

SHELTON HIGH SCHOOL SCIENCE FAIR

February 2019

LETTER TO STUDENTS

Dear Students,

You will be participating in the Shelton High School Science Fair on Wednesday February 6, 2019. During the summer and throughout most of the 2018-2019 school year you will be designing a science project that uses the scientific method or engineering practices to solve a problem. You will be given instructions and handouts during science classes to help guide you through the various steps of your project. Most of the work will be completed at home and you will be given information regarding due dates for each part of the project. The project will be performed in stages to avoid student meltdown. It ends with student presentations, in which your project will be judged by people from the community, and the top 8 projects will go onto the Connecticut State Science Fair.

Your first assignment is to come up with a testable question on a topic that interests you. It will be more fun if you are interested in the topic you are investigating. If you find an experiment that you like, go a step further and design one that answers a different question. Challenge yourself, BUT also be realistic. Predict in advance the challenges of doing the project. The main restriction in choosing a topic is that you will not be allowed to use vertebrate animals (mice, fish, etc.) in your experiment, unless you are working with a scientist in a laboratory setting. The testable question on your chosen topic will be due to your science teacher upon returning to school.

It is expected that you will work individually or in a small group (maximum of 3 people in a group). There will be some classes devoted to working on your projects, but you will be expected to do most of the work on your own time.

If you are having difficulty getting started it is suggested that you go to the list of websites we have attached and the library. These are good starting points, but you are not limited to them. Keep in mind that when you find an idea that interests you, you may use it for inspiration, but you **cannot** simply replicate the project. At least change the independent variable being tested.

We look forward to watching you enjoy this educational learning experience for scientific discovery. If you have any questions, do not hesitate to contact any member of the science fair committee.

Good luck,

SHS Science Fair Committee