

**WMS Science Olympiad  
Raleigh Regional Tournament Information  
(Long version follows)**

**EVERYTHING YOU NEED TO KNOW – SHORT VERSION**

**Coaches and Moms:** Mrs. Barlow, Mrs. Brautman, Mrs. Armstrong

**Location:** Southeast Raleigh Magnet High School, 2600 Rock Quarry Road, Raleigh, NC 27610

**Drop off:** Parents drop kids off at 7:30 am. Kids report to home base, upstairs, 2400 hall, 1-B. Looooooooong carpool line – be early! First event starts at 8:30.

**Pick Up:** Pick up after closing ceremony around 6:00 pm. Parents are encouraged to attend the awards ceremony with the kids, 4 – 5:30 pm. Early pick up at 3 pm after events end. Kids will text/call with updates on schedule changes.

**Lunch:** Bring your own lunch! A concession stand is usually open and there are usually a few food trucks, but the lines can be long.

**Spending Money:** Optional. May bring spending money for concessions and souvenirs.

**Attire:** Wear jeans/dark pants, closed-toed shoes, and team shirt. Lab events require long sleeves and long hair pulled back.

**Bring:** All constructed devices and study materials, something to do between events, lunch and snacks.

**Impound** – Check the schedule to see if/when your device needs to be impounded.

**Emergency Contact Info for Mrs. Barlow:** TEXT or CALL 252.341.9099. You can also reply to any announcement on the Remind list and it will go only to me.

## WMS Science Olympiad Tournament Information

### EVERYTHING YOU NEED TO KNOW – Detailed Version

Dear Parents,

The Raleigh Science Olympiad Tournament is on Saturday, 2/2/2019! The kids have been busy studying, building, and preparing for this tournament and I am so proud of them! Our parent volunteers have done a terrific job at school and at home coaching the kids in their events. This week is it...the final push to prepare for the tournament. This sheet contains everything you need to know about tournament day.

If you are experiencing an NCSO tournament for the first time, you'll want to **read every word** of this handout. If you are a veteran, well, you know the drill!

#### What to expect

Parents will be transporting their own kids. Kids will arrive at Southeast Raleigh High School and come straight to our home base *early* in the morning. Our home base is located upstairs on the 2400 hallway. (See attached map.) We will store jackets, lunch boxes, and "stuff" at our home base. Kids will report to their event periods according to the schedule throughout the day with a break for lunch. In between events, kids will come back to home base and should let an adult know when and where they are going at all times. This tournament is **big** and there are lots of kids, coaches, parents, and tournament volunteers. At last count, there will be 40 middle school teams and 40 high school teams with 18+ students each with their own entourage of parents and coaches for a total of nearly 2000 people coming and going throughout the day. I expect all of our kids to just do their best and keep a positive attitude. It can be a little overwhelming!

#### Location

I am asking that parents provide transportation to and from the tournament. This helps keep the cost for running the team very low. The tournament is located at:

**Southeast Raleigh Magnet High School, 2600 Rock Quarry Road, Raleigh, North Carolina 27610**

It is about a 30-minute drive from the Wakefield area. Please be on time since the events are timed and students will not be allowed to make up an event if they miss it. THE CARPOOL LINE FOR THIS EVENT IS CRAZY LONG. It often backs up a couple of miles from the school to the highway exit ramp. Consider using a map app like Waze to find alternate routes that bring you in from Creech Road beside the school or the other side of Rock Quarry Road.

#### Schedule

I have attached the tournament schedule. We are considered a "Y" team. Our Y assignment will impact the time of day that our team attends an event period, but it will not change the order, so kids won't have to worry about one event coinciding with another. This is the tournament organizer's way of accommodating twice the number of teams by running a double schedule with two periods of each event. Plan to have your child **arrive by 7:30 am or earlier, and pick your child up at 6:00 pm**. THE CARPOOL LINE IS CRAZY LONG. PLEASE DO YOUR BEST TO ARRIVE ON TIME or earlier! If your child has a cell phone, I will have them text or call you to let you know if the awards ceremony at the end of the day is delayed or ends early. You can also pick your child up sooner if they finish sooner and need to skip the awards ceremony. **Parents are welcome to come stay with the team all day** or just come for the awards ceremony if they wish.

#### Home Base / Arrival

Upon arrival, REPORT DIRECTLY TO HOME BASE. Home Base is usually located upstairs in an alcove of lockers on the 2400 hall. It will be labeled with our school name. Kids/parents do NOT need to check in at a registration table – just come straight to home base. Kids will store all of their stuff (lunches, equipment, notebooks, etc.) at home base and report back to home base in between events. NOTE: This info is based on our home base location for the past 4 years. The location has not yet been confirmed by tournament organizers. I will send the confirmation out in a Remind announcement when I get confirmation this week.

### **Chaperones and Parents**

It would be fantastic if each child could have **one** parent with them. Please feel free to stay all day, part of the day, or drop your child off. I and other parent volunteers will be there to chaperone. Parents may also hang out at our home base. There is NO SEATING in Home Base. Parents that stay should bring a folding chair. I am so sorry for this...Please do not bring extra guests or extended family. There is little space and little for them to see as most events are in closed classrooms and you will likely not get to see the kids compete. It is also difficult to find things for younger siblings and small children to do. Please bring entertainment if you do need to bring the little ones. Also, bring phone chargers and/or back up batteries.

### **Spectator Events**

Most of the events are closed to spectators, but a few are visible to the public and pretty interesting to watch. Some building are open to spectators in the gym and auditorium. There are usually a few exhibits and booths from various science organizations.

