

## News release



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### **Gateway Middle School Lego robotics club advancing to state championship**

*Held in Ellensburg in February, state competition gathers the best to compete*



*Beginning in 6th-grade, most of this 8th-grade team has been together for three years working towards this goal*

“Despite the snow storm, the Gateway Lego Guardians showed up ready to compete at the Washington state semi-finals at Henry M. Jackson High School on Sunday.” said Coach Brick Baldwin.

The event, hosted by the Jackson High Jack-In-the-Bots, drew almost 75 teams to compete in the league’s next level of advancement. Only four out of 10 of the region’s top teams were invited to compete on Sunday.

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“As always, Gateway Lego Guardians pulled together as a team and impressed the judges through all three judging categories,” said Baldwin. “In fact, they won a *Robot Design* trophy for designing and building a robot with elegant simplicity, but able to solve complex game challenges. This was proven when their robot held on to the 10th place spot during the challenges.”

This is such a big win for the eighth-graders who have been hard at this for three years, but also a great thrill for the newest team members who just joined. An amazing feat they should be proud to share with their families, friends, and school,” added Baldwin.

The [state competition](#), held in Ellensburg, will bring together the best of the best of western and eastern Washington to compete for a spot in the national competition in St. Louis, Missouri in April.

“Just a banner day all around,” concluded Robotics Advisor Tom Vilorio.