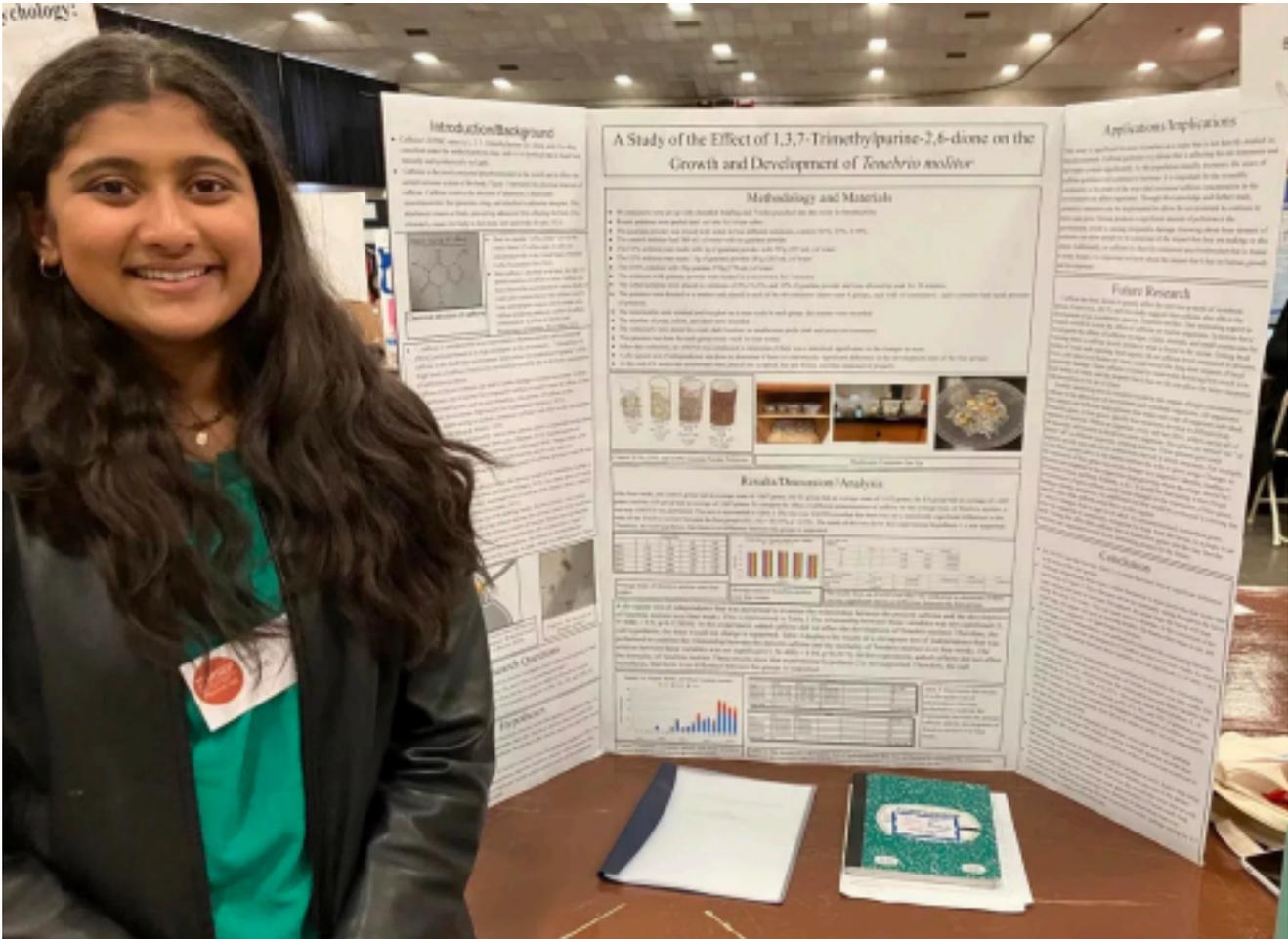


# Littleton Middle and High School Students Recognized at Massachusetts Science and Engineering Fairs



*LHS first-year Anika Jacob received third place and the Massachusetts Chemistry and Technology Alliance (MCTA) award for her study on the effect of 1,3,7-Trimethylpurine 2,6-dione on the growth and development of Tenebrio molitor. (Photo Courtesy Littleton Public Schools)*

LITTLETON -- Superintendent Kelly Clenchy is pleased to announce that Littleton Middle School student Ryan Stimpson and High School student Anika Jacob were recognized for their research at the Massachusetts Science and Engineering Fairs (MSEF).

