North Dakota Native American State Science and Engineering Fair 2020

Welcome back! We are currently planning for our 37th Annual Native American State Science and Engineering Fair which will be held on January 19-20, 2020, at the Ramada Bismarck Hotel, 1400 E. Interchange Ave. Bismarck, N.D. 701-258-7000 and Fax 701-258-2001. There will be a block of rooms reserved at $91 for double 80.90 for single. Please mention our fair when requesting the room. Rooms will be held until one week prior to the fair, so please book early. Each school is responsible for faxing their rooming list when reserving their room(s).

**Attached you will find the forms and agenda**. There are a few changes from last year.

In order to insure that things will run smoothly, I would like to make a few recommendations and reminders to all advisors/students regarding the rules and purpose of the state science fair.

 Please DO NOT allow student to fill out the registration forms. These need to be typed or printed legibly since they are your OFFICIAL registration and are used for all official records for the fair: awards, registration listing, information provided to each school, etc. Advisors should check the forms to be sure that they are complete before submitting them.

The next important issue is a safety concern. There are certain items that are NOT allowed at student projects. No liquids including water, no animal or plant material, no glass or sharp items, no sand, rock, or waste samples, no food products, and no flammables. All name brands should be covered in the photos and referred to as Brand A, Brand B, etc. We strongly encourage you to take PHOTOS of your experiment and do not bring ANY items along. All photos should be credited with the photographer or website.

Thirdly, we are encouraging students to follow the scientific method. We do NOT want demonstrations or research reports. That being said, all projects should include the purpose of the project, the hypothesis, a list of materials, the variable, a data chart, the procedure, and a conclusion. For students in grades 5-12 we expect an abstract of the project and a bibliography of at least five research resources.

PLEASE keep in mind that the science fair is NOT the place to do a demonstration of your project, but rather a venue to give an oral presentation of your project. Photos are the best way to document what was done in your experiment. Include facts about the science behind your project, any problems you encountered and how you solved them, and finally explain the results of your experiment.

Remember-Once the project is review by the judging team and is deemed okay to be judged, NOTHING may be added to the display. A project runs the risk of being disqualified if advisors/students choose to ignore the rules of the fair. It is not something that we like to do, but in the interest of fairness to all participants we will enforce the rules. Our ultimate goal is to provide all students with the opportunity to participate and be judged fairly.

We are sending out an open invitation for a drum group to honor us with their talents for the opening and closing of our fair. As in the past, it is first come, first serve. Please let me know as soon as possible if you are interested. We would like a list of names of the drum members so that we may prepare the appreciation certificates for each member of the drum group and their advisor.

We are asking participating schools to provide as many judges as possible. The more judges we have, the quicker we can get done. Please email me the list of names of your judges so that I can prepare a master list. I like to have a ball park number in mind. As in past years, since we can’t pay the judges, we will be providing them with breakfast and lunch on Monday, January 165 2018 in the judging area. So please pass along this information as you recruit your judges.

Set up is on Sunday, January 19, 2020 in the Heritage Ballroom from 5:00-7:00 p.m. Judge’s walk-through is from 7-9:00 p.m.

Judging will be on Monday, January 20, 2020 in the Heritage Ballroom from 9:15 a.m. until completed. It usually takes until approximately 1:30 p.m. but it always depends on the number of projects and the number of judges we have.

With your help and cooperation we can make this another outstanding science fair. Email me at Norma.Poitra @k12.nd.us if you have any questions or need further clarification on anything. You can email me your individual student registration forms prior to the deadline. You will need to mail the fee form along with your fee payment. My address is listed on the form and I’ve included here as well.

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