



**MILWAUKEE PUBLIC SCHOOLS**  
Office of the Superintendent

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Date: August 31, 2005  
To: Principals  
Subject: **Milwaukee Regional Science & Engineering Fair (MRSEF) 2006**  
From: William G. Andrekopoulos  
Superintendent of Schools

Congratulations to Wisconsin Career Academy (WCA), an MPS charter school, who was recently awarded a grant from the Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction to organize the **Milwaukee Regional Science & Engineering Fair (MRSEF) 2006 to be held Friday, February 24th and Saturday, February 25th** at Wisconsin Career Academy, located at 4801 S. 2<sup>nd</sup> Street. MPS enthusiastically supports this initiative and I strongly encourage MPS schools and their students in grades five through twelve to participate in the fair.

As part of the grant, WCA, in conjunction with institutions of higher education, business, and engineers in Southeast Milwaukee, will assist schools in Milwaukee and Waukesha counties to set up science fairs and help teachers with ideas for student projects. Also, **Science Saturdays**, Saturday science and engineering fair workshops for teachers and students, will be conducted for eight weeks, starting October 1, 2005. Students will select projects or project extensions and work with a teacher/mentor until the project is complete. Parents will receive project sheets on the first Saturday a student attends, explaining the project, identifying materials needed, and recommending strategies for keeping their child on target and making the display for the project.

Additionally, participating schools will receive, at no cost:

- a spiral booklet with ideas for projects and methodologies to use for teaching, setting up, and completing the projects, and starting or expanding/enhancing a science fair
- a video with an explanation of how projects are selected, developed, and completed with winning in mind
- a module for teachers to teach one project idea from start to finish
- science fair educators and mentors to work with students during the school day, after school, and/or on Saturdays
- access to the MRSEF website to get answers to questions about MRSEF, a particular project, and/or how to conduct a related class.

The Milwaukee Regional Science & Engineering Fair is a very worthwhile learning experience for the students in MPS and will be key in supporting schools to improve student learning and achievement in science as well as preparation for No Child Left Behind (NCLB) testing in science, which begins in 2007.

Again, congratulations to WCA for receiving the grant award and to Precious Raspberry, a tenth grade student at WCA, who entered a science project in the 2005 MRSEF and took second place and brought home the Silver Medal from the world-wide competition at the International Environmental Project Olympiad (INEPO) in Istanbul Turkey. Precious represented the state of Wisconsin and was the highest-placing student from the U.S.

For more information regarding the Milwaukee Regional Science & Engineering Fair 2006, contact Katherine Nelson, MRSEF Project Manager, at WCA, 414-483-2117, e-mail at [nelson@wiscca.org](mailto:nelson@wiscca.org) or visit the WCA website at [www.wiscca.org](http://www.wiscca.org) and the MRSEF site at [www.mrsef.org/council.html](http://www.mrsef.org/council.html). You can also contact Mary Staten, MPS K-12 Science Curriculum Specialist, at 414-475-8790, or her e-mail at [statenme@mail.milwaukee.k12.wi.us](mailto:statenme@mail.milwaukee.k12.wi.us).

I hope you will seriously consider participating in this opportunity!