

Nevada Site Office News

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HIGH SCHOOLS TO COMPETE IN U. S. DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY NEVADA REGIONAL SCIENCE BOWL

The 18th Annual Nevada Regional Science Bowl will take place February 7, 2009, at the University of Nevada, Las Vegas (UNLV). Thirty-two teams from Nevada, Arizona, California, and Utah will test their math and science knowledge during the competition hosted by the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE), National Nuclear Security Administration Nevada Site Office (NNSA/NSO).

The regional teams are competing along with more than 15,000 other high school students in 42 states, Washington, D.C., Puerto Rico, and the U.S. Virgin Islands in what they hope will take them to the annual DOE National Science Bowl finals. It is America's largest and most prestigious science competition for high school students and is the only educational event and academic competition of its kind that is sponsored by a federal agency.

"The DOE Science Bowl is an important part of DOE's efforts to encourage America's young scholars to explore the fields of science and engineering," Dr. Patricia Dehmer, Deputy Director for Science Programs in DOE's Office of Science, said. "We hope that this activity will inspire a new generation of researchers in disciplines important to solving the energy and environmental issues facing our nation and the world."

High school teams are quizzed on all science disciplines, including astronomy, biology, chemistry, earth science, general science, mathematics, and physics. Each competition tests teams of students utilizing a fast-paced question and answer format similar to the TV game show *Jeopardy*. The regional championship team will receive an all-expense-paid trip to the national finals in Washington, DC where teams that advance to the double elimination rounds will earn a monetary prize for their school as well as trophies and other awards, including science trips for the high school teams.

The 13-round tournament begins Saturday at 7:30 a.m., in the UNLV Classroom Building Complex. After morning activities conclude, participants will break for lunch at 11:30 a.m. inside the Moyer Student Union. Keynote speaker, Rhonda C. Hopkins, National Security Technologies, LLC, will address her career in Radiological Emergency Preparedness and her work managing the on-duty radiological response teams.

Nathan Tannenbaum will serve as master of ceremonies and moderate the final round of competition which will begin at 4:45 p.m. The winning team will be determined by 6 p.m. More information about the Nevada Regional Science Bowl is available at: http://www.nv.doe.gov/kidszone/sciencebowl/default.htm and the DOE National Science Bowl is available at: http://nationalsciencebowl.energy.gov

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This year's schools include:

Nevada:

Las Vegas:

Advanced Technologies Academy (2 teams); Bonanza High School

Cheyenne High School; Clark High School (2 teams)

Faith Lutheran High School (2 teams); Palo Verde High School

Shadow Ridge High School; Sierra Vista High School The Meadows School (2 teams); Valley High School

Reno: Bishop Manogue High School; Coral Academy of Science; Reno High School (2 teams)

<u>Henderson:</u> Green Valley High School

Boulder City: Boulder City High School (2 teams)

<u>Laughlin:</u> Laughlin High School Fallon: Churchill County High School

Minden: Douglas High School

Sparks: Spanish Springs High School

Elko: Elko High School

Zyphyre Cove: Whittell High School

Arizona:

<u>Buckeye:</u> Verrado High School <u>Goodyear:</u> Millennium High School <u>Tempe:</u> McClintock High School

California:

Big Pine: Big Pine High School

Utah:

Cedar City: Cedar City High School

Science Bowl sponsors: U.S. Department of Energy National Nuclear Security Administration Nevada Site Office; National Security Technologies, LLC; Northrop Grumman, U.S. Department of the Interior; Yucca Mountain Project; Atomic Testing Museum; Desert Research Institute; Stoller-Navarro Joint Venture; NV Energy; Wackenhut Services; University of Nevada, Las Vegas