



Dear Parent/Guardian,

We are excited to share that Richland One is hosting a science fair for middle school students. All Hand Middle School students will be completing a project during class time. We want to ensure that all students have the opportunity to explore the scientific method and help design and execute an experiment with proper support and guidance. Assignments completed for the class projects will be counted for daily/project grades. All class projects will be entered into the Hand Middle School Science Fair and judged. Winners will advance to the Richland One District Science Fair.

**We are also offering all students an opportunity to complete an individual project as extra credit.** Should your child choose to participate, this project will be completed in its entirety outside of school. This is NOT a requirement for any student to complete their own individual project, it is only an extra credit opportunity. Individual projects will be entered into the Hand Middle School Science Fair and have an opportunity to advance to the Richland One District Science Fair. Students choosing to participate individually will also contribute to the class project.

There are many things you can do to help your child with a science fair project. Although **this is your child's project and is to reflect his or her own effort**, there is no substitute for your support and encouragement!

1. Listen to and praise your child. Let your child know you are interested in his or her ideas.
2. Provide a space where your child can work/do his or her experiment without worrying about siblings/pets.
3. Help your child take all necessary safety precautions.
4. Remind your child that any project on living organisms must be approved by their teacher.
5. If there are any questions about the project, contact your child's teacher.
6. Realize that the real prize of this process will be the development of your child's skills, not the few blue ribbons passed out by the judges at the science fair.

**Important Dates:**

- January 9: All class and individual projects completed.
- January 10-11: All students participate in Hand Middle School Science Fair (details for visitors are TBD).
- January 15-17: Winners participate in Richland One District Science Fair

Please discuss this opportunity with your child and help him/her make a decision regarding the extra credit opportunity. If your child chooses to participate, fill out the information below and return it to your child's science teacher by Friday, December 21<sup>st</sup>. Your child's teacher will send home a Science Fair Packet which will include the guidelines for completing the project.

Thank you,

Hand Middle School Science Teachers

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Student's Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Science Teacher's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ YES, I have discussed this opportunity and am requesting a Science Fair Packet. I understand that a completed project must be turned in by January 9<sup>th</sup> to receive extra credit.

Student's Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent's Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_