

FPSP

PARENT PERSPECTIVES



A monthly informational publication designed for the PARENTS of Future Problem Solving Program students across the globe!



WE ARE LOOKING FOR A FEW GOOD PARENTS!

How can parents become involved in local FPS affiliates, volunteer at the International Conference, and better assist their children in their quest to do their best in this exciting and challenging academic program?

The Future Problem Solving Program International is hoping to involve some of our most valued resources in the program. Who are these resources? Our students' parents, of course! Did you know that parents can serve as guest speakers, mentors, coaches, evaluators, and volunteers for the program? Absolutely! We welcome parents in any capacity they are willing to participate! Some of the opportunities may require parents to obtain some specialized training, but this training will only assist them in understanding the unique and challenging programming that FPSP provides.

One way that parents can become involved with their children in the Future Problem Solving Program is to become familiar with the specific component in which their child is competing. Another way parents can become actively involved

in their students FPSP success is to talk to their children about possible research that might be helpful with the topic or project the student is currently studying or researching. Finally, the Future Problem Solving Program includes a unique set of terminology that describes different aspects of the program components and requirements. On the next page are some of the most common terms specific to the process and program of Future Problem Solving. Quiz your kids on the terms, have them teach YOU the meanings, play Concentration or just learn the terms yourself so that you can converse with your child about what they are doing in their FPSP adventure. Most of all, please consider how you best can become a volunteer in your child's Future Problem Solving world!

To volunteer, contact your child's coach or Affiliate Director today!



Please send your questions to the Parent Committee via Chair, Deb Woythal at dwoythal@gmail.com

Find your Affiliate Director by going to www.fpspi.org and click on Affiliate Directory in the left sidebar.

FPS-ESE for The Global Issues Component

In FPS, we have a specialized set of terms, acronyms and language that we use to work through the process. Learn the FPS-ESE so you can better understand the process and scoring. Encourage your kids to add to the list!

Parameters-- the topic, date and location of the future scene.

Fuzzy--Synonym for future scene, or FS. This was the original term coined by Dr. Torrance to indicate the type-written scenario was a “fuzzy situation” that needed to be solved.

Charge--The statement in the future scene that tells the students what they are to solve. The charge is often found in the last paragraph of the future scene, but not always!

Y--Stands for Yes! In Step One, well written challenges are awarded a “Y” if they state **WHAT** the challenge is, **WHY** it is a challenge and how it relates to the future scene.

P--Stands for Perhaps. In Step One, students who have written a partial challenge may be awarded a “P” and no points will be given.

D--Stands for Duplicate. Students will receive no points for the Step One challenge if they have duplicated another Step One challenge idea.

W--Stands for Why or Huh?--Students may be awarded a Why or zero points if their Step One challenge or Step Three solution does not make sense.

S--Stands for Solution. If the students write a solution in Step One instead of a challenge, they will be awarded zero points for that challenge response.

UP--Stands for Underlying Problem. The most significant challenge identified in Step One becomes the UP for Step Two.

KVP--Stands for Key Verb Phrase. This is the crux of Step Two; it must include a measurable strong verb that is the identified task the team will attempt to solve.

FANBOYS--An acronym for the conjunctions **For, And, Nor, But, Or, Yet, So**. No FANBOYS are allowed in the KVP or Purpose of the UP! Of course there is an exception to the rule; “So” may be used in the purpose if followed by “that” and a well-defined purpose.

Stem--The required phrase “How Might We” that must be included in the Step Two UP and followed by the KVP.

Conditions--The phrase in the UP that describes what was going on in the future scene to cause the UP.

Purpose--The end result, or what the students will attempt to solve in the UP.

V--Stands for Variation. Students may receive a “V” in Step Three if their solution is too similar to another solution. The first solution receives a score; the variation does not.

R--Stands for Relevant. Step Three solutions that solve the KVP are relevant and receive a score.

E--Stands for Elaborate. Solutions that are well-elaborated and use at least 3 of the W’s (Who, What, When, Where, Why and How) are elaborate and receive points.

★ or **O**--Stands for Original. Indicates the student has written an original challenge or solution and earned additional points.

Generic--Basic or generic criteria used in Step Four.

Modified--The Step Four generic criterion has been enhanced to address either the topic of future scene or the UP.

Advanced--The Step Four criterion has been enhanced to address both the topic of the future scene and the UP.

Superlative--Expressing the highest degree of grammatical comparison of an adverb or adjective using either the suffix -est, or the words most or least.

Humaneness--the act of being kind, compassionate or without inflicting harm. Solutions selected for the Step Six Action Plan must be humane.

Action Plan--The Step Six written description of the team’s plan of action indicating their imagined process of how they would best implement their highest scoring solution.