

Students shine in 25th annual District Science Fair

A record number of students in grades 4-12 participated in the 25th annual Kentucky American Water Science Fair, coordinated by Fayette County Public Schools.

The event, held Feb. 7 at Bryan Station High School, included 650 science projects judged by 150 professionals, as well as hands-on educational exhibits and demonstrations organized by the Explorium of Lexington.

FCPS Superintendent Stu Silberman praised the team effort as the community and schools came together again for the districtwide event. "I'm a former science and chemistry teacher, so today really warms my heart," he said.

He told the kids that this country needs more engineers, doctors and scientists, saying, "We hope some of you will be inspired to fill those needs."

A total of 120 students received medals and will advance to the Central Kentucky Regional Science and Engineering Fair, set for March 7 at the University of Kentucky. Six students earned special recognition for projects related to water, and three received the newly established Mayor's Urban Environmental Award.

Mayor Jim Newberry and Kentucky American Water President Nick Rowe joined Silberman in the awards presentations.

"Like many of you, I have a basement full of science fair projects. So I know about all the hard work that goes into them," Rowe told the families gathered in the gym. "We're blessed to have such bright young talent."

The mayor also thanked parents and teachers for their support. "You've obviously done a great job getting these young people interested in science and math," Newberry said.

He noted that everyone's participation is crucial, and not just in science fairs. "We need all your creative thoughts and ideas," Newberry told the students. "The work you're doing will benefit our community in the long run."

[District Science Fair winners list](#)

Door prizes included gift certificates to Joseph-Beth Booksellers and the Explorium, all compliments of Kentucky American Water, a free annual membership to the Explorium, and a printer from Lexmark. Lexmark also provided six printers for first-place winners in the engineering category.