

Science Fair for Grades 3 through 6

The Fifth Annual Science Fair preparation has started!

Family information sessions were held on Tuesday, December 17th. If your child is interested in participating and you were not able to attend one of the information sessions, you can refer to the email with attachments and the permission slips that was sent before Winter break. The email gives the help session dates and the attachments that were handed out at the information meetings.

During January there will be help sessions after school on most Tuesdays from 3:00 to 4:30. These help sessions are designed to explain different steps of the science fair project from start – an investigable question – to finish – an interview with a judge during the CRSS fair the first week of March. Students will do most of the work on the experiment and board design at home, but are encouraged to attend the sessions for guidance and support. We have been lucky to have Shattuck St. Mary's students as mentors for these sessions in the past.

Sign up for the Science Fair and help sessions as requested by January 6th. Any questions can be addressed to Mrs. Girard or Ms. Deb.

Cannon River STEM School News

Volume 2, Issue 5

January 2014

CRSS Wins Local Government Innovation Award!

The Humphrey School of Public Affairs at the University of Minnesota selected Cannon River STEM School to receive a 2013 Local Government Innovation Award for its collaborative work on supporting youth and families. The awards—organized in partnership with the Bush Foundation and co-sponsored by the League of Minnesota Cities, the Association of Minnesota Counties, and the Minnesota School Board Association—recognize 18 government entities annually for their creativity and effectiveness in redesigning how they do business.

“Each year cities, counties, and schools are challenged to do more with less and these awards recognize those who are most creatively doing that,” says Jay Kiedrowski, senior fellow at the Humphrey School of Public Affairs. “The award winners have done an exemplary job integrating innovative ideas and problem-solving techniques into their operations, redesigning how they do business and improving services they provide Minnesota communities.”

Cannon River STEM School was recognized for its work with the Rice County Family Services Collaborative, the Rice County Chemical Health Coalition and the Rice County Mental Health Collective to provide programming that builds youth assets, reduces risk behavior, and strengthens families.

A panel of judges considered 94 submissions for their creativity, sustainability, and collaboration. The panel named 18 winners who were formally recognized at an awards ceremony and reception Thursday, December 12 at the Humphrey School. CRSS is honored to be recognized for this work and is thankful to our many partners! For more information about this award, go to <http://lgia.umn.edu/>.



School Board Positions

In last month's newsletter an article featured ways to become involved at Cannon River STEM School. Being a member of the School Board is a way to help create policy and provide support to the students and staff at CRSS.

The process for applying to fill positions on the board was sent out via email, was posted in the local newspaper and referred to in last month's newsletter. In early December the committee created by the board followed the procedures and deadlines established to fill board positions. The next round of board member applications will be in November of 2014.



We are delighted to welcome Vanessa Kuhlman and Sandy Larson to the board. Both bring experience in the business world and a desire to help CRSS continue to grow, innovate and continue to provide a quality experience for students. They will be at the January Annual Meeting to meet staff and families before they officially begin their term in February 2014.

January 2014

Sun

Mon

Tue

Wed

Thu

Fri

Sat

			1 No School	2 Back to school today	3	4
5	6 Science Fair registration due	7 Science Fair Help Session	8	9 Annual Mtg 6:15 pm Board Mtg 7:00 pm	10	11
12	13	14 Science Fair Help Session	15	16	17	18
19	20 No School Parent/Student/Teacher Conferences	21 No School Parent/Student/Teacher Conferences	22	23	24	25
26	27	28 Science Fair Help Session	29	30	31	

REMINDER: Report cards are now available for you to view on TIES SchoolView.

Annual Meeting

Thursday, January 9th is CRSS's next scheduled Board Meeting and also the date for our nonprofit organization's **Annual Meeting**. All parents are invited to come out to the school cafeteria at 6:15 pm and have some refreshments and talk informally with our Board members. Student work will be on display and a slide show from the year will be playing. The Board meeting begins at 7:00 pm and you are welcome to stay for the meeting...but even if you can't stay, we'd love to see you for the social time before the meeting.

2014-2015 Student Applications

The 2014-2015 CRSS Student Application will be available on our website on January 2nd. If you have a child that will be entering kindergarten or a child in a different grade that you would like to attend CRSS for

the 2014-2015 school year please complete the application and return it to the office no later than 4:00 pm on Tuesday, March 11, 2013. **Students that are currently enrolled this year will automatically be enrolled for next year, no form is needed.**

Donations Please

SHOE BOXES

Our 4th grade classes and Art are in need of shoe boxes. You can send them in with your students or drop them off in the office.

BOX TOPS ONLY

We will no longer be participating in the milk caps or soup label programs. We will only be accepting the Box Tops.

Winter Conferences

Please sign up for conferences starting January 6th. Sign up from the link at the bottom right of the CRSS website. Remember that K-6 conferences run a little differently than 7th and 8th so carefully check the times as you sign up. These conferences are an important way to communicate progress, share successes and monitor goals for the year. If you have questions or need assistance signing up, you can contact Ms. Ashley in the office at 507-331-7836 or at aringlien@cannonriverstemschool.org.