[Massachusetts Science and Engineering Fairs \(MSEF\)](#) holds high school and middle school-level science fairs that allow students to explore and manage an experimental project of their choosing. Students must follow a set of guidelines when choosing a topic and conducting their research. At the Fairs, they must present a journal that outlines their research process, written lab report, engaging visual displays, and demonstrate their knowledge of their project and scientific field to a panel of judges.

LMS students in Grades 6-8 attended the MSEF Region IV Middle School Science and Engineering Fair on Saturday, April 29, at the UMASS Lowell Tsongas Center. This was the 18th year that LMS had students participate in MSEF.

There were seven groups of LMS students that presented their experiments in the Fair:

- Grade 8 students Emma Lu and Suma Bhiravasa presented "Physics Underwater."
- Grade 8 students Cecelia Jenei and Hazel Willis presented "Hair Looking Like Shrek? Chlorine Had an Effect!"
- Grade 8 student Caitlin Stimpson presented "How Does Sugar Content in Water Affect the Rate at Which an Ice Cube Melts?"
- Grade 8 students Angel Patel and Samhita Gowda presented "A Study of the Effects of Different Fonts on Memory."
- Grade 8 students Eva Hyunh, Lily Tesz, and Ritika Singh presented "You Did Great! Does Confidence Play a Role in Test Performance?"
- Grade 8 student Pranav Sharma and Grade 7 student Pranshu Sharma presented "Biodegradable Plate."
- Grade 6 student Ryan Stimpson presented "What is the Effect of Mint Products on the Temperature of Water?"

"Physics Underwater", "Hair Looking Like Shrek? Chlorine Had an Effect!", "How Does Sugar Content in Water Affect the Rate at Which an Ice Cube Melts?", "What is the Effect of Mint Products on the Temperature of Water?", and "A Study of the Effects of Different Fonts on Memory" were all selected by the regional science fair judges to advance to the State Competition, which occurred on Saturday, May 20.

"You Did Great! Does Confidence Play a Role in Test Performance?" was also selected

to move onto the State Competition by LMS teachers Amy Durkin, Grade 6, Christal Dionne, Grade 7, and Christine Finn, Grade 8.

At the State Competition, Ryan Stimpson received an honorable mention for his project "What is the Effect of Mint Products on the Temperature of Water?"

Two Littleton High School students presented projects at the MSEF High School Science and Engineering Fair on Friday, May 5 at MIT. This was the first time that Littleton High participated in MSEF.

Sophomore Isabel McCurdy presented her project on the effect of Manuka honey on the growth of K-12 Escherichia coli, and first-year Anika Jacob presented a study on the effect of 1,3,7-Trimethylpurine-2,6-dione on the growth and development of Tenebrio molitor (mealworm).

