



Durham Public Schools encourages highly motivated students in Grades 8 through 12 to discover the world of science, pursue a career in this field and succeed in their career — and in life. Scientifica is designed to harness the resources offered by Durham's many partners in the scientific community to significantly improve students' exposure to science.

vision

To create a culture within Durham Public Schools that supports and promotes student involvement and leadership in the field of science.

Mission

To establish a cohort of motivated students and to provide the students with:

- *Access to experiences and professionals in the field of science*
- *Resources to assist them in their projects*
- *Research opportunities*
- *Guidance and support through the process*
- *Support for advanced science courses*
- *Exposure to a variety of careers in science*

Advanced Academics

Superintendent Carl Harris is committed to involving a greater number of students in more rigorous courses and in enrichment efforts that enhance learning. Enriched programs are available to all students while there are accelerated programs for advanced students.



For more information and program applications contact:

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scientifica

DPS Nurturing Future Scientists



Experience Science Live!

getting involved

Students who would like to participate in



Scientifica must demonstrate interest and motivation in science and exhibit high academic achievement in science and mathematics.

Parents/guardians support is encouraged.

Students must complete an application to be considered.



program Activities

The level of support and involvement by the student will vary depending on grade level:

- **Grade 8:** Students will be encouraged and supported in the development of a science project.
- There will be a two-day research workshop for students in grades 8 and 9.
- **Grades 9 and 10:** Students will work on team projects with a mentor and will be prepared for future individual or team research projects.
- **Grade 11 and 12:** Students will receive guidance and support in the selection of a research opportunity, will be supported as they conduct research projects and will showcase their projects in a variety of competitions and/or venues. Students also will learn about the many career options in science.

benefits

- Reports show that students involved in scientific research while in high school are more prepared for rigorous post-secondary study, and are better qualified for university admission and scholarships.
- Students will have opportunities to present their projects in prestigious science competitions via participation in Scientifica.
- Scientifica projects can serve to fulfill the graduation project requirement.
- The program will allow students to explore careers in science.
- Students will have opportunities to network with scientists and college faculty.
- Students will form friendships and study groups with other students in the district who share a passion for science.
- Durham Public Schools will recognize all participants in an annual science gala.

