



# HOLMDEL TOWNSHIP SCHOOL DISTRICT

*"A COMMITMENT TO EXCELLENCE"*

*Office of the Superintendent of Schools*  
65 McCampbell Road  
Holmdel, NJ 07733  
tel: 732-946-1800  
fax: 732-946-1875

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Robert McGarry, 732.946.1800

### HOLMDEL HIGH SCHOOL SCIENCE TEAM SWEEPS FIRST COMPETITION

**HOLMDEL** (January 13, 2017) – With the winter sports season well underway, the science competition season kicked off this week for the Holmdel High School Science League Team with the Hornets dominating their opponents in the team’s first meet.

Holmdel High School is a member of the New Jersey Science League (NJSL), a statewide competition held between January and April of each year. The league offers competitions in Biology, Chemistry, and Physics for both beginning and advanced students, as well as competitions in Environmental Science and Earth Science.

As is done in sports, the NJSL places schools across the state into geographical areas (like athletic conferences), with each area meeting once a month for competition. At the end of the four month season, scores from all competitions are tallied and state winners (both team and individual) are announced.

Holmdel is part of the highly competitive “Area 22,” which includes teams from Biotechnology High School and several of the schools from the Freehold Regional High School District including Colts Neck, Marlboro, Freehold Boro, Freehold Township, and Howell.

At Thursday’s meet, held at Colts Neck High School, Holmdel students earned top scores in each of the six categories in which the school competes, which includes both levels of Biology, Chemistry and Physics.

The team is coached by high school teachers Ms. Megan Cantwell and Dr. Josephine Blaha, who suggest that the team’s success is rooted in the exceptional science curriculum offered by Holmdel and the manner in which it is delivered by a team of equally exceptional science educators.

Superintendent Dr. Robert McGarry added that he believes “part of what contributes to our students’ expertise in science and their ability to compete at a very high level is the cohesion within the overall K-12 science curriculum.” “As a K-12 school district, our high school teachers have the benefit of building upon a singular, solid K-8 foundation, which sets us apart from the other schools in our designated area of competition,” he added.

Holmdel High School offers over 20 courses in Science, including a highly regarded Honors Advanced Research class and one of the state's first Marine Biology courses. This year, the school expanded its offerings to include Introduction to Research and Design to develop foundational skills for designing and conducting of scientific research. More information about science in the Holmdel Schools is available through the district website.