

The Lake Today

Wednesday, December 28, 2011

LASER Team wins Facebook challenge



Ozark Ford and Midwest Ford Dealers recently presented a check to the Laker Afterschool Science Engineering and Robotics (LASER) teams from Camdenton School District for winning the Facebook competition from the Drive One 4 UR School fundraiser.

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Laker Afterschool Science Engineering and Robotics (Laser) students from Camdenton High School and Oak Ridge Intermediate were excited to receive a check from Ozark Ford and Midwest Ford Dealers for winning the Facebook competition from the Drive One 4 UR School fundraiser.

The team would like to thank Ozark Ford and manager Dale Lear and his staff for hosting the fundraiser and partnering with the afterschool program to support FIRST Robotics and the students in their efforts to raise funds for Joplin High School. The LASER teams donated \$5,000

to Joplin to help them rebuild their classrooms after the horrific tornado that devastated their community.

“We are so proud of this group of kids. Their desire to help out our neighbors when they really needed the money to pay for their own entry fees for competitions was incredible. They knew it was the right thing to do,” said Sherry Comer, Afterschool Director for Camdenton School District.

For the student’s unselfish efforts, another opportunity to raise funds for the team was offered in the form of the Facebook competition where the team could match the money they donated by getting the most Facebook votes for the LASER team. The LASER team, their coaches and mentors would like to thank all the parents, students and community members that took time to vote for the team on Facebook. The monies earned will go for costs incurred while the teams travel to competitions.

The LASER teams (grades 4-12) have 240 team members this year and Ozark Ford has generously offered to host a second Drive One 4 UR School event later this spring.

“The partnership between the afterschool program and Ozark Ford is outstanding! Ozark Ford closed their business on a Saturday to help the kids raise money for Joplin, informed us about the Facebook competition and now has offered to continue their support of the teams in the form of another Drive event. We are so grateful to Mr. Lear and his team,” Comer stated. “This partnership has allowed numerous students to participate in *FIRST* robotics and is helping to develop strong community leaders in the fields of science, technology, engineering and mathematics.”