



To: Local School Superintendents

From: Nancy S. Grasmick
State Superintendent of Schools

Date: September 19, 2002

Subject: Chesapeake Regional FIRST Robotics Competition

I am writing to seek your support for the Chesapeake Regional FIRST Robotics Competition to be held March 13 – 15, 2003 at the United States Naval Academy in Annapolis, Maryland. This is the first year Maryland will serve as a host site and represents a wonderful opportunity to encourage Maryland students to commit to studies in mathematics, science and technology.

The FIRST Robotics Competition is an exciting, nationwide competition in which professionals and young people work together to solve an engineering design problem. This year, the competition will reach more than 20,000 students on over 600 teams in 17 competitions. The competitions provide students the opportunity for a great deal of focused brainstorming, real-world teamwork, dedicated mentoring, and meeting project deadlines.

Currently, Maryland has eight teams participating in the competitions. The goal of the Chesapeake Regional Steering Committee is to increase the number of Maryland teams to 40 over a three-year period. The enclosed chart identifies the school system teams currently participating and their corporate partners.

I ask that you support the Chesapeake Regional FIRST Robotics Competition by encouraging high schools, as appropriate, to participate in the competition. Since there are costs associated with participating, the Steering Committee will assist new school teams in identifying corporate partners. To access this assistance, please contact John Murdock at the Maryland Information Technology Center (MITC) at (301) 738-6022 or e-mail him at john.murdock@mitc.org. In addition, the National Aeronautics Space Administration (NASA) has approximately \$125,000 to help fund the new teams. Information about these funds is available from Mike Wade at the Goddard Space Flight Center Website at <http://web547.gsfc.nasa.gov/first> or by e-mail at michael.wade@gsfc.nasa.gov.

If you have any questions about how a school can become involved in the competitions, please contact Marquita Friday, Career and Technology Education Specialist, at (410) 767-0183 or via e-mail at mfriday@msde.state.md.us.

Enclosure

cc: Richard Steinke
Katharine Oliver
Marquita Friday
Local Career and Technology Education Directors
Supervisors of Science
Supervisors of Technology Education
Supervisors of Mathematics

FIRST Robotics Competition Maryland Participants

School System	School Team	Corporate & Organization Partner(s)
1. Anne Arundel County	Broadneck High School and Severn School	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ US Naval Academy
2. Baltimore County	Parkville High FIRST Robotics Booster Club, Parkville High Career and Technology Education Department, Baltimore County Career and Technology Education Department and Parkville High School Center for Mathematics, Science and Computer Science	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ NASA Goddard Space Flight Center ▪ Lockheed Martin Naval Electronics & Surveillance Systems-Marine Systems ▪ TESSCO Technologies ▪ AAI Corporation ▪ Raytheon ▪ Technology Education Association of Maryland ▪ Engineering Society of Baltimore
3. Baltimore County	Woodlawn High School	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ NASA Goddard Space Flight Center ▪ Johns Hopkins University ▪ Fred Needel Incorporated
4. Frederick County	Linganore High School	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ NASA Goddard Space Flight Center ▪ Briddell Builders ▪ Farmers & Mechanics Bank
5. Howard County	Glenelg High School	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ NASA Goddard Space Flight Center
6. Montgomery County	Blair High School	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ NASA Goddard Space Flight Center ▪ Sigma Space ▪ The Science Channel ▪ IBM ▪ NIST ▪ Home Depot
7. Prince George's County	Eleanor Roosevelt High School	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ NASA Goddard Space Flight Center ▪ ProObject Incorporated ▪ Baach, Robinson & Lewis ▪ Northrup Grumman ▪ National Society of Black Engineers ▪ ManTech International ▪ Swales Aerospace ▪ Home Depot ▪ Columbia Rubber Corporation
8. St. Mary's County	James A. Forrest Career and Technology Center and St. Mary's County Public Schools	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ NASA Goddard Space Flight Center ▪ The Patuxent Partnership ▪ Institute of Electrical and Electronic Engineers, Southern MD Chapter ▪ AMPAC Incorporated ▪ Resource Management Concepts Inc. ▪ Naval Air Systems Command at Pax River