

FRANK R. LAUTENBERG

NEW JERSEY

COMMITTEES:

APPROPRIATIONS

COMMERCE, SCIENCE, AND  
TRANSPORTATION

ENVIRONMENT AND  
PUBLIC WORKS

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

May 18, 2012

Dr. Gerard J. Putz  
President and Co-Founder  
Science Olympiad  
Two Trans Am Plaza Drive, Suite 415  
Oakbrook Terrace, IL 60181

Dear Friends:

I would like to thank you for inviting me to today's 28<sup>th</sup> Annual Science Olympiad National Tournament, which showcases problem solving and the educational talent of our young men and women. It is encouraging to see young scholars fostering our nation's future in the fields of science, technology, engineering, and mathematics.

Programs like the Science Olympiad play a critical role in supporting youth achievement through the analysis of real issues affecting our society. This program enhances college students' talents in creativity, team work, and problem solving. STEM education has become a major point of emphasis in educating our youth, and Science Olympiad is helping to lead the way through ensuring that students are excited and intrigued by these important subjects. This year, two student teams from New Jersey's Plainsboro Community Middle School and Plainsboro High School South have qualified as finalists, and I extend congratulations for this extraordinary achievement.

Being a product of New Jersey's public schools, I understand that education is a primary key to success and I credit my careers in business and public service to my education. As your United States Senator, I will continue to be an advocate for the investment in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics education, as well as supporting the many other programs that play important roles in advancing the edification of our youth.

Once again, congratulations to the 2012 Science Olympiad National Tournament finalists and best wishes on your future endeavors.

Sincerely,



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