

November 9, 2020

Dear Maryland Principal,

The MD Junior Science and Humanities Symposium for Academic Year 2020-21 again will be conducted and administered by The Patuxent Partnership (TPP), a nonprofit organization which works with government, industry and academia in Southern Maryland. This will be a collaborative effort with our partners at the Naval Air Warfare Center Aircraft Division (NAWCAD), and St. Mary's College of Maryland (SMCM).

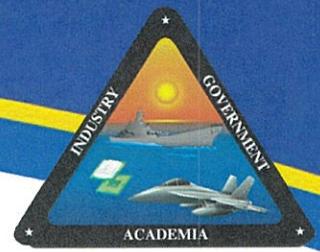
The Junior Science and Humanities Symposium (JSHS) is sponsored by the Army, Navy, and Air Force to encourage students at the high school level to engage in original STEM research in preparation for future STEM careers. JSHS is designed to expose students to, and educate them about, STEM research opportunities across the Defense Industrial Base. Participation enables students to present their research to their peers and to practicing researchers in the Department of Defense, industry, and academia. **JSHS students received public recognition and awards for their research achievements while competing for scholarship funds.** By connecting the talented high school students, teachers, and research professionals, JSHS expands the talent base to support the needs of our military and nation.

Endorsed by the National Association of Secondary School Principals (NASSP), JSHS sponsors regional and national symposia during the school academic year. Students throughout Maryland (with the exclusion of Maryland high schools inside the Beltway that participate in the Greater DC Regional JSHS) are invited to participate and present. Five finalists will be selected to compete in oral and poster presentations for the National JSHS. Given the restrictions related to COVID19, we expect the competition to be virtual.

The application requirements are as follows:

Interested students will submit an abstract, a 250 word submission to define their project, due by **December 11, 2020**. Abstracts will be reviewed and if accepted, students will submit a full a research paper of 5-20 pages, due by **January 15, 2021**. Research papers are reviewed and some students are selected to present at the MD JSHS Symposium. There is a timed oral presentation of 12 minutes or less. The oral presentation may include power point slides with graphs, diagrams, and photos to help explain the research and topic. Posters may be included.

Teacher nominations also may be submitted at this time. A \$500 award is made to one teacher at each of the 49 regions, honoring the teacher's contributions to advancing student participation. The national JSHS link is <https://www.jshs.org>; and the regional link is the MD JSHS portal, open for registration at <https://www/jshs.org/region.maryland>.



Students and teachers will find rules, guidelines, resources and questions, and portal submissions at the regional link.

We would appreciate your sharing the MD JSHS information with high school STEM teachers and students. Last year, 102 high school students representing 16 different high schools competed in the MD JSHS, and three of the five students selected to go to the National JSHS received awards. This year we look for even greater participation. Encouraging the talented high school students helps to support the STEM needs of our military. My colleague, Shelley Frey, is the MD JSHS lead for TPP. She may be reached at 240-317-6023 or [shelley.frey@paxpartnership.org](mailto:shelley.frey@paxpartnership.org).

Thank you for sharing the MD JSHS with your students.

Sincerely,

Bonnie M. Green  
Executive Director