

# *Western Upper Peninsula Center for Science, Mathematics and Environmental Education*

*A partnership of*

Copper Country & Gogebic-Ontonagon Intermediate School Districts and Michigan Technological University  
Serving schools and communities in Houghton, Baraga, Gogebic, Ontonagon and Keweenaw Counties

Dear Science Fair Teacher

Thank you for your interest in participating in the Annual Western Upper Peninsula Science Fair. The fair will be held on **Tuesday, March 27, 2012** at the Memorial Union Ballroom on Michigan Tech's campus from 4:00-8:30 pm. Students in 4<sup>th</sup> through 8<sup>th</sup> grade can submit projects on an experiment they conducted on any topic of interest. The students must follow the scientific method. Your guidance is crucial here. The Student Planning Guide provides information about the science fair, worksheets that will lead your students through the construction of project and a project checklist. The construction of science fair project is an excellent way to teach the scientific method. Students may work individually on a project or in a group of two. There will be separate competition categories for groups and individuals in each grade level. The guidance of the classroom teacher is key to the success of the science fair.

**Student Planning Guide:** We ask that each teacher to make copies of the Student Planning Guide for their students to use. The registration forms are found in the back of the planning guide. The Student Planning Guide, registration forms, science fair information, pictures from last year's science fair and list of helpful websites can be found on the Center's website (<http://wupcenter.mtu.edu>).

**Environmental Science Project Category:** This year the Forest Service is teaming up with the Western UP Center to provide a separate set of awards for the best projects studying the environmental sciences, protection of our nation's forests and natural areas. These projects will be judged separately from the rest of the science fair projects and they will have separate award categories. These projects will be judged based the project guidelines in the Western UP Science Fair Student guide and their relevance to environmental science, protection of our nation's forests and natural areas. Students need to check the Environmental Science Category at the top of the registration form to register for this category.

**Project Ideas and Resources:** Science Buddies ([www.sciencebuddies.org](http://www.sciencebuddies.org)) is free website that contains a wealth of resources and ideas for projects.

**Display Boards:** Standard size white display boards are available for science fair projects at \$2.00 each. Please contact Loret at 482-0331 or [loret@copperisd.org](mailto:loret@copperisd.org) with the number that you will need.

**Awards:** There will not be an awards ceremony on the night of the fair. By Thursday, March 29, 2012, award ribbons and a complete list of award winners will be distributed to all participating teachers. We are asking teachers to recognize award winners in their classroom. Award winning projects will be displayed at the Carnegie Museum in Houghton from April 10- May 11, 2012.

**Registration:** The number of projects that can enter the Western UP Science Fair is limited to 200 projects on a first-come first-serve basis. We **will not** hold slots for students who have not turned in a registration form by the **due date of Wednesday, March 7, 2012**. All projects must meet the general rules and requirements given in the Student Planning Guide. A complete Science Project Registration Form is required for each project and this form must have your signature. Each student participant must also turn in a signed Parent Consent Form. There are separate forms for individual and group projects are found in the back of the Student Planning Guide. Please make sure your students use the correct form. **Registration forms and parent consent forms must be return by**

**Wednesday, March 7, 2012 to:** Loret Roberts, Western UP Center  
809 Hecla St, Hancock MI, 49930  
906-482-1931(fax)

**Questions:** please contact Shawn Oppliger at 906-482-0331 or [shawn@copperisd.org](mailto:shawn@copperisd.org)