

# GOOSE CREEK

## CONSOLIDATED INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT



FRC 1255 Blarglefish, Goose Creek's high school robotics team, celebrates its victory at the FIRST Robotics World Championship Tournament. Pictured are (front, l to r) Justine Batongmalaki, Janine Batongmalaki, Drayton Sherrill, Priscilla Garcia, David Martinez, Fabian Macius, (second row, l to r) Mrs. Batongmalaki, Advanced Academics Specialist Carol Mitchell, Sarah Trawick, Adulfo Amador, Coach Keith Cummings, Andrew Beck, Johnny Mosqueda, Yacel Amador (parent/mentor), (third row, l to r) Brian Gustin (mentor- Bayer), Misty (C.J.) Coyle-Jacobs (coach), Cord Keeth, Joseph McRae, Cameron Adams (mentor) and Jim Fox (mentor- NASA).

## Blarglefish Places in International Competition

The high school robotics team FRC 1255 Blarglefish was recently awarded a "Wild Card" to compete as one of 607 teams in the FIRST Robotics Competition World Championship Tournament that was held April 22-25, 2015, in St. Louis, Missouri.

After competing in several qualifying rounds, the team's alliance, which was composed of four robotics teams from across the world, advanced to the finals of the tournament.

Out of the eight alliances advancing to the finals of the FRC World Championship Tournament, the alliance which included Goose Creek CISD's Blarglefish team finished in seventh place.

"It was an experience of a lifetime for these kids to be involved in an international competition where 20 countries were represented," said Carol Mitchell, advanced academics specialist.

Mitchell accompanied the students, along with coaches/teachers Keith Cummings and Misty Coyle-Jacobs and mentors Cameron Adams, Sterling graduate and former Blarglefish team member; Jim Fox with Exelis, Inc. at NASA/Johnson Space Center; Brian Gustin from Bayer, also a former Blarglefish team member; and Yacel Amador, also a parent of a team member. Other partners/sponsors are Adulfo's Paint and Body; Bayer; Dooley-Tackaberry; ExxonMobil; FIRST in Texas; Goose Creek CISD; International Society of Automation (Texas Chapter); International Society of Automation (Local Chapter); LD Design Ventures; puzzOmetry; Texas Workforce Commission; David Knerr from ExxonMobil, former member of FRC 118 Robonauts; and Christine Beck, parent and nurse at Robert E. Lee High School.



Blarglefish team members prepare their robot for competition.

Support was also provided by Greg Lynd, Lee principal; Matt Bolinger, Lee academic dean; Lori Yarbrough, Lee assistant principal; Randal O'Brien, GCCISD superintendent; Christi Leath, director of advanced academics and professional development; Goose Creek Memorial High School; Robert E. Lee High School and Ross S. Sterling High School.

Blarglefish team members are Adulfo Amador, Andrew Beck, Janine Batongmalaki, Justine Batongmalaki, Priscilla Garcia, Cord Keeth, Fabian Macius, Joseph McRae, Johnny Mosqueda, David Martinez, Drayton Sherrill and Sarah Trawick.

A Robotics Showcase and Reception will be held at 5:30 p.m., Monday, May 11, at the Goose Creek CISD Administration Building Atrium. The Goose Creek CISD

Board of Trustees will recognize the robotics team Blarglefish for its accomplishments at 6:30 p.m. in the Board Room.

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