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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**Springfield Public School Team Wins
MN State Regional Science Bowl for Middle School Students**

Will compete in National Finals in Washington, D.C.

Minneapolis, MN – Springfield Public School won the Minnesota Academy of Science's 2nd Annual Minnesota State Regional Science Bowl for Middle School Students on Saturday, February 21, 2009. They competed against 11 other teams of science and math students representing middle schools from across the state of Minnesota. The event tests teams of students utilizing a fast-paced question and answer format similar to the TV game show *Jeopardy*. Teams were tested on a variety of science disciplines including earth, physical, and life sciences, general science, and mathematics

The event was the regional competition for the U.S. Department of Energy's (DOE) National Science Bowl for Middle School Students. The Springfield Public School's five winning team members and their coach received a team trophy, individual medals, a \$1,000 check for their school science department and an all-expense-paid trip to Washington, D.C. to compete against 35 other regional winners in the DOE National Science Bowl finals, April 30 – May 5, 2009. The Minnesota State Regional Science Bowl for Middle School Students is sponsored by generous contributions from Ecolab, General Mills, Great River Energy and University of Minnesota – Institute of Technology.

Four teams made it to the Double Elimination portion of the tournament. The winning team at the end of the tournament was **Springfield Public School**, coached by Amanda Meyer. Second place went to **St. Thomas More Catholic School** in St. Paul, coached by Colleen Williams-Freier. The second place team won individual medals and a check for \$750 for their school science department. **Field Community School**, a Minneapolis public school, coached by Tracey Schultz, took 3rd place honors with individual medals and a \$500 check for their school science department.

This year's competition saw 12 out of 12 teams nominated for the Civility Award, a record number! The Civility Award is presented to the coach and team, which best represents the positive aspects of competition, whether winning or losing. Congratulations to Field Community School- Team 3 who won the award this year.

1st Place – **Springfield Public School**

2nd Place – **St. Thomas More Catholic School, St. Paul**

3rd Place – **Field Community School – Team 3, Minneapolis Public School**

Civility Award - **Field Community School – Team 3, Minneapolis Public School**

“The DOE National Science Bowl is an important part of DOE's efforts to encourage America's young scholars to explore the fields of science and engineering,” Dr. Patricia Dehmer, Deputy Director for Science Programs in DOE's Office of Science, said. “We hope that this activity will inspire a new generation of researchers in disciplines important to solving the energy and environmental issues facing our nation and the world.”

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