



Introducing the Connecticut Invention Convention

Purpose, Process, and Implementation

The Connecticut Invention Convention (CIC) is a 33 year-old program, which builds standards-based inquiry skills in children by introducing and leading them through the creation of their own invention, to solve a problem of their own choosing. In 2016, over **17,000 students** in **grades K to 8** from **219 schools across Connecticut** participated in this **life-changing experience**. CIC's mission is to provide students with opportunities to develop creative problem-solving techniques through inventing, innovating and entrepreneurial activities leading to greater consideration of **Science, Technology, Engineering & Math (STEM) careers** in high school and college. CIC's goal is to have **every child in every school become an inventor once, better twice**.

Benefits to Students

- **Student generated** process - students identify and solve a problem
- Opportunity for original **creativity and innovativeness**
- Chance to be recognized for their **engineering talent** and most get to use hand tools
- Opportunity for **personal growth** and building of **self-esteem**
- Enhanced **communication and research** skills
- **Real life opportunity** to achieve something for the good of all
- **Encourages girls** to participate in STEM, over 52% of CIC inventors are girls
- **Diverse participation** with 24% of the inventors from minority and under-served populations



Swift Middle School 7th Grade Invention Convention:

Starting the 2016/2017 school year Swift Middle School 7th and 8th graders will have the opportunity to participate in the Connecticut Invention Convention Program. This will be conducted as an optional after school activity for seventh and eighth graders only. This program is primarily completed at home, however we will be available after school on most Thursdays from 2:45-3:30 (Late bus is available). At these meetings students will be introduced to the inventing process and we will continue to be available as a resource. Meetings will be held starting Thursday, January 5th, 2017. In order to be eligible to participate in the program students **must** attend the first meeting on this date. At this meeting students will be presented with deadlines that must be met to continue participating in the program. Parents must work together with their students in order to ensure that these deadlines are met. It is entirely the participating student's responsibility to facilitate the completion of their invention.

There will be a convention held at Swift Middle School for all participating students in March with a final date to be determined. From this initial convention a select group students will be chosen to attend the regional Invention Convention on Saturday, April 1st 2017 at Western Connecticut State University.

***If interested in participating in the program please provide a student and parent signature below. Also plan on attending the first after school meeting on Thursday, January 5th, 2016.**

Happy Inventing!

Mr. Sales and

Mrs. Wohlhieter

Student Signature _____

Parent Signature _____

Parent Email _____

Parent Phone _____