



Catalina Foothills Unified School District #16
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BOARD AGENDA ITEM

ITEM NO: 1.4

BOARD MEETING DATE: Tuesday, February 11, 2025

OPENING ITEM: Outstanding Achievements

SUBMITTED BY: Denise Bartlett, Superintendent

PRESENTED BY: Denise Bartlett, Superintendent

I am pleased to highlight the following CFSD student and staff achievements:

FIRST LEGO League State Championship

Catalina Foothills School District (CFSD) celebrates the outstanding achievements of its FIRST LEGO League (FLL) teams at the State Championship held on Saturday, January 18, at Arizona State University's West Campus. Competing against 71 teams from across Arizona, CFSD teams excelled, earning multiple awards, placing three teams in the top 10 for robot scores, and advancing three teams to postseason competition.

CFSD had five teams earning top awards and three placing in the top 10 for robot scores. As many as three CFSD teams may advance to postseason competition.

Award Highlights:

Team 5155 Reef Rangers – 3rd Place for the Core Values Award

Team 5158 Partners for Life – 2nd Place for the Innovation Project

Team 5151 Marine Micro Masters – 3rd Place for Robot Design

Team 5153 Illuminators – 2nd Place for the Core Values Award

Team 5152 Barbaric Blooms – 1st Place for the Innovation Project

CFSD extends heartfelt gratitude to the coaches **Charlotte Ackerman, Noah Mickey Colman, Maura Baker, Tiffany Wiley, Nancy Hsiao**, and all of the parent and student mentors who guided our teams to success. Their leadership and dedication have been instrumental in inspiring teamwork, innovation, and excellence

among our students. Many of our alumni were recruited as judges and referees for the state tournament.

Team Roster Highlights:

Team 5155 Reef Rangers – 3rd Place for the Core Values Award Team Members: Andrew Trombetta (OG), Damon Hayden (OG), Emily Fink (OG), Gigi Trombetta (OG), Isadora Friedman (SD), Lily Ruiz (OG), Lucas Rodriguez (EC), Mikey Stefano (OG), Sophia Barrios (OG)

Team 5158 Partners for Life – 2nd Place for the Innovation Project Team Members: Brenden Sult (OG), Ethan Luo (OD), Graham Martin (SD), Kason Strunk (VV), Lucas Byrne (SD), Noah Chavez (OG), Sebastian Bonomolo (OD)

Team 5151 Marine Micro Masters – 3rd Place for Robot Design Team Members: Amelie Puell (SD), Isha Bandopadhyay (SD), Luke Danilowitz (OD), Richelle Yang (OD), Yihan Yang (OD), Dylan Pan (SD), Turner Jason (SD)

Team 5153 Illuminators – 2nd Place for the Core Values Award Team Members: Kaeli Greer (VV), Rebecca Black (VV), Jacob Colman (EC), Ellie Bao (VV), Liam Wilhelm (VV), Brooke Miller (VV), Gideon Singerman (VV), Sylvia Goldstein (VV)

Team 5152 Barbaric Blooms – 1st Place for the Innovation Project Team Members: Natasha Jain (VV), Mara Janjić (VV), Blake Brasfield (EC), Connor Flaherty (EC), Colin Wilhelm (VV), Lilly Candlish (VV), Ben Barlow (EC), Claire Varden (EC)

Team 5154 Tellers of the Propellers – Scored 30th in robot performance with a max score of 200 points Team Members: Beckett Latcham (VV), Stella Obler (VV), Brooks Matchett (VV), Henry Kiser (VV), Cyrus Candlish (EC), Ezra Coan (VV), Ava Moore (VV), Ezra Rottenstein (VV), Landry Henderson (VV)

This year's theme, "**Submerged**," invited teams to explore underwater environments and focus on marine sustainability and innovation. Teams designed and programmed robots to tackle tasks related to underwater challenges, conducted research to identify specific problems, and proposed innovative solutions.

Pioneer Robotics

Huge congratulations to Pioneer Robotics on an unforgettable performance at the FTC Palo Verde-Goodyear Qualifier on Saturday, January 25.

Championship Win: Pioneer went undefeated, winning 8 straight matches, including 2 semi-finals and 2 final matches against different alliances. Their dominance on the

field secured them the Winning Alliance First Pick and an incredible 286 points in the final match, the 4th highest score in the state!

Inspire Award: Pioneer also took home the Inspire Award, the highest honor in the FIRST Tech Challenge. This award celebrates teams that exemplify innovation, teamwork, and leadership, serving as ambassadors of the program while competing with Gracious Professionalism®.

Pioneer team members are Estaban Aguirre, Owen Cantor-Goldner, Aidan Chang, Braeden Gracy, Ethan Lin, Kyle Lo, Ali Lucas, Isaak Martin, Valerie McLamarrah, Quin Mekkelsen, Milo Peters, Nathan Wu, and Zoya Zar.

Pioneer is coached by Charlotte Ackerman and Sam Kunzeman. Team Mentors are Lukas Gruber, Joel Boroquez, and Michael Gross.

CFHS Student Council

At the Arizona Association of Student Council (AASC) conference on January 25, CFHS junior Fiona Westmoreland was elected by hundreds of her peers as next year's AASC President! Catalina Foothills High School's student council earned the prestigious "Outstanding Council" award and several others.

Congratulations to Gary Thompson for being named AASC Student Council Advisor of the Year! He was nominated by his student council students and selected by the AASC Executive Board out of several outstanding advisors across the state. Gary has also been invited to serve on the AASC Executive Board.

Catalina Foothills absolutely shined at this year's State Convention.

CFHS Advanced Theatre

The Catalina Foothills High School Advanced Theatre program performed well at the Southern Arizona Festival of Theatre (SAFT) Regionals on Saturday, January 25, earning accolades in team and individual events.

The program fielded two teams in the Tech Challenge, showcasing their backstage skills in critical theatre tasks. The teams, comprised of Saki Grobe, Veronica Davis-Soto, Calista Morrison, Robin Oxnam, Elise McFarlane, Cameron Smith, and Aidan Bryant, earned:

Second Place in Sewing Machine Threading

Second Place in Knot Tying

Four students also participated in individual events, earning impressive ratings:

Saki Grobe: Superior Rating for their Stage Management Portfolio

Vivianna Colson: Superior Rating for her Musical Theatre Dance Performance

Jade Leon: Superior Rating for her Musical Theatre Solo Vocal Performance

Calista Morrison: Excellent Rating for her Musical Theatre Solo Vocal Performance

The instructor of Advanced Theatre is Amy Byroad, Theatre Arts Director. The Catalina Foothills School District congratulates Ms. Byroad and the Advanced Theatre students on their continued success.

RECOMMENDED MOTION: Information Item