

Pride in Performance™

# **EAST WINDSOR REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT**

## **Elementary Programs**

January 19, 2018

Dear Parents of Fourth and Fifth Grade Students,

Your child has been invited to take part in the East Windsor Regional School District's Science Fair, an exciting event that encourages students to think like young scientists. During the next few weeks your child will be designing a science project that uses the scientific method to solve a problem.

For suggestions on helping your child through this process - from choosing a topic to the final report you can click on links below:

Science Buddies - [www.sciencebuddies.org](http://www.sciencebuddies.org)

Elementary School Science Fair Projects Ideas -  
[www.education.com/science-fair/elementary-school](http://www.education.com/science-fair/elementary-school)

Science Fair Projects for Kids -  
[www.sciencekids.co.nz/projects.html](http://www.sciencekids.co.nz/projects.html)



The Science Fair is the first step for participation in the Mercer County Science and Engineering Fair ([www.mercersec.org](http://www.mercersec.org)). Students who receive a First Place, Second Place, Third Place or Honorable Mention award for their Science Fair project will be considered for participation in the Mercer County Science and Engineering Fair.

### **Important information to read and to complete:**

- Roles and Responsibilities of Student
- Mercer Science and Engineering Fair Application *must* be completed and sent to me via email ([kweiss@ewrsd.k12.nj.us](mailto:kweiss@ewrsd.k12.nj.us)) or dropped off at the administration office by **FEB. 17, 2018**.

*All projects must be delivered to Melvin H. Kreps multi-purpose room between the hours 2:00-5:30 p.m. on February 22, 2018.* Projects will be judged by the Science Fair Committee before the Science Fair.

The Science Fair will be held on the evening of Thursday, February 22, 2018. Students, parents and their guests are welcome to attend.

7:00 - 7:30	Student Demonstrations (students stand next to and explain their projects)
7:30 - 8:00	General Viewing
8:00 - 8:15	Awards Ceremony

Sincerely,  
Kevin Weiss  
3-5 Supervisor

## **ROLES AND INSTRUCTIONS**

### **I. Roles and Responsibilities**

#### **The Student**

The student is responsible for all aspects of the research project including enlisting the help of any needed supervisory adults.

The Mercer Science and Engineering Fair Application forms must be completed and sent to Kevin Weiss by February 17, 2018.

The student should work with the supervising adults to complete and submit as described below) by **2/22/18**.

The science fair projects must be completed for drop-off by **2/22/18 @ the Melvin H Kreps Middle School**.

#### **The Supervisory Adults**

An adult sponsor may be a teacher, parent, university professor, or scientist and must have close contact with the student during the course of the project.

The adult sponsor is responsible for working with the student to evaluate any possible risks involved in order to ensure the health and safety of the student conducting the research. The adult sponsor must review the student's planned project to make sure that:

- a) Experimentation is done within local, state, and federal laws and these rules; and
- b) That required forms are completed.

### **II. Project Restrictions**

Elementary division projects may not include any of the following:

- No team projects
- Any projects that are not allowed by ISEF including acid rain studies
- Non-observational animal studies
- Non-observational human studies
- Projects dealing with culture growth, tissues, DNA

Elementary division projects may include any of the following:

- Observational animal studies
- Observational human studies

Students may bring tangible demonstrations of their experiments to the Science Fair (e.g., their potato clock) to show along with their display boards. However, their display boards should be made to be presented independently (the Mercer County Science and Engineering Fair does not allow tangible demonstrations of experiments to be displayed).

### **RESEARCH PLAN INSTRUCTIONS:**

**Provide a typed research plan and attach to Student Checklist (1A).**

The research plan for ALL projects is to include the following:

- A. Question or problem being addressed
- B. Hypothesis/engineering goals
- C. Description in detail of method or procedures (the following are important and key items that should be included when formulating ANY AND ALL research plans.)
  - Procedures: Detail all procedures and experimental design to be used for data collection
  - Data analysis: describe the procedures you will use to analyze the data that answer research question or hypothesis
- D. Bibliography: list at least five (5) major references (e.g. science journal articles, books, internet sites) from your literature review. If you plan to use vertebrate animals, one of these references must be an animal care reference.

**Mercer Science and Engineering Fair Application Forms must be Completed and Sent to Kevin Weiss BY FEBRUARY 17, 2018:**

By email: [KWEISS@EWRSD.K12.NJ.US](mailto:KWEISS@EWRSD.K12.NJ.US)

Or dropped off at:  
Administration Office  
25a Leshin Lane, Hightstown, NJ 08520

**ALL PROJECTS MUST BE DELIVERED TO THE MELVIN H. KREPS  
MULTI-PURPOSE ROOM AT between 2:00-5:30 on February 22, 2018.**

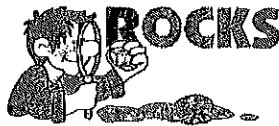
The Science Fair will be held on the evening of **Thursday, February 22, 2018.**  
Students, parents and their guests are welcome to attend.

7:00 - 7:30 Student Demonstrations (students stand by their projects and have an opportunity to explain them to parents and other guests)

7:30 – 8:00 General Viewing (opportunity for students and guests to view projects)

8:00 - 8:15 Awards Ceremony

If you have any questions, do not hesitate to contact me:  
[kweiss@ewrsd.k12.nj.us](mailto:kweiss@ewrsd.k12.nj.us).



