

MES and Science Olympiad

MES has in the past hosted a model contest where teams from various middle and high schools around the state constructed a balsa wood structure (typically a bridge) meeting certain dimensional and weight restrictions which were then loaded to failure in a competition to see which team could construct the lightest and strongest structure. This event has typically been coordinated by individuals within MES who performed a yeoman's duty single-handedly pulling together the specifications, communicating with the schools the requirements, and coordinating and managing the final test events. The MES Board has been looking for an opportunity to sponsor and provide advice and coaching support to an activity involving middle school and high school students which would allow more participation from our membership across all engineering disciplines to replace the model contest. We believe we have identified this opportunity in the Science Olympiad, a national contest with existing school involvement in the state. The Science Olympiad is a competition held in March in Mississippi with the finalists from the state competition attending the National Science Olympiad in May. The Olympiad consists of numerous events within the categories of Life, Personal & Social Science, Earth & Space, Physical Science & Chemistry, Technology & Engineering, and finally, Inquiry & Nature of Science. These events have titles such as Junkyard Challenge, Mission Impossible, Mousetrap Vehicle and Towers, which is very similar to our model contest. Each participating school fields a team for whichever events they choose to participate in, with most schools having heavy participation in the Technology and Engineering category because they get to build and tear up things there. The Olympiad itself is conducted like a game show, making participation by the teams fun. The MES Board decided during our last meeting to sponsor the Science Olympiad in lieu of continuing the model contest.

Beyond sponsorship, we want the MES membership to become personally involved as advisors for teams, judges, and/or helpers with event coordination. To encourage this participation, a listing of the schools which participated in the Olympiad in 2011 is provided below with the name and contact information for the team coaches. Please review this list and contact the school(s) nearest you to offer your personal support to this exciting competition which introduces and fosters interest in science and engineering.

Junior High/Middle School	Head Coach	Email & Phone	Town
Petal Middle School	Karen Huddleston	karen.huddleston@petalschools.com 601-584-6301	Petal
Bayou View Middle School	Daniele Edwards	daniele.edwards@gulfportschools.org 228-865-4633	Gulfport
West Wortham Middle School	Janice Marie Ferguson	jferguson@harrison.k12.ms.us 228-224-1515	Saucier

Germantown Middle School	Melissa Foles	mnfoles@yahoo.com 601-859-0376	Madison
Germantown Middle School	Allan Nolan	anolan@madison-schools.com 601-859-0376	Madison
Chastain Middle School	Sherrye Biglow	sbiglow@jackson.k12.ms.us 601-987-3550	Jackson
West Wortham Middle School	Jodi Mitchell	JWolverton@harrison.k12.ms.us 228-224-1515	Saucier
Trinity Episcopal Day School	Julie Timm	julietimm@bellsouth.net 601-442-5424	Natchez
Ocean Springs Middle School	Patrick Quinnelly	pquinnelly@ossdms.org 228-872-6210	Ocean Springs
Biloxi Junior High School	Syhann Shoemake	syhann.shoemake@biloxischools.net 228-435-1421	Biloxi
Parklane Academy	Anthony DeLee	deleeanthony45@yahoo.com 601-684-7841 kara.mcdermott@vicksburgcatholic.org	McComb
St. Aloysius High School	Kara McDermott	601-636-2256	Vicksburg
Hancock Middle School	Elizabeth Brown	ebrown@hancock.k12.ms.us 228-467-1889	Kiln
Amite County High School	Shirline Hampton	shirlinehampton@yahoo.com 601-657-8920	Liberty
Pearl River Central Middle School	Rhona Hayes	rhayes@prc.k12.ms.us 601-798-5654	Carriere
Buckatunna Junior High School	Kim Hopkins	hopkinsk@wayne.k12.ms.us 601-648-2501	Buckatunna
North Woolmarket Middle School	Dianne Groce	dgroce@harrison.k12.ms.us 228-396-3674	Biloxi
North Woolmarket Middle School	Amber Raynor	araynor@harrison.k12.ms.us 228-396-3674	Biloxi
Oxford Middle School	Michael Hougendobler	mjhougen@olemiss.edu 662-202-2201	Oxford
Gulfport Central Middle School	Susan Lewis	susan.lewis@gulfportschools.org 228-870-1035	Gulfport

School			
Gulfport Central Middle School	Jessica Arnold	jessica.arnold@gulfportschools.org 228-870-1035	Gulfport
Clinton Jr High School	Linda White	lwhite@clinton.k12.ms.us 601-924-0619	Clinton
Beat Four School	Linda Pitts	pittslinda6@aol.com 601-735-2124	Waynesboro
Petal Upper Elementary School	Anya Keen	anya.keen@petalschools.com 601-584-7660	Petal
Petal Upper Elementary School	Karen Fordham	karen.fordham@petalschools.com 601-584-7660	Petal
Petal Upper Elementary School	Diane Wolfarth	diane.wolfarth@petalschools.com 601-584-7660	Petal
West Lauderdale Middle School	April McCary	amccary@lauderdale.k12.ms.us 601-737-8689	Collinsville
West Lauderdale Middle School	Cathy Gordon	cgordon@lauderdale.k12.ms.us 601-737-8689	Collinsville

High School	Head Coach	email	Town
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Caledonia High School	Terry L. Wiygul	terry.wiygul@lowndes.k12.ms.us 662-356-2001	Caledonia
North Pike High School	Erin Fortenberry	jaguarsciteacher@gmail.com 601-276-2175	Summit
North Pike High School	Melissa Duncan	missymac23@hotmail.com 601-276-2175	Summit
Wilkinson County Christian Academy	Pamela Leak	bellevuefarm@bellsouth.net 601-888-4313	Woodville
Trinity Episcopal Day School	Michael Kinney	michaelkinney@yahoo.com 601-442-5424	Natchez
New Albany High School	Brooke Dillard	bmcclain@newalbany.k12.ms.us 662-534-1805	New Albany
Parklane Academy	Lisa Loper	ltloper@yahoo.com 601-684-7841	McComb
St. Aloysius High School	Suzie Channell	suzie.channell@vicksburgcatholic.org 601-636-2256	Vicksburg

Madison Central High School	Betsy Sullivan	bsullivan@madison-schools.com 601-856-7121	Madison
Amite County High School	Kimberly Ford	kimberlymmf@yahoo.com 601-657-8920	Liberty
Forrest County AHS	Tommy Sumrall	tsumrall4@bellsouth.net 601-582-4741	Brooklyn
MSMS Sumner Hill Junior High School	William R. Odom Lynda Collins	bodom@msms.k12.ms.us 662-329-7370 lcollins@clinton.k12.ms.us 601-924-5510	Columbus Clinton
D'Iberville High School	Terry Stebly	tstebly@harrison.k12.ms.us 228-392-2678	Biloxi
Clinton High School	Joe Queen	jqueen@clinton.k12.ms.us 601-924-5656	Clinton
Greenville- Weston High School	Pamela Ward	pward@gville.k12.ms.us 601-334-7061	Greenville