Vanguard Robotics Takes the "Top Rank" to advance to Regionals and Again to Advance to State



For Vanguard Mozart Secondary and Vanguard Rembrandt Secondary ECHS Robotics teams, the 2022-2023 season has earned them a Top Rank at the FIRST Technology Challenge (FTC) Robotics Regionals Competition held February 25 at McAllen High School.

To make it to the State Competition in Belton, Texas, the two teams ranked in the top positions at the league challenge to advance to regionals. At regionals, they ranked first and second out of 40 teams and advanced to the final to take the top performance spots. The teams are known as 21733 Kryptic Knights from Mozart ECHS and 13109 Koopa from Rembrandt Secondary ECHS.

During the final match, Kryptic Knights selected teams 8284 and 22320 as their allies. Team Koopa selected 12393



and 12448 as their allies. The competition was a nail-biting final match ending in Kryptic Knights and their allies winning the battle against Koopa and the alies 202 to 178.

Superintendent, Dr. Narciso Garcia was on hand during the Regional competition to encourage the students and thank them for their hard work and dedication. "I could not have been prouder. Finding out that both Mozart and Rembrandt ECHSs ranked at the top

before the competition and at regionals is priceless. The hard work and dedication of the coaches, Oscar Flores and Roy Villanueva pay off. They manage many STEM teams during school and after school. We commend them on the endless hours of work they

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do and the number of students they inspire." Vanguard Teamshave their

work cut out. They are willing to put in the time to get a chance to win at state and be one of the nine (9) teams to advance to the World Championship to be held in Houston on April 19-22. 2023.

'Our teams worked so hard throughout the season," