

Nov. 18, 2013 10:20 a.m.

Camdenton hosts FIRST robotics competition

School gears up to host robotics contest



One in 20 students in the Camdenton District is involved in FIRST®.

If you go...

What: Mid Mo FIRST® LEGO® League Qualifier

Sponsored by: Camdenton 4-H FIRST® LASER World Championship Galileo Finalist 3284

Where: Camdenton High School

Time: Opening Ceremonies 9 a.m.

Award Ceremonies schedule for approximately 4 p.m.

Cost: Free to the public

For the first time since creating FIRST® LEGO® League robotics team, the Camdenton School District is gearing up to host the Mid MO FIRST® LEGO® League qualifier.

24 teams from around the state including teams from Columbia, Jefferson City, Eldon, St Louis area, Troy, Wildwood and Waynesville will compete along with Camdenton teams on Saturday, Nov. 16.

FIRST® is an international competition where teams not only build a robot but must complete research and an oral presentation. This year's competition theme is "Nature's Fury." Teams must share their innovative solution to the theme through their presentations.

One in 20 students in the Camdenton District is involved in FIRST®. The district is proud to be hosting the Mid Missouri qualifier and want the community to come out and see what FIRST® is all about.

It has taken 140 volunteers to host and set up the competition. More than 10,000 LEGOs were used to build the competition components.

"We want to change the culture by celebrating the mind. We need to show kids that it's more fun to design and create a video game than it is to play one. FLL encourages children to design, construct, and program their own intelligent inventions. This allows them not only to understand technology, but to become masters of it," Dean Kamen, Founder of FIRST® said.

The Camdenton District invites the public out on Saturday to watch the competition and to get a taste of FIRST®.

Fun facts to know:

- 11 EV3 robot brains were used by the LASER FLL teams to prepare for the challenges, 22 drive motors, and over 20 sensors
- 4,600+ snacks were served during the FLL build season
- 96% of the graduating FRC team members have gone on to college and are majoring in STEM (science, technology, engineering and math) careers