



CONROE INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT
Academy of Science and Technology

The Woodlands College Park High School



Newsclippings

Volume 10 Number 5

September 16, 2016

| Date | Event |
|------|--|
| 9/16 | AST Donut Day Coffee with the Headmaster |
| 9/17 | AST Picnic |
| 9/20 | AST Visits Irons JHS Science Fair Information Night |
| 9/22 | AST Visits York JHS |
| 9/25 | YMCA Dragon Boats |
| 9/26 | AST Information Night |
| 9/29 | AST Information Night |

Dear Academy Parents and Students:

Please note deadlines for the science fair competitions.

Read our news below.

Dr. Caffery

Opportunities

NAMEPA Competition

Was your science fair project last year focused on a Marine Science area such as marine environmental care, naval architecture, ocean engineering, oil and chemical spill remediation, marine biology, marine ecosystems, marine microorganisms, fuel or pollutants, or marine environmental projects? If so, you are invited to send a project abstract of 300 words or less and your technical paper to the Education Committees of the American Salvage Association (ASA) and the North American Marine Environmental Protection Association (NAMEPA) **before October 1, 2016**. For more information go to www.namepa.net.

STEM Enhancement in Earth Science (SEES) Summer Intern Program

Current SOPHOMORES and JUNIORS are eligible to apply for the SEES Summer Intern Program. NASA, Texas Space Grant Consortium and The University of Texas at Austin Center for Space Research is a nationally competitive STEM program for high school students. It provides selected students with exposure to Earth and space research. The deadline to apply

is March 2017. Applicants must be US citizen. Application requirements include an online application, video, essay and letter of recommendation. More information may be found at <http://www.csr.utexas.edu/internship/> when the 2017 information is released.

STAR (Science, Technology, Arts at Rensselaer) Program

Seniors who are young women are invited to apply for the STAR program which allows high school students to experience life as a Rensselaer student. The STAR program begins Thursday Oct 27 and runs through Saturday October 29. The program includes attending classes, undergraduate research overview and tour of laboratories, campus tour, student panels, and lodging and meals with current students. Students may apply online at <https://apply-undergrad.rpi.edu/register/STAR2016> by **September 23**. There are a limited number of travel grants available.

Siemens Competition Math:Science:Technology

Established in 1999, the **Siemens Competition in Math, Science and Technology** is the nation's premier science research competition for high school students. It promotes excellence by encouraging students to undertake individual or team research projects. Scholarships for winning projects range from \$1000 to \$100,000. All competition materials must be received by **Tuesday September 20, 2016 by 11:59 pm ET**.

Eligibility: high school students who are citizens or permanent residents of the United States and in good standing in high school (grades 9-12) for the 2016-2017 school year.

Students who submit INDIVIDUAL projects must be seniors (last year of high school). Team projects may have two or three members only and to not need to include a senior.

Research reports may be submitted in the fields of mathematics, engineering, biological, and physical sciences.

For more information go to <https://siemenscompetition.discoveryeducation.com/>

Regeneron Science Talent Search

Regeneron has become only the third sponsor in 75 years of the nation's oldest and most prestigious high school science competition, committing \$100 million to support the Science Talent Search and other Society for Science and the Public through 2026. Applications opened June 1 **with transcripts and recommendations due Nov 9 and November 16 (8:00 pm ET) being the application deadline**. The online application can be found at <https://sciencetalentsearch.fluidreview.com/>. The rules and instructions can be found at <https://member.societyforscience.org/document.doc?id=748>.

Eligibility: seniors (students enrolled in last year of high school). Students who have conducted individual research only. Team projects are not eligible

Young Women Energized

Are you a young woman in grades 9-12 and interested in learning more about energy careers and STEM? If so you may want to register for the WEN event on **Tuesday November 15, 2016** from 5-9 pm at Houston Baptist University (Morris Cultural Arts Center/Belin Chapel 7502 Fondren Road Houston, TX 77074. Sessions include a discussion on the next generation of women advancing in energy; ask the experts-engineers, scientists, technology professionals, lawyers, accountants, and more; mapping your career; Q&A session for parents, educators, and career and college counselors. Each year WEN awards five high school seniors, \$2000 scholarships from the greater Houston area. Apply now. To register go to

<https://www.womensenergynetwork.org/houston/community-initiatives/young-women-energized/ywe-2016-registration-form/> . To find out more go to www.womensenergynetwork.org.

Seniors- Haag Family Foundation Scholarships

The Haag Family Foundations is providing two scholarships for our seniors who will be attending a public/state funded college or university in the fall of 2017. The scholarship includes the following:

- Financial support begins in the fall of 2017
- Annual financial support of \$5000 per academic year (\$2500 per semester)
- Renewable for a period of 3 years with total value of \$20,000
- All seniors graduating from the Academy of Science and Technology are eligible
- Only students who will attend publicly funded college or universities will be eligible.

Copies of the scholarship are available in the Academy office. Completed application will be submitted to Ms. Debra Creel in the College and Career Center.

