

## **FPS TEAM COMPETITION.**

The Future Problem Solving Team Competition (booklet competition) is open to students in grades 4-12. Teams of four students learn a six-step problem solving process, which they then apply, along with their research on specific topics, to solve social and scientific problems. A future scene (see sample Future Scene) prompts students to explore challenges as they refine their critical and creative thinking skills, focus on one problem area to solve, produce solution ideas, generate criteria to evaluate their solutions, and develop an action plan. Students develop brainstorming and focusing skills while working cooperatively and collaboratively in groups.

After two practice problems, teams compete against others in their state to qualify for the State Competition. The State Champions go on to the International Competition, where they compete against champions of most of the states, as well as several foreign countries.

## **COMMUNITY PROBLEM SOLVING (CmPS)**

The Community Problem Solving component is also open to students in grades 4-12, although in Canton we have traditionally started in sixth grade. Teams of up to 15 students apply their FPS skills to real problems in their community. A community problem is a problem that exists within the school, local community, region, state or nation. Implementation of the action plan is included in this component. Teams move from hypothetical issues to real world, authentic concerns. The top state Community Problem Solving Team projects are invited to the FPSP International Conference.