

Dear parents and guardians,

Your student _____ has expressed an interest in STEM fair for the year. STEM fair in middle school requires about 1 month of research/forms/project planning. After that, there is about 1 month of running the experiment and creating a presentation, suitable for competition. Students entering the King STEM fair will compete virtually this year (no tri-fold board, but a powerpoint presentation). Winners can go on to compete in a virtual fair at the county level. Winners at that level can go on to virtual competition at the state level.

STEM fair participation is a great thing to put on college application forms, so we encourage participation from students who are college-bound, especially if they wish to enter a science-related field. Winners at the school level will receive a ribbon and certificate. County level competition is usually sponsored by a variety of organizations so prizes differ and can sometimes include cash prizes. State is similar to county level.

While students will run their experiments at home, using their own supplies, the experience of successfully selecting a project and completing the necessary paperwork can be daunting. For successful entry, students will most likely need an adult to sponsor them to help them with that part. While students can work at home by reading the rules themselves and filling out the appropriate paperwork on their own (using their parents or guardians as a sponsor), we recognize that this can be difficult and confusing for the parents and guardians so we are offering an after-school program **each Wednesday, from 4:15 to 5:15 (room 2-207) starting on Wednesday, Oct 7** (until early Dec.) to help with this process.

If your student is interested in STEM fair, please select the correct option below and provide contact information so that we may communicate with you.

_____ YES my student would like to participate in person and can make the Wednesday study sessions. **I will be able to pick my student up at 5:20 outside the front of the school.** I understand that transportation is not provided.

_____ YES my student would like to participate “virtually” and I will be the adult sponsor for my child. **I will read the rules myself and guide my student through the process.** I understand that although my child can join the online group and get virtual help, they will be unable to attend in person to benefit from the weekly presentations. I will be the main sponsor and they will use the group just to get clarification on anything that is confusing, but not to get complete instruction.

Student’s email address: _____

(whichever address the student is likely to check)

Parent/guardian name (s): _____

Parent/guardian email address: _____

Parent/guardian phone number: _____

Dates have not been set yet, but October will largely be a planning month. November will be for running the experiment, and the competition will most likely be in early December here at school.

Interested students should join this group on Schoology to get information and updates. Thanks! We look forward to working with your students!

Martha B. King Student STEM Fair Group

Code to join in Schoology: **N78B-TP7H-PSTR6**

Sincerely,

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