



CONTACT:

Larry Hausner
OUSD Office of Communications
Tel. (714) 628-5577
Cell (949) 244-3881

Follow us on twitter at <http://twitter.com/OUSDschools>

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

McPherson Students Shine at Competition Day 2011

ORANGE, Calif., March 4, 2011—The Orange Unified School District is pleased to announce that students from McPherson Magnet School participated in Competition Day 2011 on the campus of Chapman University this past weekend and took home numerous awards.

McPherson 6th, 7th, and 8th grade students eagerly traveled around the college campus and focused on math, science and engineering. McPherson scholars launched gliders, tossed egg packages, crushed bridges, triggered mousetrap cars, solved math problems, presented information about “Green Earth” issues, and answered questions about the eye – all in the spirit of competition. In between events, they had the opportunity to create straw towers, design air powered vehicles, participate in scavenger hunts and enjoy a delicious lunch with their friends. The culmination of the day was the awards ceremony where Dr. Frank Frisch presided with the head of the Chapman MESA program, Vonna Hammerschmitt.

As a result, the following students won medals and awards in the categories listed and will be moving on to the April 2nd regional finals to be held at Chapman University

- Bridges - 3rd place design and most creative-Emily Halperin
- Most creative ribbon-Nareq Donabedian
- Gliders -2nd place Katie Rose and Jourdan Clark ; 3rd place Abby Burnett and Rose Gutierrez
- Mousetrap Cars-Kelly Lazarus and Yessenia Torrez
- Egg Drop-1st place Ryan Tanimoto and Eli Brock; 3rd place Anthony Herrera and Nick Tanner
- Speak Up-1st place Conrad Frisch; 3rd place Allen Badolian
- Math Team-2nd place Natalie Barnett, Eliana Maietta and Katie McBratney
- Solo Math – 1st place Lan Thi Nguyen; 2nd place Elaina Maietta

Judy Denenny, McPherson teacher, stated, “From this teacher’s perspective, it was so refreshing to see them excited and engaged about hands-on learning experiences. Because of opportunities like these, I know our students are eagerly looking forward to adventures as college undergraduates and “building their futures” by becoming innovative leaders of the 21st century. All 45 McPherson sixth grade participants did an amazing job!

The Orange Unified School District is located at 1401 North Handy Street in Orange, CA

#