TAPintoNewton
Your Neighborhood News Online

STEAM Mentors Advocacy; A call for STEAM Mentors

By DEREK RAVSHANOV
October 22, 2016 at 12:00 AM

The first annual NJAC Steam Advocacy for Mentor Based STEAM Programs, an “event to be spoken of in the future years of robotics,” was hosted by FIRST Robotics Team 1676 “The Pascack Pi-oneers” of Bergen County on October 22. Nine teams, all under FIRST Robotics, attended the event. Team 1676, the Pascack Pi-oneers, gave an informational presentation about underserved schools and mentors for STEAM Programs.

At the conference, issues ranging from the searching of volunteers willing to invest time in this program, solutions for those still in need of participators, and finding funding for schools and teams in need were discussed. The primary objective at the event was “to

implement mentor-based STEAM programs in underserved schools throughout the state of New Jersey," according to the Pascack high-school team.

There were several speakers at the conference, some were via a video recording, including Kevin Killian, head coach of FRC Team 1676; Erik Gunderson, the Pascack Valley Regional school superintendent; New Jersey Assemblyman Robert Auth; and Norah Peck, Superintendent of Bergen County

Team Aperture has already started assisting with the advocacy project by building a relationship with their local legislators. In August, the team was able to meet Assemblyman Parker Space and kept in contact with Assemblywoman Gale Phoebus at the New Jersey State Fair.

The team also met with Senator Steven Oroho to discuss an ongoing project of granting a varsity status to all academic high school teams in the state.

Get updates about what the students of Newton Public School's award-winning robotics division have been up to. A part of FIRST Robotics, Newton Robotics Team has proudly served and contributed to expanding STEM Education (Science, Technology, Engineering, Mathematics) to the community and students since its establishment in 2009.

Coached by James Hofmann of Halsted Middle School with the assistance of Darleen Nelson, the program ensures that students from grades five through 12 are provided with an exploration to 21st Century Life and Careers with more hands-on opportunities in Engineering, Science, Business, Public Relations, Marketing, Industrial Safety, and more.

The opinions expressed herein are the writer's alone, and do not reflect the opinions of

TAPinto.net or anyone who works for TAPinto.net. TAPinto.net is not responsible for the accuracy of any of the information supplied by the writer.