

23 October 2020

FCC-NTX Update - Getting started: Teams, Project Plan and Essay (Note schedule change)

All:

First: I have slipped the schedule for the Essay and Model deliverables by a week or two. See below and online: www.dfwfuturecity.org/team_sched.html. **Essay is now due 20 November.**

Now, as you get going on your project – a few tips:

NORTH TEXAS REGION INFORMATION

Bookmark out regional site: www.dfwfuturecity.org/teamcenter.html. This is where you will find all of the regional data like **schedule**, rules and resources.

TEAM BUILDING AND MENTORS

As you enlist your volunteer engineer mentor help, please have them enroll in the online Team Center system. Go to www.dfwfuturecity.org/teamcenter.html and register. Mentors will then be able to upload files and manage teams.

If you are having trouble finding mentors, we have some suggestions online – see the Team Center Resources page (www.dfwfuturecity.org/team_rsrc.html). You will also find tips and advice on how to be a mentor. And, finally, if you cannot find a mentor, please contact Tom Hunt (tom8hunt@yahoo.com), our mentor coordinator. He will reach out to his network for volunteers.

There are teambuilding exercises and tips (team building, brainstorming and conflict resolution) on the national website (<http://futurecity.org> - resources page, filter for activities and background info).

THE PROJECT PLAN – THE FIRST STEP

The Project Management Plan is not the first deliverable to submit, but it is the first to get started. There are 4 pieces:

1. Setting goals for your FC effort;
2. Developing a Schedule and assigning resources and tasks;
3. Checking in on your progress; and finally,
4. Reflecting on your FC effort.

So, at this point you should be:

- Putting together your overall project goals and start developing the schedule.
- Developing an initial city plan for your city.
- Starting your research for the essay problem.

For references on planning, see our Team Center Resources page (www.dfwfuturecity.org/team_rsrc.html). There is a webinar on Project Planning and links under “Where to Learn More” section. There are also some city planning exercises and tips on

the national website (<http://futurecity.org> - resources page, filter for activities and background info).

CITY ESSAY

The first deliverable is the City Essay – due 20 November.

Living on the Moon – resources:

- See the handbook for rules, suggested outline, topic overview and research ideas.
- Reference links (<http://futurecity.org> – resources section)
- Living on the Moon webinar recording posted: <https://youtu.be/HZkSWQkXSV8>
- Copies of past winning essays from NTX (http://www.dfwfuturecity.org/team_rsrc.html - "where to learn more")

EDUCATOR DISCUSSION

FC HQ will be hosting a second **Open Discussion Meeting for Educators** on November 5th at 4:30 CST. You should be receiving an email invitation from HQ shortly.

FINALLY – it's not too early to begin planning your model. Start collecting recyclables for building materials. Remember you have a maximum budget of \$100 – and you have to account for the cost of all materials unless they are recyclable. See the Expense Form for details. **NOTE – New schedule for Model Slideshow** – now due 11 December. See: www.dfwfuturecity.org/team_sched.html.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact me.

Jean Eason
NTX Regional Coordinator
Future City Competition
www.dfwfuturecity.org, regional@dfwfuturecity.org