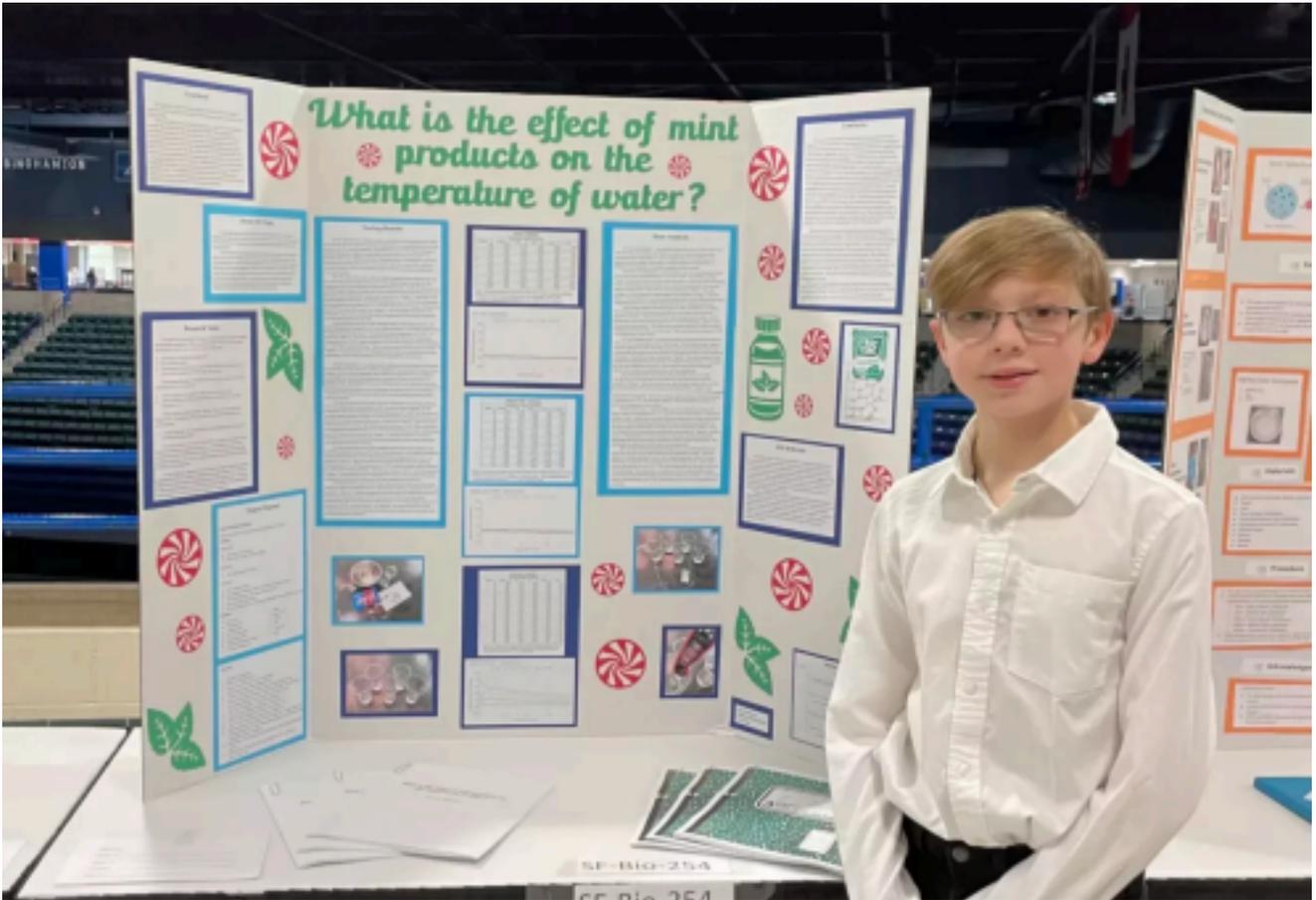
Jacob received third place and the Massachusetts Chemistry and Technology Alliance (MCTA) award for her research.

"Well done to all of our Littleton students that took part in the Massachusetts Science and Engineering Fairs, especially to Anika for her third-place win and to Ryan for his honorable mention," said Superintendent Clenchy. "Every student who participated demonstrated their curiosity, intelligence, and creativity with their projects. We are very proud of each of them."

