

Press Release:

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE



Riverview Students Win Awards at PJAS Competition!

On Saturday, February 3rd, sixteen Riverview students participated in the regional Pennsylvania Junior Academy of Science (PJAS) competition held at Duquesne University. PJAS allows students to complete scientific laboratory experiments and STEM related investigations under the guidance of a teacher mentor. Students then present their results to a panel of scientists and engineers who evaluate the quality of the student's work. This year, students were mentored by science teachers Brian Ludwig and Marion Carson, as well as math teacher Mark Capsambelis. The following students presented projects at the competition.

Name	Grade	Project Category	Project Title
Ryan Cecil	12	Math	An Explanation of Number Theory
Sam Connolly	12	Chemistry	Kinetics of Aspirin Hydrolysis
Mikaela Collins	10	Ecology	The Effect of Thermal Pollution
Francesca Lio	10	Biology	Effects of Exercise on Heart Rate and Blood Pressure
Lauren Hornsby	9	Chemistry	The Effects of Catalase
Alyse Johnson	9	Physics	Comparing Vaganova and Balanchine Turns
Alessandra Ciccone	8	Ecology	The Effects of Pollutants on Solar Panel Power Generation
Julia Ciorra	8	Chemistry	Effects of Concentration & Chloride Type on Boiling Points
Maddie Deem	8	Chemistry	How Acidity Affects the Dissolving Time of Capsules
Lena DeRiso	8	Physics	Frequencies of Sound Waves and Their Transmission
Gracie Flanick	8	Chemistry	Temperature Changes in Chemical Reactions
Siera Jones	8	Chemistry	Investigating the Melting of Ice Using Salts
Ty Laughlin	8	Physics	Investigating Rocket Flight
Trinity Sheffey	8	Earth & Space	The Effect of Additives on Soil Moisture Retention
Parker Steele	8	Chemistry	Effects of Magnetic Fields on Elements and Ions
Alexus Wachocki	8	Ecology	The Effects of Acid Rain on Plant Growth

Francesca, Lauren, Alyse, Alessandra, Julia, Maddie, Lena, and Ty earned First Awards for their projects, making them eligible to compete at the state PJAS competition in May. In addition, a number of students earned special awards. Julia Ciorra and Maddie Deem earned the Duquesne University Excellence in Scientific Pursuit Award. Alessandra Ciccone received a special award from the American Nuclear Society. In addition, seniors Ryan Cecil and Sam Connolly received the 3 year and 5 year Perseverance Awards in recognition of their many years of completing PJAS projects.

Congratulations to all the Riverview participants for their hard work and dedication to their projects over the past four months! We are so proud of their accomplishments and dedication to STEM related fields of study. We would also like to recognize seniors Ryan and Sam with a special note of appreciation for their continued dedication to PJAS and their completion of many high quality projects, culminating in some of their best work this year. There is no doubt that they will be well prepared for future STEM related pursuits when they graduate from Riverview this spring.