



July 12, 2016

Dear Parents,

It's time for Irvine Unified School District's 36th Annual Science Fair! This is a very exciting opportunity for our 6<sup>th</sup> graders to act as true scientists. Students may complete a traditional Science Inquiry Project or a Rube Goldberg Engineering Project. For either category, learners have the option of working in a group of 2-3 students.

Science lessons on the scientific method and other information related to the District Science Fair, as well as Rube Goldberg machines, will be part of the classroom science curriculum during the first part of the school year. For your convenience, we have placed a copy of Science Fair information on our district website at [http://iusd.org/education\\_services/Science.html](http://iusd.org/education_services/Science.html)

If your child chooses the traditional Science Inquiry Project, they can work alone or with a group of 2-3 students. Whether or not they choose to work within a group, students will be eligible to go on to the IUSD Science Fair, and possibly on to the County and State Science Fair. If students choose the Rube Goldberg Engineering Project they have the opportunity to go to the District Science Fair but **NOT** the County or State Science Fairs, since these do not provide a category for Rube Goldberg machines. Please consider this when helping your child choose.

Your child's school will hold a Science Fair. Select projects will go on to compete in **Irvine Unified School District's Science Fair on February 28, 2017**. Your child's participation in the Science Fair will provide a valuable opportunity for your youngster to be creative in science, take pride in his/her work, and to experience the hands-on use of the scientific method and engineering practices. Although we will discuss methods and procedures in the classroom, most of the work for the projects will be done at home. Your suggestions and encouragement will be of great value.

This is a very exciting science event for our district. We believe that parents will enjoy and take great pride in the creative and unique science projects developed by their children. Please take the time to read through the district rules and parental guidelines regarding the Science Fair and discuss them with your child: [http://iusd.org/education\\_services/Science.html](http://iusd.org/education_services/Science.html)

Thank you,

Lisa Gordon  
Coordinator of Science  
Irvine Unified School District

Kristen Winn  
Director of STEM  
Irvine Unified School District

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