



United Nations Association

WEST TRIANGLE CHAPTER

Orange, Durham and Chatham Counties, North Carolina

Middle School Model UN Conference

The first ever Chapel Hill/Carrboro Model United Nations Middle School Conference was held on April 9 at the Carolina Center for Educational Excellence. One hundred twenty middle school students gathered to participate in a day-long conference on the topic of Iranian nuclear development. The students were from all four middle schools in the Chapel Hill-Carrboro City School district and Durham Academy.



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Model United Nations (Model UN) is a simulation of the United Nations that aims to help students learn how problems are solved in a global society. Students assume the roles of foreign diplomats and participate in a simulated session of UN proceedings on an assigned topic. As ambassadors for their country, student delegates make speeches, prepare draft resolutions, negotiate with allies and adversaries, and resolve conflicts in an attempt to develop a resolution that is agreed upon by all the countries.



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The middle school students were divided into teams of two and took on the role of delegates of their assigned country. They represented the 15 current members of the UN Security Council: Austria, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, China, France, Gabon, Japan, Lebanon, Mexico, Nigeria, Russian Federation, Turkey, Uganda, United Kingdom and United States. In the weeks leading up to the Model UN Conference, the students studied the culture, politics and economy of their assigned country in order to understand the country's position on Iranian nuclear development.



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