinking*

*My heart to great loyalty*

*My hands to larger service, and*

*My health to better living*

*For my club, my community, my country, and my world.*

1. **Individual progression:** Children learn and progress at their own rate. They only compete with themselves. The 4-H motto is:

*To Make the Best Better*

* Class Activities will be kept in a “I Love America” binder which the students can enter in the fair next fall (2024)
* Patriotic songs will be taught by Joy Brower during the year which we plan to sing at the fair next fall as well as other events during the year.