



Southern Nevada Regional Science & Engineering Fair

## What Judges are Looking for in an Invention for Elementary & Middle Schools Teachers & Students

### 1. Originality

- Does the display state whether this is an invention or innovation?
- Does the display of the Invention represent original, creative, age-appropriate thought?
- Is the invention a novel or unique solution to an identified need?

### 2. Research and Usefulness

- Was sufficient time and effort used to research the subject?
- Was sufficient time and effort given to see if this invention had already been invented?
- Does the invention solve a problem or need — is it useful?
- Does the invention have marketable value?

### 3. Building and Testing the Invention

- Does the display show suitable and organized methods used to build and test the invention?
- Did the student plan well, observe and record actions accurately?
- Was the student's invention design appropriate for the use intended?
- Were the student's methods and testing age-appropriate?
- Did the student test the invention more than once?
- Did the invention fill the original purpose — was it useful?

### 4. Thoroughness of the Invention Logbook

- Is the logbook present?
- Does the logbook contain a well-developed description of the student's invention process?
- Does the logbook contain drawings and descriptions of at least two different tests or two revisions to the initial idea?

### 5. Physical Display

- Is the display more attractive more attractive than others in the same field?
- Is there a clear progression from one invention step to another in the display?
- Does the content on the display include the name of the invention, its function, operation and a list of materials/cost used for construction?
- Does the content of the written description on the display clearly express the purpose of the invention and how it accomplishes its purpose — is it useful?
- Is the written description complete and age-appropriate?
- Does the work presented on the display board reflect what appears in the logbook?

### 6. Model/Illustration

- Is the illustration or model complete, with all parts neatly labeled?
- Is the illustration or model a clear, attractive, visual explanation of the invention?
- Is the model an actual replica of the idea?