ELKO COUNTY STEM FAIR
PARTICIPATING SCHOOL K-6 Grade -
ELEMENTARY LEVEL RULES

A STEM fair project is an experiment, design, product that follows the STEM guidelines.

The project must be recapped by using a display board.

1. PROJECT SIZE: It is suggested that students use a standard tri-fold board, whose dimensions are **46" wide** (23" center section & 11.5" side sections) and **36" high.**

2. All display boards MUST follow the STEM guidelines (see project pages for details). Remember that the display board is a visual summary of the project. Photographs to help visualize the project may be used. Photos **may** show the student(s). Names are not allowed on the front of the display board. Names may be on the back of the board for identification purposes.

3. **A PROJECT THAT IS A SIMPLE MODEL, REPORT, DEMONSTRATION, OR DISPLAY NOT UTILIZING SCIENCE OR ENGINEERING PROCESSES WILL NOT BE ELIGIBLE FOR DISTRICT COMPETITION.**

4. Live animals may be used for some STEM Fair projects as long as the animals are **not harmed or destroyed** and the project has been **pre-approved**. All projects that involve animals must be pre approved by the **S**cientific **R**eview **C**ommittee. You must contact Anita Collins (934-8951 @Sage Elementary) or Alicia Moore (340-2290 @South Side Elementary) for approval **BEFORE** you begin. In some circumstances you will be required to consult a veterinarian before your project will be approved by the SRC. The SRC will sign your SRC card and arrange to have your school principal and STEM Fair Representative also sign it. **If an animal project is not pre approved it will not be allowed in your school fair.**

5. **If your project involves mold or bacteria it must be incubated (grown) in an approved school, college, or medical science lab. You must have the signature of your building representative or the teacher who supervised your use of the lab.** In the case that a project accidentally grows mold or bacteria, please seal the project to avoid inhalation or touch of the substance(s). You then must speak to your building STEM fair rep. for the proper steps to follow.

6. If your project involves people (adults or children) it must be approved by your school's STEM Fair Representative, **BEFORE** you begin. Your school STEM Fair Representative must sign your **SRC** (Scientific Review Committee) card **BEFORE** you begin. If you are using students within a school setting you must have the approval of your principal. If your school based project involves food or drink you must first check with your school nurse to eliminate any possible allergic reactions. Your school's STEM Fair Representative will arrange for your principal to sign your SRC card. Do not go to see the principal yourself.

7. Anything which could be considered hazardous to the public is prohibited. All safety issues will be determined at the discretion of the STEM Fair Committee. The following are **not** allowed:

A. No live animals may be displayed at the STEM Fair. **Pre-approved** projects involving the use of such animals may display photographs, drawings charts, or graphs that illustrate the conditions, developments, and results of the investigation. Pictures must not show improper handling methods, improper housing conditions, etc.

B. No dangerous chemical substances or flammable and /or combustible materials can be displayed .

C. Electrical outlets will NOT be provided. Use pictures, graphs, etc. to show your electrical projects.

D. No MOLD or BACTERIA can be displayed at the STEM Fair. Projects using these items may display photographs, drawings, charts, or graphs that illustrate the conditions, developments, and results of the investigation.

E. No foods (meats, breads, fruits, vegetables, eggs, etc.) can be displayed. Please use drawings or photographs instead.

F. No plants, plant matter or any liquids including water can be displayed. Photographs or charts should be used instead of bringing the actual project items.

8. **KINDERGARTEN, FIRST, AND SECOND GRADE students may only compete in CLASS Projects. THIRD and FOURTH GRADE students may compete in a CLASS Project and in either a group or individual project. FIFTH and SIXTH GRADE students may compete in either a group or individual project.**

9. **Only one class project is allowed per teacher in grades K -4.**

10. **Students must choose the proper category of competition (Science, Technology, Engineering, or Math) and (individual, group, or class)**. Only one project, either an individual or a group, is allowed per student. Group projects may have a maximum of 4 students and the students can be in the same grade or across grades. Students must attend the same school. The project will be judged in the class category of the oldest student. Class projects are only allowed in grades K-4.

11. All projects must have been completed since last year's fair. Any continuing project must document new and different research. Display boards must have only the current year's work. However, supporting notebooks from previous related research may be exhibited on the table properly labeled as such.