

10th Annual Hill City All Schools Science Fair Rules/Regulations & Information:

March 7 & 8, 2019

Complete Listing of Rules:

1. Have FUN and Be Safe!
2. Types of Entries: individual student, groups of students, and classroom projects may enter
3. Division levels of entries
 - a. Pre-school – 2nd Grade
 - b. 3rd Grade – 5th Grade
 - c. Middle School
 - d. High School
4. Entrance Fee - FREE
5. Registration
 - a. Registration Deadline – February 27, 2019 at 3:00 pm – forms can be turned into your teacher or your school's secretary.
 - b. Sign-in and setup – March 7, 2019 4:00 pm – 5:30 pm (Bob Burden Gym)
6. If you have ANY questions about project qualifications, rules, and etc. please contact PIPTO @ HillCityPIPTO@k12.sd.us or Chad Ronish (High School Science Dept.) @ chad.ronish@k12.sd.us.
7. Prohibited from Display – Anything which could be hazardous to the public. If any of the below items are found in the display, they will be noted on the removal notice card and the participant will need to remove the items prior to judging. Prohibited items that are not removed will result in a scorecard deduction.
 - a. Poisons, toxic and hazardous chemicals, drugs and other controlled substances are prohibited. (i.e. ammonia, household cleaners)
 - b. Organisms, fungi, any type of cultured growth, spoiled foods or molds are prohibited. Petri dishes may be photographed or simulated but may not include active cultures.
 - c. Open, unpackaged human or animal food items, or substances that look like food are prohibited unless completely sealed.
 - d. Human or animal feces, body parts, hair.
 - e. Syringes, glass pipettes, mercury thermometers and similar devices are prohibited.
 - f. Any continuous flames are prohibited.
 - g. Highly flammable, combustible gases, liquids, or solids are prohibited.
 - h. Dangerous chemicals including caustics and acids are prohibited. Mild acids, such as vinegar must be sealed meeting the requirements for display of food.
 - i. Dry ice or other sublimating solids are prohibited.
 - j. Tanks that have contained combustible liquids or gases are prohibited unless they have been purged with carbon dioxide.
 - k. Operation of a class III or IV laser is not allowed.
 - l. Projects with belts, pulleys, chains, moving parts with tension or pinch points that pose a potential hazard to observers must be shielded unless movement is disabled.
 - m. Any exhibit producing temperatures exceeding 80°C (140°F) must be adequately insulated from its surroundings.
 - n. Batteries with open top cells are not permitted. Other types of batteries may be used for electrical power.
 - o. No live animals.
8. Display – must be self-standing - Maximum area for display is 4 feet deep, 4 feet wide.
9. Special Care Needed
 - a. High-voltage equipment MUST be shielded with a grounded metal box or cage to prevent accidental contact.
 - b. Large vacuum tubes or dangerous ray-generating devices MUST be properly shielded.

- c. High voltage wiring, switches, and metal parts MUST be located out of reach of observers and designed with an adequate overload safety factor.
 - d. Electric circuits for 110-volt AC MUST have an Underwriter Laboratories- approved cord of proper load-carrying capacity, which is at least nine feet long and equipped with a standard grounded or polarized plug.
 - e. All wiring MUST be properly insulated; Nails, tacks, or un-insulated staples MUST NOT be used to fasten wiring.
 - f. Bare wire and exposed knife-switches may be used only on circuits of 12 volts or less. The only power to be supplied will be standard 110-volt AC.
 - g. Electrical connections in 110-volt circuits MUST be soldered or fixed under approved connectors. Connecting wires must be properly insulated.
10. If a student must use prohibited materials in carrying out the project, then the student should consider photographs, drawings, or other means of describing the project in the display.
 11. We encourage pictures on your display board. These can be hand drawn sketches or photographs. Have someone take photos of you performing your experiment. This demonstrates clearly that you did the work on your project and shows how much fun you had doing it
 12. Electricity will be available – exhibitor must supply own power cord.
 13. Each student is responsible for the removal of ALL of his/her display materials at the conclusion of the Science Fair.
 14. References and sources of information

Judging Criteria

1. Scientific Method
2. Creative Ability – Originality, Creative Thinking, Interesting and Creative Presentation.
3. Scientific Thought –Is the topic narrow enough? Are variables controlled? The judges will ask themselves if the project was well thought out and if the student followed through on their research, experimentation, interpreting results, etc.
4. Thoroughness – This acknowledges any research done, whether the student worked carefully, and whether they included all the required steps.
5. Skill - Judges will assess if it appears the student did most of the work themselves. Neatness will also be assessed in this category.
6. Clarity – This involves the ability to clearly present ones project. The judges will acknowledge if the students are able to answer questions clearly and completely.
7. Overall Presentation – This is a general statement of the students overall project.
8. All students will be judged with respect to their individual grade level (i.e. Kindergartners who write out a display board will not be held to the same level of neatness as a senior).

Please contact:

PIPTO @ HillCityPIPTO@k12.sd.us

- For more information • Entry Ideas • Resources • Questions