August 14<sup>th</sup>, 2019

Department of Animal Sciences University of Wisconsin-Madison 284 Animal Science Building 1675 Observatory Drive (608) 263-4303 Fax: (608) 262-5157 sandberg@ansci.wisc.edu

Dear School System Administrator,

Some of your students may ask your permission to attend the 2019 State 4-H Horse Expo scheduled for September 13-15<sup>th</sup>, 2019. To clarify any misunderstanding as to the purpose of this event, the State 4-H Horse Association would like to give you some pertinent facts. With this additional information, we hope you will be better able to evaluate these upcoming requests.

To gain eligibility to this event, the student must currently be enrolled in the county 4-H Horse and Pony Project. Each participant must have met their individual county requirements to exhibit at the county fair and have earned a blue ribbon for their performance at that fair. The State Expo represents the best 4-H individuals and horses from the State of Wisconsin, with an estimated 500 plus youth participating within these three days of competitions/activities.

We also strive to make this event a continuing learning experience. It is similar to a band festival or sports exhibition in that these individuals rise early and work late each day to give their best at all times. Additionally, many participate in the Horse Judging, Poster, Photography, Team Problem, Clothes Horse, Woodworking, Photography, Drawing and Painting, and Model Horse competitions/activities.

We hope you will agree this is an activity with credibility and one to which you can lend your support and cooperation. With your cooperation and support, we can allow these select youth to conclude their year of hard work and dedication to their horse and project at the 4-H Horse Expo.

Cordially,

P. Liv Sadberg

J. Liv Sandberg UW Extension Horse Specialist