



TEKids
3041 University Avenue
Morgantown, WV 26505
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April 04, 2017
RE: Community Partnership and Outreach

NASA Robotic Mining Competition/RASC-AL Mars Ice Challenge
Lane Department of Computer Science and Electrical Engineering
Statler College of Engineering and Mineral Resources
West Virginia University
PO Box 6109
Morgantown, WV 26506-6109

To Whom It May Concern,

Providing authentic open-ended, problem-based STEM opportunities to students to improve content knowledge and maximize impact on student achievement and career aspirations are fundamental goals of TEKids and NASA Robotic Mining Competition/RASC-AL Mars Ice Challenge Team. To further this community goal, the NASA Robotic Mining Competition/RASC-AL Mars Ice Challenge Team and TEKids have developed a community partnership to deliver programs and initiatives which directly support STEM education in our community. This partnership has provided a great positive impact well beyond most outreach programs as the efforts of this team have been a part of every facet of program development and delivery.

The purpose of this letter is to summarize the major outcomes brought about by the NASA Robotic Mining Competition/RASC-AL Mars Ice Challenge Team dedication to serving the schools and teachers across West Virginia. The NASA Robotic Mining Competition/RASC-AL Mars Ice Challenge Team is directly responsible for the successes of the following STEM opportunities provided to students and teachers:

1. Participated in the development and delivery of targeted curriculum training workshops and preparation programs in the fall of 2016. 14 teachers across the state of West Virginia took part in professional development workshops to integrate STEM concepts successfully across curricula. The NASA Robotic Mining Competition/RASC-AL Mars Ice Challenge Team assisted the teachers throughout the entire workshop. These teachers in turn implemented the new curriculum in their classroom, and therefore, 464 students were impacted through this workshop.

2. Volunteered in classrooms to help teachers with curriculum implementation through site visits at schools which requested demonstrations or assistance with the STEM program.
3. Provided STEM education and hands-on activities to the Cub Scouts of America for the county meeting.
4. Delivered STEM workshops with TEKids at the West Virginia Regional Science Bowl where 200 middle school students, 220 high school students, teachers, and parents attended.

These accomplishments, as listed, cannot adequately convey the countless hours and deep commitment by which the NASA Robotic Mining Competition/RASC-AL Mars Ice Challenge Team has provided to the community. The team is always willing to dedicate their time and most of all, to provide genuine care and support to the teachers and the students. It is the people of this team which have really connected these STEM opportunities to the students and teachers. The NASA Robotic Mining Competition/RASC-AL Mars Ice Challenge Team's volunteer efforts have extended well beyond participation. They are a true inspiration to our future generation of leaders and demonstrate how real change can come about through people who are committed to making a difference.

Sincerely,

Natalie Aggarwal
Program Director