



Harford County Public Schools

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Senior Students Present Capstone Projects at Annual Gallery Walk Event at Science and Mathematics Academy at Aberdeen High School

The Science and Mathematics Academy at Aberdeen High School (SMA) is presenting its Third Annual Gallery Walk of senior capstone projects on Tuesday, May 18, 2010. The Gallery Walk presentation features a poster display of unique scientific research projects which were conducted by SMA seniors under the mentorship of professional scientists, engineers, mathematicians and faculty advisors. Research projects cover a variety of topics in the areas of science, technology, engineering and mathematics. This event showcases the culmination of four years of rigorous academic study and provides a visual insight into the fascinating world of the scientific process. The Gallery Walk is open to members of the general public and provides the opportunity to view the posters, ask questions of the students, and meet the mentors and faculty advisors.

The senior capstone project is a unique requirement of the SMA that enables students to integrate classroom learning with authentic research. The local scientific community, including many scientists and researchers from Aberdeen Proving Ground, serve as the students' mentors during the year-long project. According to Mrs. Donna Clem, Coordinator of the SMA, "I am very proud of these graduating students. They are very clearly future leaders in the scientific community, and I know their accomplishments will benefit our society. While these project topics vary greatly, conducting research is what we strive to teach the students and the professional mentors are integral to this process."

The SMA, which opened its doors in 2004, is a school-within-a-school magnet program that provides academically talented students with educational experiences that integrate mathematics, science, engineering and technology. Participation in this rigorous four-year program is by competitive application based on prior academic success, interest and motivation in science and mathematics, teacher recommendations and written communication skills. Courses emphasize problem solving and creative thinking by using multiple resources and inquiry-based learning. Each year, hundreds of students apply for the 55 seats in the freshman class.

The community is invited to visit Aberdeen High School, located at 251 Paradise Road in Aberdeen, on Tuesday evening, May 18, 2010, from 5:30 p.m. to 7:00 p.m., to view the research projects of the next generation of scientists, engineers, and mathematicians.

Please direct any inquiries to Donna Clem at Donna.Clem@hcps.org or 410 273-5500.

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