

Coventry Board of Education

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Problem Solving Team and Individuals Qualify for State Level Competition

A Future Problem Solving team and two individual competitors from Coventry's Capt. Nathan Hale Middle School have qualified to represent Coventry at the 25th Annual Connecticut Future Problem Solving Program State Conference. The team from Capt. Nathan Hale Middle School includes Meghan Fowler, Tierney Morton, Jordan Sabin, and Taylor Vann. The two students competing in the Individuals division are Moira Riordan and Emma Thomas. The students are coached by Coventry parent Lisa Thomas. To qualify for competition, students researched and analyzed issues connected to *Neurotechnology*. Their research helped them to examine challenges connected to medical breakthroughs, ethics issues, and cognitive liberty. They then used Dr. E. Paul Torrance's Creative Problem Solving process to solve related problems set in the future.

The State Conference will be held at E. O. Smith High School on the campus of the University of Connecticut in Storrs on March 28 and 29, 2008. Teams and individuals will research the topic of *Debt in Developing Nations* and will be presented with a future scene on that topic during the competition. Students will use the six step creative problem solving process to analyze the situation, determine challenges, describe the underlying problem, outline solutions, evaluate solutions and detail their best solution in an action plan. After the competition, student work will be evaluated and the best problem solvers will be determined.

At the awards ceremony on Saturday evening, trophies will be presented to top teams and individuals who will be invited to the International Future Problem Solving Conference at Michigan State University in June.

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