

Jewish Home

Around the Community

KYHS Robotics Team Qualifies for the State

Championship

2  MARCH 14, 2019 | The Florida Jewish Home For Advertising Opportunities:

4

'כ"א אדר ב' - ז' אדר ב' • MAR 14 - MAR 28 • VOL 4, #6
FREE

Katz Yeshiva High School of South Florida sent three robotics teams to compete in a regional VEX Robotics Competition. Students from these teams spent the past six months designing, testing, and perfecting their robots after school under the guidance of STEM Director Dr. Yosef Wolf and Robotics Coach, Mr. Sean Rath.

Leading up to this highly anticipated competition, students ensured that their robots were fast, reliable, and able to perform the required tasks. "This has been a very long journey. We have put in hundreds of hours into this robot, working Sundays, and weeknights, as late as 11 pm. We have argued and compromised, hit walls and problem-solved, and made many sacrifices. But in the end it was all worth it, as we grew as a team and gained many new skills that we will use for the rest of our lives," remarked one member of a KYHS varsity robotics team, Yaakov Eisenman.

This was the first year Katz Yeshiva High School had robotics teams competing in the Regional VEX Robotics Competition. Thirty-seven teams competed for



two spots to qualify for the state competition. Each robot was randomly paired with another team, called an "alliance," and there were nine matches of one alliance versus another. After the qualifying rounds, sixteen alliances remained so then teams picked a teammate depending on their seeds.

One of the three KYHS teams ranked 2nd seed after the preliminary rounds. With their teammate, the KYHS robotics team continued on to win all the elimination rounds until they were 11-0, only losing to the first seed team. The Katz Yeshiva High School was invited to compete in the state championship--a huge accomplishment for their first time competing.

This qualified team consisted of Josh Bernten (20'), Tani Gross (21'), Yehuda Marcus (21'), and Yaakov Eisenmann (20'). Unfortunately, the state competition is being held on Shabbat, so the KYHS robotics team is unable to advance any further this year.

Team member, Josh Bernten reflects, "Qualifying for states was the greatest accomplishment yet for Storm Robotics. Even though the state competition falls on Shabbat, we are so proud of our robot, aptly named the "Jew-germ-naut," and the other KYHS teams. We look forward to growing our multiple Storm Robotics teams and going even further next year. Thank you, Dr. Wolf and Mr. Rath, let's go Storm!"

"In just one year, we went from being the new kids on the block to serious competitors in our region. We certainly didn't start off the year thinking we'd have a team that would qualify for states but I think those students just set the bar for our program", faculty advisor, Mr. Rath proudly remarked. Katz Yeshiva High School of South Florida is impressed with all of its students who devoted so much of their time and energy towards perfecting their robots and excelling in the competition. KYHS is already looking forward to seeing what its students will accomplish in the future!