

Ms. Crowe's Competition Class 2007-2008

This class requires active participation. It is extremely important that students are present each day. Students who are absent will need to see the teacher to obtain class notes on the labs, and consult with their lab group. As in all classes, any worksheets, or printed information that was distributed to the group, are placed in the class wall bins for students to pick up upon their return, if the parents have not picked them up from the office. Most of the printed handouts will also be available on Edline. Check Edline often for new material that may have been missed, or lost. Students will be given a notebook of information to use in class, and can be checked out to take home when needed.

Students will be assessed on the mastery of standards at various times throughout the year. Bell Work concerning the various components of study will be posted every day for completion during the first five minutes of each period. Students will answer the questions assigned, to their best ability, during Bell Work time. Questions are then "graded" and discussed. Students will be required to write the questions and responses in full, in their Lab Books. Science Competition Students will be required to have a lab book. Lab books are required to be turned in the day of various competitions. When a student has written in the incorrect response, they are required to write in the correct response.

You will be more completely informed, and given dates of coverage, assignments, and tests through the Team News (hard copies are sent home each Monday, and are located on the school web site.) Class work and assignments are also posted through Edline.

Students will be required to attend competitions in Tampa, and Cocoa Beach, Florida, with the possibility of other out of town travel for competitions. Parents are asked to transport students, and to stay with them in hotel rooms. If this is a problem, please let Ms. Crowe know as soon as possible. (The school does purchase the rooms for these events.)

Discipline Policy

Every student is expected to follow the SSA+S Discipline Policy at all times. When students follow the policies, all school activities run smoothly, enjoyably, and are conducive to optimal learning. Please refer to the student handbook to understand what is expected of students at SSA+S (<http://www.ssas.org/Administration/SchoolProcedures.htm>).

In addition to the SSA+S Discipline Policy, students in Ms. Crowe's room will:

1. Conduct themselves in a safe and orderly manner during all class periods, in and out of the classroom. If they do not, they will be removed from active participation to a position of observation only. Students who continue to disrupt the class, from this position, will be removed from the room for the duration of the activity. Due to the nature of many of the labs, this is very important.
2. Participate in all activities to the best of their abilities.
3. Respect all others in the room, only one speaker at a time...
4. Smile

Not adhering to Classroom or School Procedures:

First Offense: Visual (The Look) or Verbal Warning
Second Offense: Write classroom rules and parent notification
Third Offense: Behavior essay with signature from parent(s).
Fourth Offense: In school morning detention.
Fifth Offense: County Referral (one or more days out of school suspension).

Student, or parent, refusal for student to write classroom rules or behavior essay, and also a refusal to do a morning detention will be considered as a fifth offense.

Adhering to Classroom or School Procedures:

None of the above happening
Having happy teachers
Having terrific classes!

Students are encouraged to use Agenda Books Daily.

Units of Study



Future City Competition

The mission of the National Engineers Week Future City Competition is to provide a fun and exciting educational engineering program, for seventh and eighth-grade students, that combines a stimulating engineering challenge with a "hands-on" application to present their vision of a city of the future.

This will be accomplished by:

- Fostering engineering skills, such as teamwork, communication and problem solving skills;
- Providing interaction among students, teachers, and engineer mentors;
- Informing the community about the multi-disciplines within the engineering profession;
- Inspiring students to explore futuristic concepts and careers in engineering.

The National Engineers Week Future City Competition requires:

- Problem-solving
- Team work
- Research and presentation skills
- Practical math and science applications
- Computer skills

The competition employs a team-based approach. All members of the team have an important role that is necessary for the completion of the project.

During the course of this unit students will participate in the following activities, during the first three quarters of the School Year:

- Discovering how communities come together
- Discovering what good communities offer their residents
- Discovering how to attract investors
- Discovering how to plan communities for optimal safety, enjoyment, education, health care, and transportation
- Actively planning a community according to set goals using the software "Sim City 3000"
- Choosing and expanding one section of their city for in-depth profiles
- Constructing a 3-Dimensional representation of their chosen Future City section
- Researching the theme of the year, assigned by the Future City Competition

- Writing one 500-word Essay, and one Abstract
- Design and construct brochures, and web sites to advertise their city
- Meet all deadlines (Exact dates will be announced at a later date)
- Display their city, and perform a presentation on their city to a variety of audiences in a competition format at the school level
- Winners of the school competition will travel to either Tampa/St. Pete or Miami to compete in the Regional Future City Competition with other Florida Middle Schools

Deadlines for completion:

- Computerized City Completed and paper work submitted: October
- Brochures and Web Sites: November/December
- Constructed City submitted: December/January
- Full Presentation: January



The EnergyWhiz Olympics is held annually at the Florida Solar Energy Center and is composed of the Junior Solar Sprint, Hydrogen Sprint, and the conclusion of the Florida Middle School Science Bowl. The Junior Solar Sprint is a competition that challenges middle school students to design, build and race model solar cars. The Hydrogen Sprint is a high school competition that was developed to provide opportunities for students to explore hydrogen power with a hands-on design component and a multimedia presentation.

The Florida Middle School Science Bowl is for middle/junior high school students which teams demonstrate their knowledge of science and mathematics through a question and answer competition.

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are needed to see this picture.

Sprint Solar Car Competition

Middle school students, are invited to design, build and race **Junior Solar Sprint (JSS)** cars. The small model cars — powered entirely by solar energy and steered by wires — are built as team efforts guided by teachers.

Why get involved?

Transportation in the United States is expected to change radically in response to environmental constraints, fluctuating oil availability and economic factors. The transportation systems that emerge in the 21st century will be defined largely by the choices, skills and imagination of today's youth. As scientists and engineers, they will develop new vehicle and fuel technologies. As citizens, they will make decisions balancing mobility, environmental and economic needs.

Junior Solar Sprint challenges students to use scientific know-how, creative thinking, experimentation and teamwork to design and build high-performance solar electric vehicles. Students learn by doing.

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SSA+S Middle School Science Bowl

Throughout the year, students will spend 1 day a week preparing for this competition, involving: Earth, Life, and Physical Sciences, as well as Math. During the 3rd and 4th Quarters students will spend 2-3 days a week preparing.

The students will compete in teams of 4, at SSA+S. The winning school team will proceed to the Regional Competition in Cocoa Beach Florida.

General Information from the Florida Regional site is as follows:

Competition Structure

There will be two separate parts to the Science Bowl competition at the Florida Regional – an elimination round and a double elimination contest modeled after the National Science Bowl competition. In the elimination round, all the teams compete together until eight (8) teams remain to advance to the double elimination competition.

Rules of the Elimination Round

- Multiple Choice Questions will be used in the elimination round.
- During the elimination round, team members will be able to confer with each other on every question.
- Questions will be read twice, but no further explanation of the question will be given.
- After the question is read, teams will be given 20 seconds to confer and indicate their answer on their answer board.
- A panel of judges will verify the answers and note any teams that have missed the question.
- Teams are eliminated after four wrong answer
- The round continues until only eight teams remain with less than five incorrect answers. These teams advance to the double elimination contest.

Miscellaneous Rules For Both Competitions

- No one in the audience may communicate with participants during the match; communication will result in ejection from the competition room. If someone in the audience shouts out an answer, the question will be thrown out (as will the person) and the moderator will proceed to the next question.
- No notes may be brought to the competition table. Nothing may be written before the clock starts. Scratch paper will be provided at the beginning of each match and collected at half time and at the conclusion of the match.
- Calculators are not permitted.

Other competitions may be joined, if so, you will be informed well in advance.