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For Immediate Release

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Pittsburgh South Hills 6-8 Named State Finalist for Samsung Solve for Tomorrow Innovation Competition

PITTSBURGH, PA November 20, 2019– One of the world’s leading companies selected Pittsburgh South Hills 6-8 as a state finalist in the Samsung Solve for Tomorrow innovation competition. The middle school was one of 300 finalists selected nationwide, and one of six in the state, to move on in the next round of competition.

Celebrating Samsung’s 10th anniversary, this nationwide contest is designed to boost interest and proficiency in Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM), and challenges public school teachers and students in grades 6-12 to show how STEM can be applied to help improve their local community.

“Pittsburgh South Hills 6-8 is more than proud to be named a Samsung Solve for Tomorrow innovation competition state finalists. Our students and staff are working hard to reach the next level in this competition, and as always, we will let the learning lead the way,” said Anthony Varlotta, principal.

In August, teachers nationwide submitted creative and strategic proposals to the Samsung Innovation of Tomorrow competition to solve current problems, such as environmental issues, reducing the carbon footprint, sustainability, mental health, vaping and student safety. Pittsburgh South Hills Science Teacher Clemustine Sinack submitted a proposal on the school’s behalf and assembled a team of students to create a full layout plan of the proposed project.

“Since launching the Samsung Solve for Tomorrow Contest a decade ago, we’ve seen students tackle some of the biggest issues facing their generation and this year is no different,” said Ann Woo, Senior Director of Corporate Citizenship at Samsung Electronics America. “From suicide prevention to single use plastic alternatives, teachers and students are stepping up to creatively address these important issues head-on. We’re thrilled to congratulate the State Finalists of the 10th annual Samsung Solve for Tomorrow contest and look forward to seeing these STEM projects progress in the coming months.”

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Selected from a pool of more than 2,000 entries nationwide, every Pittsburgh South Hills classroom will receive a Samsung tablet for their classroom. Each state finalist also has the opportunity to advance through future phases of the contest to win additional prizes and educational opportunities. If chosen, South Hills would receive from Samsung a Technology prize and move to the National phase. There are four phases with prizes ranging from \$15,000 to \$100,000.

Throughout the next month, Pittsburgh South Hills will engage their community and conduct field visits to gain firsthand knowledge of the issue, evolving their initial proposals into a detailed project plan to be executed this school year.

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