

Science Fair FAQs

- 1) What is the difference between the requirements for K-3 and 4-8 grade?
 - a) K-3 graders are encouraged to explore their scientific curiosity and engage with scientific methods if possible. Demonstrations of interesting scientific phenomena are encouraged as well as building simple pulleys or circuits. Students should work in groups of 2-3
 - b) Most importantly projects while rigorous should remain age appropriate and benefit from adult supervision but not be dependent upon adult help.
 - c) 4-8 graders are required to conduct either a scientific experiment or engineer a solution to a problem and iterate the solution. Demonstration or building a model or project is not enough. Students will be judged on the rigor of their experimental data or analysis of the iteration of their project.
 - d) 4-5 graders will submit a science fair Display board and a 3-5 min video of both team members describing their project
 - e) 6-8 graders will submit a science fair Display board, a 3-5 min video describing the project, a Lab Notebook and will attend a 5-10 min interview with judges. 6-8 graders can work alone or with a partner.

- 2) How do I enroll my student in the Science Fair Mentorship Program?
 - a) Mentorship is available for 6-8 graders
 - b) 6-8 grade students who expressed an interest at Fall check had an opportunity to sign up for the ACSEF Mentorship Program called MORE STEM.
 - c) If you would now like to be paired up with a mentor through our CCS PFC Mentorship program students must complete the 6-8 grade Science Fair Application form detailing why they think they would benefit from having a mentor.

- 3) Will I get a confirmation for applying to the science fair?
 - a) Students and families will not receive confirmation emails till after October 15th, 2021. You will receive an email from Google Forms showing that you completed the application, please keep a record of this and contact us in a timely manner with any issues.

- 4) Which contact information and which emails should I include in my science fair application?
 - a) Please provide the student's name, grade, teacher/science teacher, a DUSD email and a nonDUSD email address that we can send Science Fair communication to. PFC cannot directly send emails to DUSD email addresses as such your nonDUSD email will be our primary point of contact. Please be sure to enter it carefully and completely.

- 5) What should I do if I missed the information night for Science Fair or any of the Science Fair Project Success presentations?

- a) All handbooks, presentations, and applications will be made available on the PFC website for your convenience.
- 6) How long should my video presentation of the slides I created be?
- a) For the 4-8 grade divisions students must submit a 3-5 minute video in which they walk the audience through their projects. In addition to this 3-5 min video 6-8 grade students will be asked to meet with judges for 5-10 mins to answer their questions about their projects.
- 7) Do I have to keep an experiment log for my project?
- a) Only 6-8 graders are required to keep an experiment log or lab notebook. However, logs/notebooks will not be reviewed; they simply have to have one for the CCS Science Fair. Students who are sent on to the ACSEF will need to have a notebook for submission to the ACSEF .
- 8) Where will the students' videos be shared? Is it safe for our students?
- a) Student videos are shared on a private site. Only people with emails registered to parent portal, or DUSD emails will be sent a link to the Science Fair Viewing Site. We have used Vimeo as the technology for the site in the past and will use either Vimeo or similar site again in the future. Specific details will be provided in the month before the Science Fair.
- 9) Are the rules for CCS Science Fair and ACSEF the same?
- a) The rules for ACSEF and CCS Science Fair are NOT exactly the same. As such we recommend that 6-8 grade students review ACSEF rules directly and make sure that all of their requirements are met prior to their submission. Also please review their website for any relevant dates for students who aim for their projects to be part of both fairs.
- 10) Can I volunteer as a judge or mentor for the Science Fair?
- a) We are always looking for volunteers to administer, judge and mentor for science fair. If you are interested please contact us at sciencefair@cottonwoodpfc.org.