

Ector County Independent School District
(432) 456-0000
802 N. Sam Houston Ave.
Odessa, Texas 79761
www.ectorcountyisd.org



Mike Adkins
Public Information Officer
Date: November 7, 2017

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Students' space experiment proposals to be judged tomorrow

On Wednesday November 8, from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. at ECISD administration building, judges from around the community will evaluate the submissions from campuses competing in the Student Spaceflight Experiments Program. Three winning scientific proposals will be submitted to a national selection committee assembled by National Center for Earth and Space Science Education (NCESSSE), which will select one flight experiment proposal to be sent to the International Space Station (ISS) in 2018. An astronaut aboard the ISS will conduct the experiment, and after a typical 4- to 6-week stay in orbit, the experiment will be returned safely to Earth for harvesting and analysis by the school's student flight team.

The three finalists selected by ECISD may also have the opportunity to attend the SSEP National Conference in Washington, D.C. hosted by NCESSSE and the Smithsonian's National Air and Space Museum in Summer 2018. Students may be able to present on their experimental designs and attend featured presentations by nationally recognized scientists and engineers.

SSEP is an opportunity brought by ECISD's Innovation Department's program, PICK Education, which serves to bring real-world experiences into the classroom, make learning tangible and promotes students' ownership in their education. Funding was provided by a grant from the Texas Space Grant Consortium, Chevron and Education Foundation of Odessa.

The Student Spaceflight Experiments Program [or SSEP] is a program of the National Center for Earth and Space Science Education (NCESSSE) in the U.S. and the Arthur C. Clarke Institute for Space Education internationally. It is enabled through a strategic partnership with DreamUp PBC and NanoRacks LLC, which are working with NASA under a Space Act Agreement as part of the utilization of the International Space Station as a National Laboratory.

For more information about this contact the ECISD Innovation Department at 432-456-9507.