

PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Coeur d'Alene High School Robotics Team Receives NASA Grant

The Coeur d'Alene High School TeraViks is awarded a \$6,500 grant from NASA to jump start the new robotics team.

Coeur d'Alene, ID. (January, 2010) – NASA has awarded a grant in the amount of \$6,500 to the Coeur d'Alene High School TeraViks rookie robotics team. This grant will be applied toward the cost of the regional competition in Portland, OR, March 4-6, and the kit of parts required for this year's challenge. The team is also sponsored in part by North Idaho Discovery Association (NIDA), who contributes not only funds to help offset the \$15,000 budget, but also a facility to host a full size arena for teams to practice on.

The TeraViks team, comprised of 17 high school students and 6 adult mentors donating their time, will be competing in the FIRST Robotics Challenge, founded by inventor Dean Kamen.

"This grant helps offset the total cost of the robot which can run up to \$10,000, as well as travel and lodging costs to attend the regional competition." says Brian Induni, coach of the TeraViks team and Executive Director of Business and Marketing for NIDA. "The team will have six weeks to design, build, and test a robot to compete in this year's Breakaway challenge. While this schedule is fast paced and sometimes stressful, it simulates real world situations. Strong emphasis is placed on gracious professionalism and extending what the student's learn in the classroom to hands-on applications."

Meeting 3 to 4 days a week, the team plans to have a working prototype by February 6, and be finished by the shipping date deadline of February 23. Press and media are welcome to visit the team during their normally scheduled work sessions at Coeur d'Alene High School in room 605 from 2:30 to 5:30 pm. Please contact Brian Induni at 208-691-731 to coordinate a visit.

"Coeur d'Alene High School is excited to have this new extracurricular program be offered to the students" say Michael Nelson, Assistant Principal of Coeur d'Alene High School. "Receiving this NASA grant is an outstanding accomplishment of the new team. This, indeed, is a historic time for our school and the TeraViks have laid a remarkable foundation for years of students to come in this program."

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About NIDA

North Idaho Discovery Association is a non-profit organization dedicated to foster learning and innovation in science and technology through hands-on experience and mentor based programs. By inspiring youth to explore a variety of pathways into science, math, and technology, NIDA opens the door for youth to previously unknown opportunities or interests.

For more information about NIDA and its programs, please visit <http://www.nidarobotics.org>, or call 1-208-640-9412.

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