



Our students will shape and lead the future

News release

Oct. 29, 2015

District gets congrats from Washington *FIRST* Robotics

35 robotics teams this year! Up from 26 teams last year!

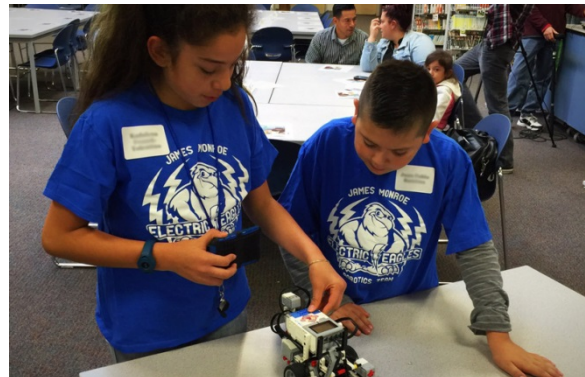


In a letter to Superintendent Gary Cohn, Washington *FIRST* Robotics President Erin McCallum wrote, "During 2014-15, ... of the 135 public school districts in our state participating in *FIRST* programs, Everett School District had 26 teams ... this year your district has 35 teams."

"This year every single elementary, middle and comprehensive high school has at least one robotics team," said Andrea Cartwright, STEM Facilitator for grades 6-12. "Some schools have more than one team!"

"WA *FIRST* builds core values of perseverance, collaboration, gracious professionalism and more. They are values we all work hard to teach our students. The essence of *team* is true and completely necessary, because each person is a crucial component when competing.

"Students are learning that perseverance and failing is okay and a natural part of the learning process. They support each other and are finding joy, no matter how difficult the challenge or how many times they might fail before figuring something out."



club show how they programmed their robot

Washington *FIRST* Robotics currently has over 11,000 students involved in 975 teams immersed in the sport of science, technology and teamwork.

This past year, more than 5,000 adult coaches and mentors and more than 1,300 volunteers shared their passion for science and technology with *FIRST* students.

"I believe our robotics programs are just going to continue to grow," continued Cartwright. "This year every elementary and middle school received grants from OSPI and WA *FIRST*. That doesn't happen in every school district. Silver Firs Elementary actually has five robotics teams coached and mentored by parent volunteers. Finding funding can be a challenge, but it's important because students are clamoring to join a team.

"We're thrilled to be recognized as a leader in *FIRST* Robotics," added Superintendent Cohn.

"On behalf of Washington *FIRST* Robotics, congratulations in being a leader in *FIRST* education in the Everett School District and making the programs accessible and available for all students in your communities," concluded McCallum.

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For more information:

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