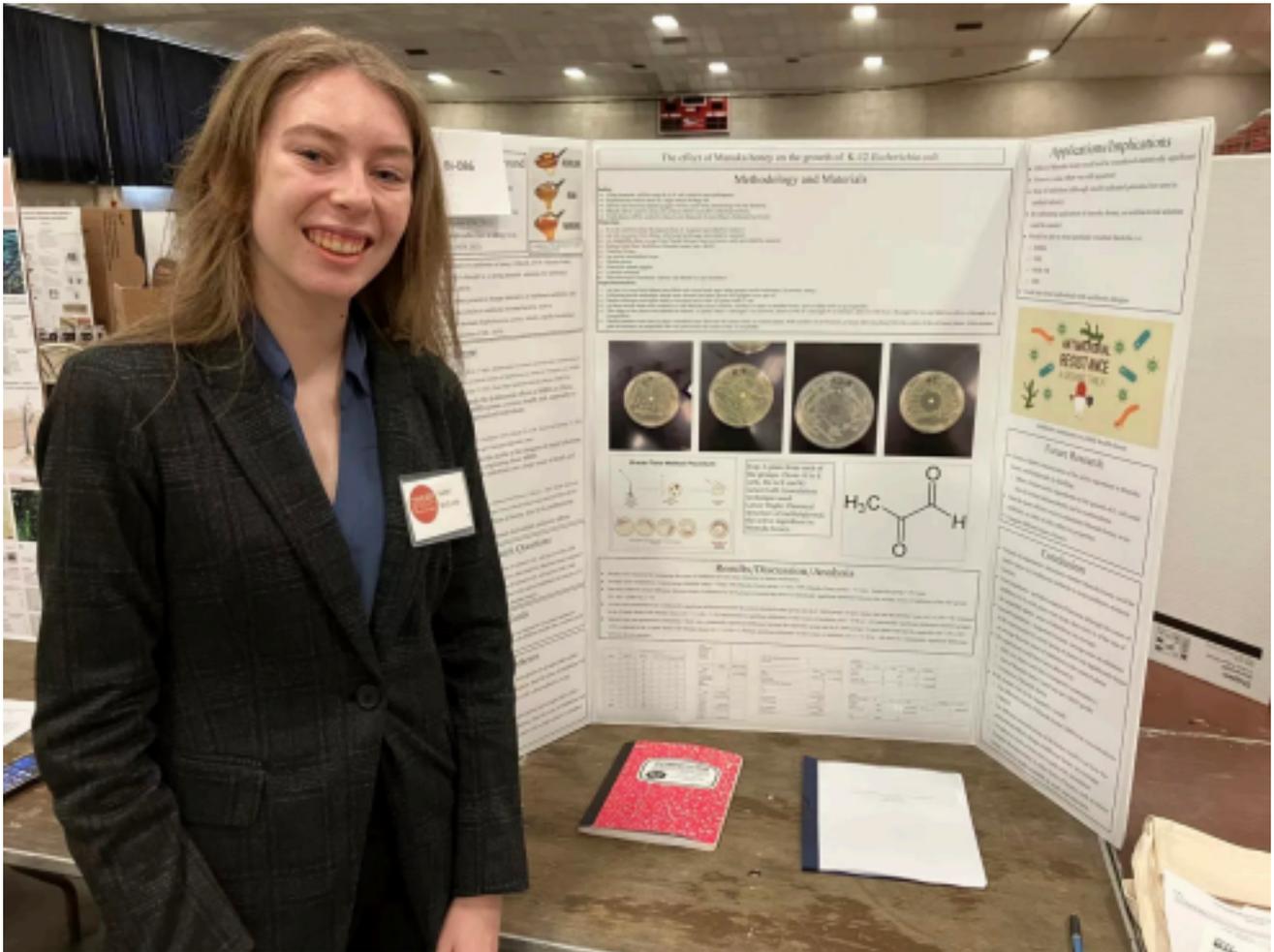
## **About Massachusetts Science and Engineering Fair**

Massachusetts Science and Engineering Fair (MSEF) is a nonprofit organization founded by the American Academy of Arts & Sciences, MIT professors, and a group of pioneering K-12 science educators. MSEF supports students and teachers with a portfolio of tools (webinars, handbooks, volunteers, etc.) that facilitate and enhance their research. Through working on independent research projects, students hone their critical thinking skills, learn through both successes and failure, and help solve local and global challenges. The Fair is the showcase, celebrating both the journey and the project completion.

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*LMS Grade 6 student Ryan Stimpson received an honorable mention for his project "What is the Effect of Mint Products on the Temperature of Water?" at the MSEF Middle School State Competition. (Photo Courtesy Littleton Public Schools)*



*LHS sophomore Isabel McCurdy presented her project on the effect of Manuka honey on the growth of K-12 Escherichia coli at the MSEF High School Science and Engineering Fair. (Photo Courtesy Littleton Public Schools)*

