

Dear 6th Grade Parent/Guardian:

As you know, science, technology, and engineering are basic skills expected by employers. As Twenty First Century citizens, these students will also have to make some of the toughest decisions of any generation, based on their understanding of emerging science and technology.

Science fairs involve students in the practices of science and engineering, requiring them to apply those skills to a topic of interest to them. A science project challenges a student to solve a question using the scientific method. Doing science is key to understanding science. It is a great way to excite children about science, teach them to think like scientists, develop their organizational skills, and enhance their writing and oral-presentation skills.

Our school is holding a "Science Expo" on Friday, February 3rd, 2017 where all students in the 6th grade are required to display a science project of their own. Hands-on scientific investigation and invention are the focus at our particular expo. Over at least a 10-week period, your child will design, test, analyze, and present a project that uses scientific methods to solve a problem. The sky's the limit!

Please note that the bulk of the work will be done at home. Students will be given project guidelines and timelines in a "Science Expo Notebook" that explains the process of conducting a science investigation or invention project. Teachers will review their progress at key checkpoints along the way. The preparation and learning will occur in the classroom, but the actual investigation or invention will be completed at home. Parents are encouraged to offer emotional support and reminders, but to allow children to do the projects themselves. By limiting your involvement, your student will receive the full educational benefits of the science expo.

It should be noted that a successful project does not have to cost a lot of money. Some of the best projects can be completed using materials found around the home! However, a cardboard backboard to display the project will be required along the way.

You will have the opportunity to approve the project your student selects by signing a Science Project Proposal Form.

If you have any questions, please contact your child's science teacher. Thank you in advance for supporting your child in such an exciting process of discovery!
Sincerely,

The 6th Grade Science Teachers,

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I have read this letter. (Parent/Guardian signature required)

Date _____