PLEASE RETURN to Kevin Weiss by 2/17/18

# Mercer Science and Engineering Fair Application

Application must be completed online. All fair dates can be found on the MSEF website  
<http://mercersec.org>

Name of Finalist:

Full name (please print)

Project Title:

Address:

City:

State:

Zip:

Age:

Grade:

Gender:

Male

Female

Email:

Phone:

School:

Teacher:

Maximum project display dimensions: with table, 30-in wide (48-in for grades 9-12), 30-in deep, 78-in high

**Projects will be disqualified if they exceed the display dimensions or if they contain restricted items such as batteries, glass or liquids. See our website for a complete list of restricted items.**

**I understand that All Projects remaining at 7pm Thursday will be discarded without exception.**

## Mercer Science and Engineering Fair (MSEF) Code of Conduct

Please read the following carefully, sign, and also obtain the signature of a parent or legal guardian. ALL finalists MUST return this form with their Mercer Science and Engineering Fair (MSEF) paperwork to exhibit at the MSEF.

1. I certify that I understand and have followed the ISEF rules and that the preparation of this project is entirely my own work. The project was done under proper supervision as described on the entry forms.
2. I will remove my project on Thursday of the fair between 4pm and 7pm or it can be discarded.
3. A Finalist guilty of any of the following will fail to qualify or will forfeit all awards received and may be banned from all future participation in MSEF programs:
  - a. Presents another researcher's work as one's own and/or fabricates data.
  - b. Submits a project or abstract that does not reflect independent student research from the current research period.
  - c. Returns items to a project that have been removed through an SRC or D&S infraction and/or adds non-permitted items after final clearance on Tuesday morning.
4. The use of tobacco products, alcoholic beverages and/or drugs is prohibited.
5. All MSEF attendees must adhere to the MSEF Program Harassment Policy and are required to report any harassment to an MSEF authority.
6. Respect for the exhibit center is required. Finalists shall be solely responsible and liable for any damage to property caused by Finalist. Tampering or removing signage or other MSEF property is strictly prohibited.

**I have read and understand the above rules and agree to adhere to them to the best of my ability. I understand that a consequence of failure to meet these standards may result in disqualification from the event.**

Finalist signature

date

Parent signature

date

Kevin Weiss will submit winners

**Name of Finalist:**

Full name (please print)

**Liability for Exhibits**

Every effort will be made to protect exhibits from loss or damage. However, since the exhibition of projects at the MSEF is open to the public, the Mercer Science and Engineering Club cannot and will not accept any liability or responsibility, of any nature, for any theft, loss or damage to any exhibit or any other property of any Finalist. Accordingly, it is recommended that each Finalist take all prudent precautions to prevent any theft, loss or damage to his/her exhibit and/or other property. Each Finalist should secure and guard his/her exhibit and/or other property at all times during the exhibition of projects, and remove all valuable components, especially those that are easily portable, when the exhibit and/or other property is left unguarded by the Finalist. The Mercer Science and Engineering Club will not be liable or responsible for any theft, loss or damage to any exhibit that occurs during the shipping of the exhibit or while the exhibit is in transit to or from the exhibition hall.

*I have read the above paragraph, and understand and accept that the Mercer Science and Engineering Club cannot and will not accept any liability or responsibility for theft or damage to my exhibit.*

Finalist signature \_\_\_\_\_ date \_\_\_\_\_

Parent signature \_\_\_\_\_ date \_\_\_\_\_

**Limitation of Liability**

In consideration of Finalist's participation in the MSEF, Finalist and Finalist's Parent/Legal Guardian agree to release, indemnify, and hold harmless the Mercer Science and Engineering Club from and against any and all liability for any injuries, loss, harm, damage, cost, or expense of any kind, including, without limitation, property damage, personal injury, and/or death, arising in whole or in part, directly or indirectly, from Finalist's participation in the MSEF or Finalist's acceptance, receipt, use, and/or misuse of any prize awarded to Finalist.

*I have read the above paragraph, and understand and accept that the Mercer Science and Engineering Club cannot and will not accept any liability related to my participation in the MSEF.*

Finalist signature \_\_\_\_\_ date \_\_\_\_\_

Parent signature \_\_\_\_\_ date \_\_\_\_\_

**Publicity**

Mercer Science and Engineering Club, MSEF sponsors and organizations and businesses sponsoring awards at the MSEF may wish to publicize their involvement in the MSEF, which may include using photographs or information about you in written reports or online publications and listings. We request your availability and cooperation when contacted, interviewed, photographed and videotaped by the media before, during and after the MSEF.

*I agree that appropriate information about me may be used for publicity purposes. This includes written materials and social media postings submitted by me as well as any photographs, videos or likenesses of me that may be used by Society for Science & the Public, Intel Corporation, or the sponsors of awards for the purposes of illustration, advertising or publication in any manner. I consent to the use of my name in connection therewith and agree that I will cooperate with publicity of the MSEF. I understand that the Mercer Science and Engineering Club are not obligated to use nor provide compensation for any use of my likeness or information as described in this release.*

Finalist signature \_\_\_\_\_ date \_\_\_\_\_

Parent signature \_\_\_\_\_ date \_\_\_\_\_