**Student Guidelines**

Welcome to the 2015 Westlake Science Fair! We hope you will not only learn a lot today about science competitions, but also enjoy the camaraderie of other equally accomplished students from 23 other schools who share your passion for science.

1. Please use the attached map to find your Poster #, and quickly set up your poster board.

2. Judging will be from approximately 2 p.m. to approximately 4/4:30. **You should be able to talk uninterrupted for roughly 7-8 minutes, and then answer questions for roughly 5-7 minutes.** Ideally, each judging session should last a maximum of 15 minutes.

3. **Before you present each time, place 1 of your 3 stickers on each judge’s rubric beneath the Poster #.**

4. **Do not tell the judge: the name of your school, teacher, or mentor, or where you’ll be working.** This information may bias the judge toward or against you. If a judge asks, apologize and say you’re not allowed to say. If you know the judge, politely say there is a conflict of interest and that he/she should exchange your rubric for another student’s. **It is your ethical duty, under your school’s code of conduct, to act responsibly on any conflicts of interest. Failure to comply with this rule will result in disqualification.**

5. **You will be judged 3 separate times,** so you’ll have many rest periods. Please remain by your poster board the entire time, however. If you have an emergency, tell a nearby student you’ll be right back.

6. After you’ve been judged 3 times, **you must remain at your poster board**. Public viewing is from
4 - 4:45, and there may be tiebreaking judging in your category. An announcement will be made when tiebreaking judging has been completed, sometime around 4:45 p.m.

7. **After the end of tiebreaking, you need to remove from the gym everything you brought.** The awards ceremony will follow 15 minutes later. Because we have 75 more students than last year, we cannot accommodate everyone in the auditorium at once. Categories beginning with “A” through “E” (Animal Science – Environmental Science) will be awarded first; categories beginning with “M” through “P” will be second. Students and parents in the second set need to wait in the Senior Cafeteria (see attached map) until all students & parents in the first set leave the auditorium. Here’s the agenda:

**Approximate times:**

**1:00 - 1:30 Student Registration (Gym Hallway) /** Judge Registration (Main Lobby)

**1:30 - 2:00 Student Setup (Behavioral Science in Far Cafeteria; all others in Gym)**

 1:45 - 2:00 Judge Orientation (Senior Cafeteria)

 **2:00** - **4:00 Competitive Poster Board Presentations (Gym and Far Cafeteria)**

**4:00** - **4:45 Tiebreaking Round / Public Viewing (Gym and Far Cafeteria)\***

 **4:45 - 5:00 Cleanup and Removal of Poster Boards (Gym and Far Cafeteria)**

 **5:00 - 6:00 Awards Ceremony (Auditorium by Main Lobby)**

**\*Any student not present until the end of tiebreaking is announced may be disqualified.**

If you have any questions, please ask a volunteer or myself (I’m wearing an Einstein tie.). We hope you’ll have an enjoyable and rewarding day. Whether you win an award or not, you should be proud of all the hard work you’ve done this year to compete in this fair. Good luck as you continue your scientific journey!

Lawrence McIntyre

Director, Westlake Science Fair