

2019-20 STEM Fair Parent Letter



Our Root STEM Fair is meant to be an enjoyable learning experience that provides a forum for exploration and self-expression. We encourage all of our 3rd and 4th grade students to participate. In addition, this year all 5th graders will be required to participate. Students will have the opportunity to pick either science or engineering projects.

Scientific Project (using the Scientific Method)

Students may choose to ask a science-based question and use the scientific method to conduct an experiment to determine the answer. The student will develop a hypothesis and then design and complete an experiment to try to prove or disprove it by evaluating the results.

Engineering Project (using the Engineering Design Process)

Students may choose a engineering-based problem and use the engineering design process to develop a solution. The student will design and create an invention or process to solve the problem and then test it to determine the effectiveness of the solution.

STEM Fair Resources

There are many resources to provide you and your child with project ideas and sufficient support to succeed. We recommend:

- www.sciencefaicentral.com
- www.sciencebuddies.org.

Project Partners

Projects can be completed individually or with one other partner. However, partners must be able to meet outside of school to work on the project together.

STEM Fair Awards

We want every student who enters the STEM Fair to know he or she is a winner. Every student that participates will receive a special STEM Fair water bottle and stickers. In addition, all projects will be judged and will receive a ribbon of participation. The top projects will receive a special "Gold Ribbon"! All projects will be on display during Curriculum Night for parents and students to enjoy. Each STEM Fair participant will also be invited to a on- site school celebration, congratulating them on their hard work and dedication.

Important Dates

STEM Fair Entry Form due December 9th (5th Grade) and December 13th (3rd & 4th graders)

Projects due by February 12th

Curriculum Night is on February 13th

Thank you for supporting your student's STEM education!

The STEM Fair Team

Brad Peterson, STEM/Technology Coach - Grades 3-5 (bpeterson@wcpss.net)

Megan Schneider, 5th Grade Science Teacher (mschneider@wcpss.net)

Julie Sullivan, Parent STEM PTA Committee (julie@teachingenrichmentkids.com)