

## 2019 Contest Rules

### United We Learn: Schools of the Future

**Launch:** January 23, 2019

**Submissions Due:** March 15, 2019

**Winners Announced:** April 9, 2019

**Purpose:** Montgomery County Public Schools (MCPS) celebrates its diversity while being committed to ensuring that every student has access to the opportunities and resources needed to be successful in their futures. Superintendent of Schools Jack Smith has stated that “we will celebrate diversity and a commitment to equity making sure that All Means All when it comes to equity and excellence in learning, progress, achievement and opportunity.”

Montgomery County Public Schools is launching the third year of its student contest, United We Learn. Through architectural design, this year’s contest, United We Learn: Schools of the Future, challenges students to think critically about how their physical environment affects their ability to learn. Students may have the opportunity to help influence future design. This contest is directly aligned with the district’s core values of Learning, Respect, Relationships, Equity and Excellence.

#### **Eligibility of Participants:**

All participants must be students currently enrolled in Montgomery County Public Schools.

#### **Eligibility of Entries:**

- Items for submission must be completed by a group of two to five students.
- The deadline for submissions is 5:00 p.m. on Friday, March 15, 2019. Submissions must be received through the online portal.
- The work must follow the MCPS guidelines regarding appropriateness of language and subject matter found in [2018–2019 A Student’s Guide to Rights and Responsibilities in Montgomery County Public Schools](#). Submissions may not include terms or images that could be described as offensive, harassing, or targeting of any specific group. Submissions may not include the use of ANY copyrighted materials unless express written permission has been provided by the copyright holder. Submissions received without written permission will be disregarded.
- Entries will be prescreened as they are received.
- Finalists and winners will be chosen by the full Submission Review Committee. The Submission Review Committee retains the right to refuse to critique any entry not complying with the contest rules.

#### **Grade Level Groups:**

- Entries will be accepted in these grade level groups: Elementary, Middle and High.

- If students from more than one grade level work together, entries must be submitted in the grade level of the oldest member of the group.

### **Categories:**

The following are the categories for submission:

#### **Design Your Dream Classroom, With Furniture (Elementary School Students Only)**

- Working in groups of two to five students, draw your dream classroom, with furniture, on paper that is no larger than 18" by 24". Be creative: for instance, use crayons, markers, or cut out pictures.
- As you design your classroom, think about colors, lighting and furniture and how they make learning more exciting for you; equity and how students will learn; tools for teachers; and environmental impact.
- Include a brief description of your classroom, the elements you included and why, as well as how you made your decisions.
- Your submission must include names of all participants, along with grade(s) and school(s).
- Take a picture of your entry, and submit the picture in jpeg format (.jpg), along with your description of your classroom, using the [Online Submission Portal](#).
  - Keep your original project until winning entries are announced. In the event that your project is named a winner, the original version may be wanted for display.
- The project title entered on the submission form must match the file name of the .jpg file submitted through the portal.
  - To avoid duplicate titles, it is strongly suggested that the last name of one participant is added to the END of the .jpg file name (Ex: Classroom 3018-SMITH.jpg)

#### **Design Your Ideal Learning Environment (Classroom, STEM Lab, Gymnasium/Move Strong space, Media Center, Outdoor Learning Space or Cafeteria) (Middle and High School Students Only)**

- Working in groups of two to five students, design your ideal classroom, theater, STEM lab, gymnasium/Move Strong space, media center, outdoor learning environment or cafeteria using SketchUp for Schools: (<https://edu.sketchup.com/app>), by drawing on paper that is no larger than 18" by 24," or using similar design software such as AutoCad or Revit if it is available to you. If you choose to use Sketchup, you should log in with your MCPS Gmail account. Sketchup tutorials can be found here:<https://www.youtube.com/user/SketchUpVideo>.
- When MCPS architects think about how to design buildings and rooms, there are many things they consider. As you design your room/space, think about physical aspects like flexibility, colors, lighting, safety and furniture; equity and how students will learn; tools for teachers; and environmental impact.

- Include a brief description of your room/space, including the type of space you have designed, the elements you included and why, as well as how you made your decisions. If you encountered any design challenges, tell us how you overcame them. The description should not exceed 200 words.
- Your submission must include names of all participants, along with grade(s) and school(s).
- Export your image in a .png format from Sketchup or take a picture of your hand-drawn entry, and submit the .png or .jpg, along with a description of your classroom, using the [Online Submission Portal](#).
  - If submitting a photo of a hand-drawn project, keep the original project until winning entries are announced. In the event that your project is named a winner, the original version may be wanted for display.
- The project title entered on the submission form must match the file name of the .png or .jpg file submitted through the portal.
  - To avoid duplicate titles, it is strongly suggested that the last name of one participant is added to the END of the .png or .jpg file name (Ex: Cafe3018-SMITH.png)

**All submissions become the property of Montgomery County Public Schools.**

**Submissions will not be returned to the schools or participants.**

**Students or teachers may take a digital image of the artwork before submitting.**

#### **Submitting Work:**

- Each project must be labeled with each participating student's name, grade level and school and submitted through the [Online Submission Portal](#). Incomplete entries will be discarded.

#### **Judging:**

- The Submission Review Committee will judge entries in all categories.
- The Submission Review Committee will be made up of MCPS staff members and representatives from MCPS partners.
- Submissions will be judged based on:
  - Creativity and Craftsmanship
    - The entry is an original work and any sources are cited.
    - The entry addresses the topic in a captivating, innovative and engaging manner.
  - Relevance and Impact
    - The entry clearly addresses the theme "Schools of the Future."
    - The entry clearly addresses design guidance.
  - Collaboration
    - Entry follows established Rules and Guidelines
    - The entry is free of errors and omissions.
    - The entry was created collaboratively in groups of 2 to 5 students.

- First, second and third place entries will be named at each level.
- Winners will be announced on April 9, 2019.
  - Winners will be posted on the MCPS website after the announcement.
  - Non-winning entries will not be individually notified of the results. Participants for all winning entries will receive a certificate of appreciation for their participation.