

Future Problem Solving (FPS) Application 2013-2014

Due: Sept. 20th

Future Problem Solving (FPS) provides an opportunity for students to enjoy academic challenge and solve possible future world problems. Students in **grades 4-12** may participate. Prior to high school, teams should include students from the same grade.

FPS is academically challenging and requires extensive reading and reasoning.

Global Issues FPS involves teams of four students. Additional students may work with the team for the practice problems and then compete individually for the qualifying problem. Students use a creative problem solving process to research topics, read a future scenario, identify underlying problems, brainstorm solutions, create criteria to evaluate the solutions, evaluate the criteria, and use the best solution to design an action plan.

The teams progress through two practice problems and then complete a qualifying problem. Qualifying problems are judged at the state level. Top teams are invited to attend the state competition at Green Lake in **April**. State winners qualify for international competition. Fort Atkinson students often qualify for state competition and several Fort Atkinson students have attended international competitions.

Community Problem Solving (CPS) is another way students participate in FPS. Students use the FPS process to solve a problem in the community. CPS involves hours of work on a project and creating a report and presentation.

Scenario writing is also a way to participate in FPS. Students use the topics and the process to write a future story involving a solution to problems related to one of the year's topics.

For more information, visit <http://www.wisfps.org> or the international website: <http://www.fpspi.org/index>

This year's topics will present interesting challenges for FPS students.

Practice Problem #1	Social Isolation	State Bowl	Land Transportation
Practice Problem #2	Desertification		
Qualifying Problem	Surveillance Society		

Student Name _____ Gr. ____ School _____
Address _____

Parent(s) Name(s) _____
Home Phone Number _____
E-mail Address _____

Please list other students planning to participate in FPS, who you would like to work with on a team this year. These students should be from your same school. Please star (*) students that you have worked with in FPS before.

Please check if you are interested in Scenario Writing - writing a future story on FPS topics (max. 1500 word)

Parents – Please read and sign:

I understand that my child may be participating in FPS during the school day and will be responsible for obtaining and completing missed work. (Your child should be strong enough academically to make up missed work easily).

Parent/Guardian Signature: _____

NOTE: We can only have as many FPS teams as we have coaches! Training and/or coaching materials will be provided! If you are available 1 to 2 hours per week, FPS is a great opportunity to spend time with your child in a worthwhile program.

***** I am interested in being a coach or an assistant coach: ____ Yes ____ No**

Please return FPS application to the school office by Sept. 20th.

Susan Henn – GATE Coordinator
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568 – 4478 or henns@mail.fortschools.org