

IPRO 330 – CPS Science Fairs

Overarching Principle: “The Science Fair website will provide a quality service to all Chicago Public Schools students, as well as maintain the integrity of the science fair system and its affiliates.”

1) Law

Canon: It is of the highest importance that all facets of the Science Fair website abide by the constraints of the law. All material provided on the website to the Chicago Public Schools students will be original creations. Furthermore, legal guidelines for obtaining feedback from the students of Chicago Public Schools will be followed carefully to ensure the credibility of the website and the Science Fair program.

Pressure: Only provide original data created by our team on the website.

Pressure: An additional pressure is to make sure that all survey results are obtained legally from students above the age of 13.

Risk: Disregard a student’s age to obtain more feedback about our website.

Measure: to check all materials that we put on the website to make sure they are not copyrighted. Also, we require students be of legal age before they fill out an online survey.

2) Contracts

Canon: Maintaining contacts and collaborating with them is a significant component. Any collaborator including science fair coordinators, Chicago Public School teachers, etc. who contributes meaningful information to the website will receive appropriate credit, specifically for science fair project ideas and guides.

Pressure: The need for original science fair ideas.

Pressure: Demanding deadlines, which make it difficult to properly cite collaborators.

Risk: Not give credit to those who have contributed meaningful information to the website.

Measure: A record will be kept of all those who have collaborated with the project in the form of a contact list. If they have contributed meaningfully to the website and the project, they will be cited.

3) Professional Codes

Canon: Encouraging interests in math and science is extremely important. However, while providing intellectually stimulating science fair ideas, a priority is to maintain the safety standards of the Chicago science fairs.

Pressure: a desire to make the project ideas more appealing.

Risk: Post a very exciting, but potentially dangerous, science fair idea to the website.

Risk: Provide inadequate safety procedures.

Measure: A link will be created to explain the safety rules of Chicago science fairs. Proper warnings will be provided for potentially dangerous science fair ideas.

4) Industry Standards

Canon: As a project dedicated to helping Chicago Public School Science Fair Participants to do contemporary and interesting science fair projects, therefore increasing interest in math and science, produced project ideas will not have too much or too little detail, as either extremes will be very ineffective in achieving the project’s goal.

Pressure: Provide the right amount of information about a science fair project idea.

Risk: Providing too much detail about the science fair project idea (i.e. background research of the project, procedures, etc.), therefore not allowing the science fair participant to be challenged as a scientist, which defeats the purpose of a science fair

Risk: Provide little information and vague statements about a project idea, which will not aid the science fair participant at all, therefore also defeating the goal of the helping Chicago Public School Science Fair Participants do excellent science fair projects.

Measure: Make sure that the information provided for students is adequate to successfully complete the project, but still open enough that the student will learn along the way.

5) Community

Canon: The greatest of efforts will be made to ensure that the service offered (i.e. the website) will not differentiate users, but will allow access to anybody in the community who desires use of the service and will be advertised to the general community as much as possible. When presentations are made to the main audience (i.e. Chicago Public school students), contact will be performed in a professional manner and consent will be obtained when providing information to and obtaining information from minors.

Pressure: Desire to complete as much of the task as possible with the least amount of work, conflicting with the fact that obtaining consent from guardians and gathering as much data as possible to complete the task are both time-consuming.

Pressure: Include as much information as possible in the service being provided to benefit those that regularly make use of the service.

Risk: Using incorrect or copyrighted information that could result in possible legal action.

Measure: Keep records of obtained consent forms corresponding to information obtained from or given to any minors involved, and ensuring that all information is valid and is cited to the proper sources.

6) Personal Relationships

Canon: All members of the team will honestly consider the thoughts and ideas of each other and of CPS contacts.

Pressure: Believe ones own ideas are superior.

Risk: Ignore valuable input and ideas from other team members or CPS contacts.

Risk: Not be able to accept or utilize critiques from other team members or CPS contacts on ones own ideas.

Measure: Team members will be encouraged to report any negative communication interactions to a team leader. Evidence that this canon is observed will be demonstrated by the number of negative reports made.

7) Personal/Moral Values

Canon: The team will thoroughly review all project ideas for accuracy and appropriateness before they are posted.

Pressure: To publish all project ideas.

Risk: Providing students with inaccurate information.

Risk: Exposing a minor to inappropriate or offensive material.

Measure: The team will employ a system of peer reviews to ensure all projects are evaluated. Evidence that this canon is observed will be demonstrated in the quality of the projects posted.