



BISHOP McHUGH

REGIONAL CATHOLIC SCHOOL

November 16, 2016

Dear Parents:

This year, we're transitioning from a Science Fair to a STREAM Fair. As you know, STREAM stands for Science, Technology, Religion, Engineering, the Arts, and Mathematics. There are several key distinctions between a Science Fair and a STREAM Fair project.

The traditional Science Fair project involves a scientific investigation in biology, chemistry, physical science, etc. Students typically conduct an experiment and document the results in a report. The process is rubric-based and solitary for the most part.

By contrast, a STREAM Fair project is more collaborative and encompasses a broader view of the topic being explored. Projects may address the ethics or morality of the science. They may incorporate references from literature. They will utilize scientific processes to explore real world problems.

As such, we are encouraging students to think beyond the typical Science Fair project for this year's STREAM Fair. For example, a student could read the book, *The Boy Who Harnessed the Wind*, and then build a windmill. A student could use computer coding to present the effects of aerodynamics on bridge design.

Importantly, students will collaborate in class, and throughout the process they will receive feedback from their peers on their projects. In addition, this year, students will be allowed to work in pairs on their STREAM projects if they so choose.

The website, www.sciencebuddies.org, has examples of STEM projects which they can review. To add Religion or the Arts, students can use their own creativity or consult Mrs. Bruesehoff or me.

I believe this transition from Science Fair to STREAM Fair is an important one, and one which will position our students for success in the future. Thank you for your support.

Sincerely,

Diane Bruesehoff

Tom McGuire