

Update #2: February 2010 Regional Science & Engineering Fair Update

Hello Regional Fair Affiliated Teachers:

We will be sending out "Regional Fair Updates" periodically to keep you informed about Fair "happenings". Please read all updates. Regional Fair Update #1 is posted on the Regional Fair website:

www.ipfw.edu/scifair

In this update: Regional Fair Schedule Changes

Attached you will find a flyer with the 2010 Regional Fair schedule. You will also receive in the next few days a letter that can be sent to parents along with the schedule. We wanted teachers to see these schedule changes first and answer any immediate questions.

Please note these schedule changes:

1. NEW THIS YEAR: Early project set and display inspections on Friday afternoon: 4:00-5:30 PM

Why offer this? Many parents would like their students to arrive later on Saturday and spend less time waiting before the judging begins. A portion of that "wait time" is parents completing consent forms and project display inspections for adherence to Fair guidelines. (see guidelines at: <http://www.ipfw.edu/scifair/DisplayRules.htm>). We appreciate every effort you make to inform parents and students of these display guidelines. The added set up time on Friday afternoon will give parents who choose this option a chance to arrive later on Saturday morning.

2. NEW: CHANGE TO SATURDAY ARRIVAL TIME

7:45 ONLY for those students who did not set up on Friday. Please note this start time is 15 minutes later than in previous years

8:30 ARRIVAL begins for students whose projects were set up and approved on Friday. The students will need to be at Gates and seated NO LATER THAN 8:45 (please tell parents to allow extra time for parking at IPFW which may take longer due to construction...more on that in follow up email updates).

ALL STUDENTS must have displays ready for judging with their project display approved by 8:45 AM.

3. NEW: MORNING BREAK

There will be a morning break between 10:30 and 11:00 when students will be released in intervals by grade for an opportunity to visit the restroom, speak to their parents, or just get up and stretch and visit other participants. Due to construction, the restrooms normally located within the gym have been removed. Students will use restrooms in the lobby or on the lower level in the locker rooms. To allow time for this and for recommended (elementary students) accompaniment by parents, there will be a staggered break time. NOTE: There may be grades released before the break (possibly Kindergarten) if judging is complete

4. NEW: RELEASE STUDENT ACCORDING TO JUDGING INTERVIEW COMPLETION

All students who have completed the judging process will be released to parents during or following the break. Procedures for this release will be explained during the Opening Ceremonies.

Why this is good for parents and students?

Releasing students by completion of judging as opposed to grade level release will allow many students to leave earlier than in past years. We are "piloting" this procedure at this year's Fair in an effort to meet the needs of our participants and their parents who would prefer to have their students at displays for a shorter period of time.

Once the Fair is over, we will contact affiliated teachers for feedback on these new schedule changes.

Thank you!

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