

## **NEWS RELEASE**

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# 11 BCPS student teams earn honors during Maryland State VEX Robotics Championships

9 teams qualify to participate in VEX World Championships

Towson, Md. – Eleven Baltimore County Public Schools student teams from five schools earned honors recently during the Maryland State VEX Robotics Championships. Nine teams from four schools also qualified for the <u>VEX Robotics World Championship</u> to be held in Dallas, Tex., from Thursday, April 25, through Friday, May 3.

The VEX Robotics World Championship, presented by the Northrop Grumman Foundation, brings together the top VEX IQ Competition and VEX Robotics Competition teams from more than 40 countries to celebrate their accomplishments and participate to be crowned champions.

The following teams earned awards during the following state championship events. Teams marked with an asterisk have qualified for the VEX World Championship.

### Maryland VEX IQ Robotics Elementary School State Championship

Held on February 24 in Hagerstown, Md.

Teamwork 2nd Place Award

9290A Sparks Elementary School (in alliance with another

school)

Innovate Award 9290B Sparks Elementary School

#### Maryland VEX IQ Robotics Middle School State Championship

Held on February 24 in Hagerstown, Md.

Excellence Award 952R\* Ridgely Middle School

Teamwork Champion 929B\* Hereford Middle School (in alliance with another school)

Teamwork 2nd Place Award 952S\* & 952H\* Ridgely Middle School

Design Award 952S\* Ridgely Middle School

Innovate Award 952H Ridgely Middle School

Hereford Middle School (929D, 929T, 929U) and Ridgely Middle School (952J, 952V, 952W, 952Z) also competed in this 30-team championship event.

#### Maryland VEX VRC Robotics High School State Championship

held on March 2 at Dundalk High School/Sollers Point Technical High School

Tournament Champions <u>1727K</u>\* & <u>1727R</u>\* Dulaney High School

Robot Skills 2nd Place 1727K Dulaney High School Innovate Award 929N\* Hereford High School Build Award 1727R\* Dulaney High School

Other top-performing BCPS high schools competing in this 56-team event were Dulaney High School (1727A, 1727B, 1727D, 1727N, and 1727Y), Eastern Technical High School (5839B), Hereford High School (929S, 929T), and Towson High School (934Z).

#### Maryland VEX VRC Robotics Middle School State Championship

held on March 9 at Hereford Middle School

Excellence Award 9290B\* Hereford Middle School

Tournament Champions 9290B\* Hereford Middle School (in alliance with another school)
Tournament Finalists 9290A Hereford Middle School (in alliance with another school)

Design Award 9290A\* Hereford Middle School

Hereford Middle School (9290C) also competed in this 24-team championship event.

Each year BCPS students, with guidance from their teachers and mentors, compete in VEX Robotics competitions at the regional, state, and national levels and culminate at the VEX Robotics World Championship. In the VEX IQ competition, elementary and middle school students build robots using simple, snap-together VEX IQ parts to solve an engineering challenge presented in the form of a game. Teams work together to score points in teamwork matches and show off their skills individually in driver-controlled and programming-robot skills. In the VEX Robotics competition, middle school and high school students design, build, and program metal robots that can quickly and efficiently solve specific challenges in a game format. Both competitions foster student development of teamwork, collaboration, critical thinking, project management, and communication skills required to prepare them to become the next generation of innovators and problem solvers.

"These competitions foster student development of the teamwork, collaboration, critical thinking, project management, and communication skills required to prepare them to become the next generation of innovators and problem solvers," said Robin Bowden, a supervisor in the BCPS Office of Career and Technical Education. "Congratulations to all BCPS schools that competed during the 2023-

2024 season of VEX Robotics: Sparks and Timonium elementary schools; Catonsville, Hereford, Parkville, Perry Hall, Pine Grove, Ridgely, and Sparrows Point middle schools; and Dulaney, Eastern Technical, Hereford, Towson, and Woodlawn high schools."

(Editor's note: Photos of the winning teams can be found on Flickr.)

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<u>Baltimore County Public Schools</u>, the nation's 22nd largest school system, engages and empowers its talented students, teachers, staff, and stakeholders and strives to build an innovative and collaborative learning community where all students excel and reach their highest potential.

Engage. Empower. Excel.