



NEWS RELEASE

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Gwinnett County schools score well in FIRST LEGO League

A team of students from **Puckett's Mill Elementary School** finished among the top teams in the **FIRST LEGO League (FLL) State Championship Tournament**. The **Sparrow Bots** from Puckett's Mill earned the Champions Award after coming in third overall. In addition, the **Head Elementary Star Wards V3** team won the Presentation Award for their project/core values solutions. **FIRST LEGO League** teams research a real-world problem such as food safety, recycling, energy, etc..., and are challenged to develop a solution. They also must design, build, and program a robot using **LEGO MINDSTORMS®** technology, then compete on a table-top playing field.

Teams of students from 10 Gwinnett County public schools earned a berth in the **FIRST LEGO League (FLL) State Championship Tournament** including student teams from **Head Elementary, Norton Elementary, Peachtree Elementary, Puckett's Mill Elementary, Rosebud Elementary, Simpson Elementary, Starling Elementary, and White Oak Elementary**. Nearly 40 Gwinnett County elementary and middle schools have competed in **FIRST LEGO League Competitions** since the fall.

FIRST (For Inspiration and Recognition of Science and Technology) was founded in 1989 to inspire young people's interest and participation in science and technology. The not-for-profit public charity designs accessible, innovative programs that motivate young people to pursue education and career opportunities in **STEM** (science, technology, engineering, and mathematics), while building self-confidence, knowledge, and life skills. **FIRST** participation is proven to encourage students to pursue education and careers in **STEM-related** fields, inspire them to become leaders and innovators, and enhance their 21st century work-life skills.

FLL Robotics participation in Georgia is so great that the state actually holds two state competitions. Traditionally, each year one of those state competitions is allowed to send a representative or bid to one of the **World Competitions** (there are two **World Competitions**, one in St. Louis and a new venue in Houston to make space for all the countries and states to have representation).

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is to pursue excellence in academic knowledge, skills, and behavior for each student, resulting in measured improvement against local, national, and world-class standards.

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