



Windsor-Essex Catholic District School Board

MEDIA ADVISORY

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Assumption Catholic High School Qualifies for FIRST Robotics World Championships

Assumption qualified for the FIRST Robotics World Championships in St. Louis (April 24-26) by reaching the finals of the Toronto Regional Tournament this past weekend. They beat out 40 teams (1200 students) and have earned the opportunity to compete on the world stage in St. Louis where approximately 15,000 students and spectators from around the world will gather for the four day tournament. The championship is referred to as the “Super Bowl of Smarts”.

The remarkable thing is that this is the first year that Assumption has participated in FIRST Robotics! WEtech Alliance, is spearheading the expansion of FIRST Robotics into more area schools, and Assumption was one of four teams that were sent to Toronto for the regional competition.

Each year about 3,000 high school teams comprised of thirty high school students dedicate several hours every day after school to build man-sized robots that compete in world-wide regional competitions that lead up to the World Championships in St. Louis where 20,000 participants and spectators pack the Edward Jones Dome. Video of FIRST Robotics program featuring Morgan Freeman <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=i1QyM9WTF18>

Students who participate in FIRST are twice as likely to go on to university and college, twice as likely to major in STEM (science, technology, engineering, mathematics) and ten times as likely to take part in a coop/internship during post-secondary. Students who participate in FIRST are also eligible for \$16 million worth of scholarships at universities and colleges in North America.

The great challenge for Assumption to register for the World Championships is to find \$5000 in sponsorships and to raise funds for travel/accommodation.

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