### **What to wear – very specific!**

Kids should wear jeans or dark colored pants, closed-toed shoes, and our super cool WMS Science Olympiad Team shirt. If you don't have our team shirt, then wear a school shirt or royal blue and white. Kids in lab events need to have long sleeves – either a long-sleeved shirt or a jacket that can be worn during the event. Kids with long hair will need to pull it back into a pony tail for lab events.

### **What to bring – very specific!**

Kids should bring any devices they have built or study materials they have created. Kids should also bring something to keep them busy (book, homework, games, etc.) during times when they do not have an event or have down time. Kids might want to bring spending money, but this is optional. There will be a merchandise/t-shirt table and concession stand with snacks and pizza, and food trucks. Cell phones and electronics are permitted outside of events, but students are at their own risk to keep up with these items, as WMS and NCSO are not responsible for theft or lost items. Cell phones should be OFF during events and are not permitted to be used as calculators or timing devices during events. Smart watches are not allowed in any of the events.

### **Impound**

Certain events have required students to build a device to bring to the competition. Only some of them require impounding the device – putting it in “lock down” until competition time. Impound times are on the linked schedule in the left hand column by each event name. Please be on time to check your device in!

### **Support Team Members**

You have been handpicked and are just as valuable as a member in training as are the varsity team members. You never know what can happen on tournament day that may prevent a Varsity team member from attending the tournament. I have had to sub in a support team member on the day of a tournament in the past! You are on alert! If you are not needed to fill a spot on the Varsity team, then I highly recommend that you stay with the team for the day and watch every event that you can. Walk around, observe the spirit of the teams, enjoy the camaraderie of being with kids just like you. Live the stories and tales we will tell in next year's team meetings. Welcome to the mother ship. You will likely have an automatic spot on next year's Varsity team if you decide to return.

### **Snacks**

Parents – please bring a snack or juice to share with the team. We have to keep their brains fueled up and energized for the tournament. There are about 20 kids on the team, but if everyone brings a little something then no one person has to buy 20 of something for the whole team. Ask your child what his/her favorite snacks are and that's a good gage for what to bring. They do love donuts in the morning, and sweet and salty snacks in the afternoon, including gum.

### **Cell Service**

Last time I checked, cell service was spotty in the school and I often walk near an outer wall/door to get more bars. This will kill your batteries quickly. Feel free to search for the free wifi: WAKE-BYOD. You have to search for it as it will not

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just show up in your list of available networks. Text whenever possible if you need to communicate with me. You can use my cell phone (on first page) or reply to any of my messages on the Remind list. Bring back up batteries and/or phone chargers. I learned that the hard way in the first year.

### **Lunch and Concessions**

**BRING LUNCH!** There will be snacks at our home base. There is a concession stand with pizza, snacks, and drinks at very reasonable prices. Gum and candy are ok, but they are not allowed in events. There are a few food trucks, but lines get long during the lunch period. A few miles down the road are a couple of questionable fast food places.

### **Awards/Closing Ceremony**

There is an **awards ceremony beginning at 4:00 pm**. Everyone is invited to attend the closing ceremony. I encourage parents to attend this with the kids. Kids who do well (usually 1<sup>st</sup> through 8<sup>th</sup> place) will receive medals. If you have to leave early, we will pick up any medals we may win. The awards ceremony sometimes starts late because event leaders have to finish scoring the afternoon events. They have run close to on time in the last two years with the new scoring program, Avogadro. Kids will text and call you to keep you posted. You can also call or text me for updates.

Anyone can sign up for an account with Avogadro and pay \$0.99 to view the awards screen live. I will have it on my laptop so that we can see the school names in case we can't hear over the cheering.

<https://app.avogadro.ws/nc/raleigh-regional-b/>

### **Pick Up**

Please plan to pick your child up around **6:00 pm**. Kids will be encouraged to call or text to keep you posted if that should be earlier/later. I can also text/call you if your child does not have a phone. The last competitive event ends by 2:45 pm. **Early pick up time is 3:00 pm** if you choose not to stay for the awards ceremony. Please have your child check out with me so that I don't go crazy trying to find them.

### **Emergency Contact Number for Mrs. Barlow**

If you need to reach me for any reason, please TEXT or call: **252.341.9099**. This is my personal cell phone number. Cell service is intermittent inside the building. I will check my phone periodically for your messages. **FEEL FREE TO TEXT ME** Kids will not be able to text or call you back if they are in an event, as phones are not permitted in events. Also reply to the Remind list and messages will come only to me, not the whole list.

### **Student Behavior**

Students are expected to try their best, have fun, stay positive, learn, and observe/absorb everything they can about the tournament. Students are also expected to exhibit good sportsmanship and strong integrity. ← These two qualities are more important to me than any medal or trophy. Students should represent our school in a way that will make us all proud to be on our team. Students should also follow all school and WCPSS rules during this event. It is important that students always let one of the adults at our home base know where they are going at all times.

More information on the schedule, location, teams, and home base assignments can be found on the Raleigh Tournament page: <https://www.sciencenc.com/tournaments/middle-high/locations/raleigh/>

Thank you so much for supporting the kids as they participate in this competitive science enrichment opportunity! Contact me anytime via email or cell phone with questions.

Sincerely,

Mrs. Samantha Barlow

[sbarlow@wcpss.net](mailto:sbarlow@wcpss.net)

252.341.9099 (cell, ok to text)