

Pantex NEWS

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Students to Compete at Middle School Science Bowl

The Pantex Plant will host a Middle School Science Bowl on Saturday, Feb. 13, in the Classroom Center Building at West Texas A&M University. The first match will begin at approximately 9:00 a.m. The public is invited to attend.

Thirty-three teams from 16 area middle and junior high schools will test their science knowledge in a rapid-fire, question and answer format.

The Science Bowl is operated much like the popular television game show "Jeopardy," with the exception that students play on teams of four instead of individually. Round-robin games are held in the morning with division winners advancing to the double-elimination final rounds after lunch. Students' science and math knowledge is challenged as they try to beat their opponents to the buzzer to answer questions on earth science, physical science, life science, general science and math.

"Science Bowl is designed for students who love science and math," said Debra Halliday, Science Bowl Coordinator. "It encourages students to excel in these tough subjects and puts their knowledge to the test. These young people and their coaches have been working hard for months to prepare. They have a great time competing."

More than 100 Pantex employees and community volunteers work as scorekeepers, timers, judges and moderators. "This event would not be possible without these dedicated volunteers. Their involvement not only makes Science Bowl a positive experience for these gifted students, but shows that these adults are supporting educational success for all students," Halliday said.

The team winning the Pantex competition will represent this region in the National Middle School Science Bowl held in Washington, D.C., April 29-May 4, 2010. The winning team will also earn \$1,000 for its school's science program. The second place team will win \$500, and the third place team will receive \$250.

Schools participating in this year's Pantex Middle School Science Bowl are:

Borger Middle School
Bovina Middle School
Bushland Middle School
Canyon Junior High
Clarendon Junior High
De Zavala Middle School

Dumas Junior High
Greenways Intermediate School
Hartley Junior High
Higgins Junior High
Highland Park Middle School
Lazbuddie Junior High

Panhandle Junior High
River Road Middle School
Sam Houston Middle School
St. Andrew's Episcopal School

Note: The competition will begin at 9:00 a.m., and the final match is scheduled to begin at 3:45 p.m. Lunch is scheduled from approximately 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Media are welcome to cover the competition and interview student participants between rounds. Please be mindful that this is a competition. If you enter a room, please be quiet and remain stationary. You will be asked to remain in the room for an entire half, which lasts eight minutes. I will e-mail the names of the winning schools following the competition Saturday.