

## **SDIRC Science and STEM Project Guidelines 2018-2019**

### **MIDDLE SCHOOLS**

- Students in science classes are expected to participate in STEM/Science based projects as part of their class instruction. Teachers should use their curriculum they are teaching to incorporate ideas for projects and insure the understanding of the process through their instruction by modeling.
- The STEM/Science Project can start and finish during the school day or students can be asked to work on them as part of an at home assignment. (It is strongly encouraged that students in Advanced/Gifted courses complete most of the STEM/Science project at home.)
- Two different judging sheets will be used – Scientific Process Projects and Design Process Projects (STEM type). Please be sure to review these prior to beginning your projects.
- The first assignment due (project ideas/topics) for the at home projects should be no sooner than two weeks after school starts. (This allows for classroom instruction/discussion pertaining to the overview of the project. Examples would be: finding a topic, how to research, types of scientific investigations, variables, etc.)
- Projects may be group or individual. Teachers will encourage the better projects to enter in the school fair.
- Each school can decide how projects should be presented/administered/graded.
- All students should be encouraged to participate in the school STEM/Science fair. Each middle school will conduct a school STEM/Science fair before the Regional Science Fair. Each school has at least one person that will serve as the fair coordinator.
- The rules and guidelines for the school fair model the Regional Science Fair Rules which models the INTEL International Science and Engineering Fair. The guidelines for the Indian River Regional Science Fair are found on the Education Foundation of Indian River County website.
- Ideas and suggestions:
  - Individual/Group Projects can be completed with assistance during clubs or activities before and after school.
  - ESE Teachers and Resource Rooms can do class/group STEM/Science projects.



## **SDIRC Science and STEM Project Guidelines 2018-2019**

### **HIGH SCHOOLS**

- Students in 9<sup>th</sup> grade classes are expected to do STEM or science projects as part of class instruction.
- All science teachers will encourage the 9<sup>th</sup> grade students to participate in the Regional Science Fair.
- Teachers should use their curriculum they are teaching to incorporate ideas for projects.
- The STEM/Science Project can start and finish during the school day or students can be asked to work on them as part of an at home assignment. Projects may be group or individual projects.
- Two different judging sheets will be used – Scientific Process Projects and Design Process Projects (STEM type). Please be sure to review these prior to beginning your projects.
- Teachers will encourage the better projects to enter in the Regional Science Fair.
- High School science fair coordinators will try to recruit students to participate in the Regional Science Fair.
- The secondary science specialist will brainstorm with the coordinators to come up with a plan to increase involvement.