



## THE BIRCHWOOD SCHOOL PRESS RELEASE

January 4, 2012

Contact: Cindy McNaughton, 216-251-2321

### **Birchwood Student Wins National Chemistry Week Contest**

Cleveland- **Amir I** was the sixth grade winner of the American Chemical Society's (ACS) National Chemistry Week 2011 chemistry contest for the Cleveland area. **Amir's** winning experiment measured the amount of fat released when a hot dog is heated and answered questions about saturated and unsaturated fats and their effects on health.

National Chemistry Week (NCW) is a community-based annual event that unites ACS local regions, businesses, schools, and individuals in communicating the importance of chemistry to our quality of life. The theme for 2011 was, "Chemistry- Our Health, Our future!"

As part of the NCW celebration, Birchwood's 5th - 8th grade classes were asked to investigate the question, "What's the Skinny on Fats?" The students labeled food according to the amount of fat per serving and answered questions related to the consumption of fats and their effects on one's health.

**Linda Brown**, science teacher for the 5<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> grade students at the school noted that, "While these experiments were fun and challenging, they also helped facilitate teaching the students about healthy and unhealthy fats, how they affect the body, and how to read common food labels."

As the sixth grade winner, **Amir** is invited to attend "Education and Awards Night," an ACS dinner held in April to honor top performers in NCW. He will also receive a cash prize.



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**The Birchwood School** is a private, coeducational school in Cleveland, Ohio. Founded in 1984, Birchwood serves students in kindergarten through grade 8. Birchwood's mission is to provide an educational setting where challenging academics build solid work habits, an achievement culture nurtures healthy attitudes, and a caring environment forges social responsibility.

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