NCHS VEX Robotics Team advances to World Championship following Southern New England Tournament win

New Canaan, CT (April 10, 2019). Following their first place finish in the Southern New England VEX Robotics High School Regional tournament, NCHS’s VEX Robotics Team advances to 2019 World Championship in Kentucky later this month.

At the regionals, held in Worcester, MA, on March 16-17, the team, also known as 162A - RamTech, had a perfect record. They went 10-0 in their qualifying rounds and won all four of their elimination rounds. The team consists of Ben Levin, Will Robertson, Katelyn McCall, and Mark Levin. NCHS Technology Ed Teacher Jim Zambarano is the VEX Robotics team’s adviser.

The team now travels to the World Championship competition, taking place April 24-28 in the Kentucky Exposition Center in Louisville, Kentucky. The VEX Robotics World Championship will bring together the top 1,600 student-led robotics teams from around the world. Presented by the Robotics Education & Competition Foundation and Northrop Grumman Foundation, the event is a gathering of the top 7% of all robotics teams from over 30 nations celebrating their accomplishments while competing with and against the best in the world.

This year’s VEX Robotics Competition is called Turning Point. It is played on a 12’x12’ square field. There are two alliances, one “red” and one “blue” which are composed of two teams each. They compete in matches consisting of a fifteen second autonomous period, followed by a one minute and forty-five second driver controlled period. The object of the game is to attain a higher score than the opposing alliance by high scoring or low scoring caps, toggling flags, and by alliance parking or center parking robots on the platforms.

“There is a direct relationship between the Robotics Club and classroom instruction,” said Jim Zambarano. “Within the Career and Technical Education Department there are now three computer science courses, a robotics course, a digital electronics course, a web design course, principles of engineering course, and an introduction to engineering and design course. There are ties within all these STEM curriculum, all of which teach 21st century skills that involve problem solving and lifelong learning.”

Photo caption: Pictured (left to right) Tim Belcourt from TRB Robotics, an alliance partner, Mark Levin, Katelyn McCall, Ben Levin, and Will Robertson. Standing, Jim Zambarano, VEX Robotics team adviser and NCHS Technology Ed Teacher.

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