



Dear Parents,

Science Olympiad is a national non-profit organization designed to enhance the quality of science education, to increase student interest in science, and to provide recognition for student achievement in these events. The Science Olympiad tournaments are academic inter-scholastic competitions consisting of twenty-three team events for which students prepare during the school year. These challenging areas are well balanced between various science areas. There is also a balance of events requiring knowledge of science facts, concepts, processes, skills, and applications.

The team meets every Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday during Choice Hour. This is a year-long class and the students need to participate in class at least two days a week. We will participate in two to four competitions next year. Two are invitationals that will take place on a Saturday in January or early February. These competitions will aid our team in preparing for the regional competition at Oakland University in Rochester. The regional competition is scheduled for Saturday March 17, 2012 (8 am – 6 pm). If we are successful at regionals, we will have the opportunity to participate in the State tournament at Michigan State University on the last Saturday April 28th, 2012 (8 am – 8 pm). Please count on your child participating in each of these events and put them on the calendar now.

Students who are successful in their events work hard during school meeting times and outside school. Each student needs to work at home in order to be ready for the competition. Parent participation is necessary to assist their child in gathering data, practicing, building and studying for their events. Please make sure your family is dedicated to being a part of the team and all of the preparation needed to be successful.

Students who wish to apply for the team must complete the application form and return it to me or with your Choice Hour selection sheet by Friday May 27th. The 1st quarter next year is an audition period. Students will participate in mini-competitions to earn a spot on the final teams. I will take up to 30 students on the teams. The official team consists of 15 students in grades 6-9. These students will participate in all the competitions. Fifteen additional students will be a part of the alternate team. The alternates will participate in the invitationals and regional competition, but they will not be able to participate in the state tournament. The official team will be selected in the fall, before the end of the first quarter. A parent meeting will be held at that time. Students selected to audition for the team during the 1st quarter should see me for a complete list of 2010/11 rules or for summer materials if you are interested in working on a particular event over the summer. Information on the mini competition and activities to practice will be posted on the following website throughout the summer. www.digitalbcs.com (Select 5-6 Team, Mrs. Brown and then select Middle School Science Olympiad).

The list of students who make the fall choice hour audition period will be posted outside my classroom door by Friday, June 3rd. Students who apply must list Science Olympiad as their first option on their choice hour sheet. If your child makes the team, they will be placed in the class. If they are not selected, they will be placed in one of their alternate choices. Students who don't make the fall choice hour initially may be invited to join the team during the first quarter if students drop out. There is a \$35 pay to play fee for this choice hour. Students who officially drop the class during the first quarter will receive a full refund from PTSA during November.

If you have any question please email me at tb03bps@birningham.k12.mi.us.

Sincerely,

Tammy Brown

**2011 - 2012 Middle Level (Grades 6-9)
Science Olympiad Application Form**

Student Information

Name: _____ Grade next year: _____

Email: _____ Phone # _____

Are you willing and able to meet during lunch? _____ Yes _____ No

Are you willing and able to meet after school? _____ Yes _____ No

Are you willing and able to meet on the weekends? _____ Yes _____ No

Are you willing and able to work at home? _____ Yes _____ No

Do you work well independently? _____ Yes _____ No

Do you have internet access? _____ Yes _____ No

Will you work on a building event (planes, towers, catapults, etc.), study (rocks, insects, maps, etc.) and/or prepare for the mini competition over the summer? _____ Yes _____ No

If yes, what would you like to work on? (go to <http://soinc.org>) to see information about the events (Division B)

What skills do you feel you can contribute to the team? _____

What other activities are you considering participating in next year (math counts, yearbook, forensics, 6th grade sports, 7/8 sports, etc.) _____

If I am selected as a member of the team I will devote as much time as necessary to be the best prepared that I can be for the tournaments. I am aware that in order to make the official team I will need to participate in a mini competition in the fall. I am also aware that there will be information posted on the website that will help me to prepare throughout the summer and in the fall for this competition.

Student Signature: _____

Parent Information:

Name(s): _____

Email address: _____ Phone #: _____

Are you willing to assist your child in preparing for their events? _____ Yes _____ No

Are you willing to coach an event (1 – 4 students)? _____ Yes _____ No

Do you have access to tools that could be helpful in building devices? _____ Yes _____ No

Are you willing to help students with the construction of devices? _____ Yes _____ No

What skills/knowledge/hobbies do you have that could be shared with the team? (Ex. Medical background, Engineering, Construction, Model Building, Science: Chemistry, Geology, Forestry, etc.)

If my child is selected as a member of the team, I will aid them in researching, organizing and practicing for their event throughout the year. I am also willing to offer my expertise to assist other children on the team. I know that Mrs. Brown will set up a meeting time in the fall to meet with all parents to begin organizing the team. I am committed to attending and helping in any way possible.

Parent Signature: _____