Academy Senior Gala

Attention Class of 2017 and Senior Parents

It has been a long-standing tradition of the Parents of the Academy of Science and Technology to honor the senior class with a very special, formal, and personal graduation event. **The Senior Gala** is an elegant celebration of our seniors and their accomplishments during which we will share their memories of the past four years and plans for the future. The Senior Gala for the Class of 2017 will be held on **Sunday, April 30, 2017** at **The Woodlands Waterway Marriott Hotel at 3:00 p.m.**

Throughout the coming months, we will be sending you information and reminders about the Gala through the US postal service, email, the AST weekly Newsclippings newsletter, The Class of 2017 Facebook page, and REMIND. To join the REMIND group simply text the

message **@ast201** to the number **81010**. Standard text messaging rates apply to those without unlimited texting on their cell phone data plans.

For those who wish to assist in the preparation of this event, a **volunteer meeting** will be held on Thursday, October 13 from 9 – 10:30 a.m. in the Mitchell Library (8125 Ashlane Way The Woodlands, TX 77382).

Terri Kedzierski and Tandi Hodges
Senior Gala Co-Chairs

Academy News

Academy National Merit Semi-Finalists

The National Merit Scholarship Corporation (NMSC) recognizes academically talented students of the United States. The National Merit Scholarship Program is an academic competition that began in 1955. High school students enter the National Merit Program by taking the Preliminary SAT/National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test (PSAT/NMSQT) in their junior year. A student must be a citizen of the United States; or be a U.S. lawful permanent resident (or have applied for permanent residence and intend to become a U.S. citizen at the earliest opportunity allowed by law.

Of the 1.5 million entrants only 50,000 with the highest PSAT/NMSQT Selection Index scores qualify for recognition in the National Merit Scholarship Program. (Score is obtained by doubling the sum of the Reading, Writing and Language, and Math scores). In late September approximately 16, 000 (or a third of the 50,000) students are notified they have qualified as Semi-finalists.

Congratulations to the following students for their recognition as National Merit Semi-finalists: ***Kristen Bohnet, Meleah Caron, Nivva Emmi, Vidisha Ganesh, Meriel Kelly, Austin Nutt, Jake Paufler, Kaila Prochaska, Franklin Shi, Evelyn Tran, Brunon Walczak, and Jessica Zhang.***

Broadcom MASTERS 2016 Semifinalists

Broadcom MASTERS (Math, Applied Science, Technology and Engineering Rising Stars) is the premier science and engineering competition for middle school students. The top 10% of 6th, 7th, and 8th grade participants are nominated by their affiliated science fairs. From this pool, 300 semifinalists are selected and ultimately, 30 finalists.

Congratulations to **Jaimie Lee (McCullough JHS), Class of 2020**, on her selection as a semifinalist for 2016!

P.A.S.T. for the Future News

Information from the Parents of Academy of Science and Technology

CP PTO News

PAST encourages our Academy families to join both, PAST, and the College Park PTOs. The CP PTO membership forms can be found at the main TWCP website or at the CP PTO website at <https://sites.google.com/site/thewoodlandscollegeparkpto/>. Please send in your completed form with your payment (cash or check, written to CP PTO, accepted). Membership in the CP PTO begins at \$10. Thank you for your support.

PAST Membership Information

It's that time again...time to join PAST for the 2016-2017 school year! We are off to a good start, with memberships from the parents of 107 students. Many thanks to the parents who have already joined and supported PAST through membership fees and extra donations. PAST is largely funded via parent and corporate matching donations, and that money is put to excellent use supplementing the educational opportunities for all Academy students. PAST funds are used for items such as student laptops, lab equipment, classroom textbook sets, and more. Because PAST funding benefits all Academy students, it is our goal every year to have 100% parent participation. Current statistics:

| | |
|-------------|-----|
| Freshmen: | 64% |
| Sophomores: | 23% |
| Juniors: | 35% |
| Seniors: | 24% |

Please join PAST today, so that we can continue to provide a high level of financial support to enhance our students' educations! To join, visit <http://web.pastforthefuture.org/get-involved/> and you can either download the form (if paying by check) or follow the link to pay via PayPal. All members will receive Academy directories, and those who donate at the Sponsor level and above (\$150 or more) will also receive an Academy logo umbrella.

Important Senior Gala discount information for parents of seniors: PAST members who join before **January 31, 2017** receive a discount ticket price for the Senior Gala. Member price is \$55 per ticket, while non-member price is \$75 per ticket. In order to qualify for the discount, membership must be received by the deadline. After January 31, senior parents are still welcome to join PAST but will **NOT** be eligible for the discounted Senior Gala ticket pricing.

Not sure if you have already joined PAST this year? Welcome emails have been sent to parents who have joined. Please check your inbox (and junk folder) for an email from tasharees@icloud.com entitled "Welcome to PAST 2016-2017". If neither parent has received such an email but you believe you have joined PAST, contact membership coordinator Tasha Rees at tasharees@icloud.com or 832-540-6033 (text or voice, but text preferred).

The Conroe Independent School District (District) as an equal opportunity educational provider and employer does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, religion, age, or disability in educational programs or activities that it operates or in employment matters. The District is required by Title VI and Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, as amended, Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, the Age Discrimination Act of 1975, as amended, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, the Americans with Disabilities Act, as well as Board policy not to discriminate in such a manner.

For information about **Title IX rights or Section 504/ADA rights**, contact the Title IX Coordinator or the Section 504/ADA coordinator at 3205 W. Davis, Conroe, Texas 77304; (936) 709-7752.