

Update #5 – November 18 (1)

\*\* High Priority \*\*

Hi folks,

I tried to send this message out earlier today, but most of you couldn't receive it...one of the attached files was too large. I have fixed the problem, so hopefully this message gets through to all of you.

This email update is chock full of stuff!

1. The T-shirt pre-order form I sent on Monday has been revised. Turns out that the company no longer carries the "plum" color so we will offer the shirt in a "graphite" color (dark gray). See attached for updated form. If you have already ordered the plum shirts, please share this with your students to see if they are ok with the graphite instead. Send us the updated form IF your order has changed. We need all pre-order forms by this Friday.

2. Don't forget to send in your reservation forms for the WISE (Women in Science and Engineering) luncheon on Friday of South's BEST. The reservation sheet is in the Championship Handbook and is due by this Friday. Attached is a flyer about this year's guest speaker. There is no cost to attend the luncheon. Each school can send up to 5 students and 1 adult until all the spaces are filled.

3. Reminder - ALL teams must submit a Project Engineering Notebook in order to compete at South's BEST. This should have also been the rule at your local hub, but just in case it wasn't enforced, please be aware that it will be enforced at South's BEST. You do not need to submit the Team Demographics form with your notebook. Because of that, the rubric has been adjusted slightly - see attached. All other score sheets for BEST Award categories are the same as your local hub.

4. VERY IMPORTANT - we are providing free pizza on Friday night of South's BEST for all those traveling with your group (students, parents, teachers, mentors, etc). We need a close estimate of how many are traveling with your group in order to determine how many pizzas each team will receive. Please email your estimated total group number and school name to Kathy Feminella ([feminmk@auburn.edu](mailto:feminmk@auburn.edu)) as soon as possible.

You will receive a pizza coupon in your registration packet with the number of pizzas "assigned" to your team. You will submit the coupon at one of the pizza pick up stations on the outer concourse during the pizza party to receive your pizzas. Note that we are NOT providing drinks this year (logistical nightmare!), so you may consider bringing some 2-liter bottles of soda and plastic cups for your students to avoid standing in concession lines. Much cheaper too!

5. Several of you have requested a list of all the schools attending South's BEST. Since the nature of the BEST program is one of collaboration and positive interactions, I think it is appropriate to share this information with all of you. I have compiled the info and it is attached. Because all the teacher emails are included, I do ask that each of you use discretion in who you share this list with.

6. BEST Award teams only - the final oral presentation schedule is attached. Note that the check-in room has changed to Student Center room 2223 (we had to go to a larger room!). Teams should first check-in at the Coliseum to get their team packets, which will contain the final oral presentation schedule with

specific room number assignments. After checking in at the Coliseum, teams should check in at Student Center room 2223 at least 20 minutes prior to their presentation time. A map to help you locate the Student Center can be found in the Championship Handbook. The Student Center is about a 10 minute walk (2 blocks) from the Coliseum.

7. If you haven't made your room reservations, please do that soon before the hotels release the blocked rooms. I recommend the Lexington and the Sleep Inn, both in Auburn. Both have quite a few rooms left for South's BEST.

Lastly, the Video Contest rules will be coming to you later on today, so be looking for them!

Hang in there. Only 3 weeks to go!

Mary Lou