


WCSD


STEAM TEAM

innovation is a state of mind

Winter 2019 STEM News

Watertown City School District

Volume 2 Issue 2

Great things continue in the world of STEM!

On January 12th, our Watertown High School FIRST Tech Challenge robotics team, led by coaches John Lachenauer and Erika Montandon, competed at Clarkson University. The team had an excellent first showing! Team members engaged in designing, building, and programming their robot for competitions in an alliance format against other teams. The robot kit used was programmed using Java programming language, providing students valuable experience with a widely-used programming language.

On March 19th, five teams led by Stephanie Eldridge, Ann Fillhart, Kathy Frears, Erin Loveland, Diane McCormick, Erika Montandon, and Chad Passage competed in the Clarkson FIRST LEGO League Competition at Clarkson!



For this competition, students chose and solved a real-world problem involving a physical or social problem faced by humans during long duration space exploration. They shared their problem and solution with others in a creative presentation. They also built, tested, and programmed an autonomous robot using LEGO® MINDSTORMS® technology to solve a set of missions on a game play field.

Wiley Team Mission: Into Orbit 2018 won an award for Core Values at the competition!

This award recognizes teams that display values of the FIRST philosophies of Gracious Professionalism and Coopertition.



WCSD is proud of all 10 of its FIRST Robotics Teams!



SOME UPCOMING EVENTS

- 3/28/19 LEGO EV3 Robotics Professional Development- District Office 8-2:30
- 3/28/19 Sherman Elementary Science Fair 5:30-6:30
- 3/30/19 Jr. FIRST LEGO League Exhibition at Calcium Primary, Indian River 10-12:30
- 7/8/19 - Summer STEM Camp Session I
- 7/19/19 Grades 4-6
- 7/22/19 Summer STEM Camp Session II
- 8/2/19 Grades 4-6

Did you know?

Our WCSD elementary schools are participating in a pilot of a new FIRST® robotics program for grades preK-2. The new program is FIRST® LEGO League Junior Discoveries.



Special thanks to DoDSTEM and FIRST® Robotics for outstanding support of our WCSD robotics teams!



For further information about STEM programs at Watertown City School District, please contact:



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After School STEM Club News

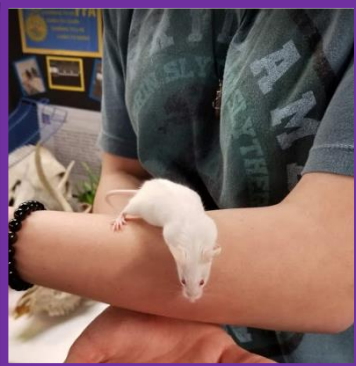
Math Matters clubs (grades 4-9) are having lots of STEM fun! Odyssey of the Mind students have been building structures. Math Olympiad students continue to solve problems as they practice for math contests. BreakoutEDU students are solving puzzles, answering questions, and unlocking locks. Robotics clubs have been busy building, coding and completing challenges. We are thankful for the terrific opportunities our students have through our DoDEA grants!

Congratulations to our H.T. Wiley Intermediate Odyssey of the Mind Team on their win at the regional competition. We wish this team all the best at the state competition on March 23rd!



Fun at the Science & STEAM Fairs

Special thanks to our high school science robotics, and agriculture students who came out to share the cool things they do with our school community!



Kindergarten FIRST Jr. Discoveries



Professional Development

On March 12th, 15 staff members participated in LEGO WeDo 2.0 Robotics training with Laurie Yager from MORIC. This training focused on the use of classroom-friendly software, engaging standards-based projects that apply a discovery-based approach. The next training will be held on March 28th on the LEGO EV3 robots and associated Mindstorms software. Please stay tuned for additional training opportunities!

Check out our technology offerings at the WCSD Empower website!



<https://sites.google.com/watertowncsd.org/wcsdempower>

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