

SW WASHINGTON REGIONAL SCIENCE OLYMPIAD ADVISORY BOARD

Meeting Minutes for Monday, 1 June 2009, 6:30 PM, Clark College

Members present: David Bufford, Rick Grote, Tina Barsotti, Barry Hoffmann, Jana Grote, Ron Wright, Cheryl Kryger

Elementary Science Olympiad

Tentatively scheduled for Saturday, November 14, 2009, 9 AM to 12 noon, at the Columbia Tech Center campus of Clark College.

1. Jana Grote reviewed the Camas Elementary Spring Training that was held on 30 May 2009.
 - a. They had about 150 kids with 12 events from which the students chose their favorites beforehand.
 - b. The set up was very labor intensive. Each team of 3 kids had one adult or older student that served as a coach/advisor who encouraged them to solve the problems on their own.
 - c. These were the events were recommended and confirmed for the Elementary Invitational 2009.
 - i. Gummy Bear Long Jump: costs around \$55. This required a launching trajectory apparatus that Rick Grote and friends made en masse. It was proposed that an Eagle Scout candidate could build them as part of his project, then we could sell them to interested teams for around \$10 each and split the profit. Instead of mailing them, they could be picked up at Clark College. This would really help the teams because finding someone to build them might be difficult.
 - ii. Barge Building: costs around \$2.60 for 50. Foil candy wrappers work better than rolled foil due to the difficulties of cutting to size and then separating the sheets.
 - iii. Bridge Building: possible supplies include 4" skewers or toothpicks, marshmallows or gumdrops which need to be "aged" for about a month to work better.
 - iv. Crime Busters: employs 6 different powders and chromatography paper. They had a local facilitator who has a lot of experience working with kids through summer camps.
 - v. Aerodynamics: This would be the "repeat" event we were looking for. We could possibly make it different by placing the target on a table.
 - d. Events that did not go real well were:
 - i. Sink or Float: too easy. This would fit well for a K-2 program.
 - ii. Reflection Relay: too hard. This might be a possibility as a pre-award activity for a tag team of 5 parents with Mag-lites instead of lasers.
 - iii. Mystery Boxes: better suited for K-2.
 - iv. Knock, Knock: better suited for K-2.

- e. Hangman Science wasn't tried but is a definite possibility to try later using a master list of words or maybe offer as a surprise trial event.
2. An idea that was proposed was to offer a "starter kit" that would have all the supplies a team would need for all the events for around \$30.
3. Rick and Jana Grote will iron out the event rules over the summer.
4. Tina Barsotti will be confirming the date for the Invitational and get it on the website. She will also see that publicity is distributed to ESD, elementary principals and all third to fifth grade teachers. Cheryl Kryger will forward the publicity that was used last year.
5. An attempt should be made to set up a parent spectator area in each event room.

Coaches Clinic

Tentatively scheduled for Saturday, October 17, 2009, 8 AM to 1 or 2 PM, at Clark College.

1. Tentative cost will be around \$50 for 2 coaches from the same team. Additional students and parents from the same team will be \$10 each.
2. Sessions should include building events and the three new events it appears next year's slate will have.
3. The focus will be on how to teach/coach events rather than tailoring the material to students who might be there.
4. Event supervisors should host the sessions.
5. Each time period should offer two classes: one Div B and one Div C event, or two B/C events. They should be around 30 minutes for study events and 45 minutes for building events with 5-10 minute passing periods. There should be one session after lunch.
6. Ron Wright is willing to host a coaches' roundtable discussion during the "bring your own" lunch from 11 AM to 12 noon.
7. We should offer simple snacks in the morning such as coffee, juice, donuts and bagels.
8. Another idea would be to have a "Southwest Washington Honor Roll" that will recognize all the accomplishments our teams from this area have made. Perhaps a display could be made and/or students on national teams could show off their trophies.
9. The specific agenda for the day will be addressed at the next board meeting.

Sponsorship

1. Tina Barsotti reported that we are receiving a \$6000 donation from Clark Foundation.
2. Ron Wright has a contact that could possibly secure sizable corporate donations. We discussed how we should specifically spend those funds and what to give to the companies in return. Possibilities could include freebies for the teams attending the tournaments, random drawing cash prizes, and pictures or plaques for the businesses. Tina will look into finding examples of calibrating donations that are used in Little League.

Other

The next board meeting will be Monday, 14 September 2009, at 6:30 PM, Fireside Room (PUB 161), at Clark College. This meeting's agenda will include preparing for the Coaches Clinic, the Elementary Invitational, and introducing SW board elections which should be held after the Coaches Clinic.

Respectfully submitted,
Cheryl Kryger
Secretary