

AP Biology Poster Presentations: Building Future Scientists at Hickman High School Aired February 2024

**Background/research/situation analysis** At Hickman High School, AP Biology students recently showcased their research skills through an interactive Poster Presentation Event. This initiative mirrors professional scientific conferences, providing students with the opportunity to engage in deep, semester-long research and practice sharing their findings with peers, educators, and district leaders. Students explored complex scientific concepts—such as Alzheimer’s and Huntington’s disease, cellular communication, and disease mechanisms—while developing essential skills like critical thinking, research analysis, and scientific communication. The event also served as a platform for students to refine their public speaking abilities by explaining intricate concepts in accessible and engaging ways. Research supports the importance of experiential learning in science education. Providing students with authentic, real-world research experiences fosters deeper understanding and inspires career pathways in scientific and healthcare fields. This event exemplifies how CPS is preparing students for success by combining rigorous academic challenges with professional-style presentations.

**Goal** To enhance student learning and professional skills in scientific research and communication while promoting engagement with real-world scientific concepts. Increase student proficiency in scientific research and communication while fostering interest in science-related careers.

**Objective** Share the Story (Create Awareness) Our video will highlight the journey of AP Biology students as they research, prepare, and present their scientific findings. The video will feature interviews with students like Favour Adah, who connected her research to real-world nursing experiences, and science coordinator Andrew Kinslow, who emphasized the depth of student engagement. The video will be distributed via CPSTV, social media platforms, the CPS website, and school newsletters. This approach will showcase how CPS nurtures future scientists and healthcare professionals through experiential learning, inspiring greater community support for advanced academic programs.

**Key Messages**

- 1.☐Real-World Research Skills: The event provides students with an authentic research experience, helping them develop critical thinking, scientific literacy, and professional communication skills.
- 2.☐Career Readiness: Students are encouraged to explore science-related careers by connecting their research projects to real-world applications.
- 3.☐Community Engagement: Sharing research with peers, educators, and district leaders promotes a stronger connection between students and their academic community.

Strategies How to meet your objectives.

- 1.☐Digital Storytelling: Produce high-quality video content including interviews with students and teachers that seamlessly blends event coverage with personal testimonials, ensuring the story is both engaging and informative.
- 2.☐Multi-Channel Distribution: Air the video on CPS-TV and promote it through internal newsletters and encourage attending schools to share the video on owned social media channels to maximize reach.
- 3.☐Engagement: Using the CPS-TV distribution platform, capture viewership information.

Evaluation Since airing on February 4, 2025, the viewing audience has watched the story 329 of times. Additionally, it has been viewed 15 more times on-demand. The video was also shared on the Sharing the Gold internal newsletter.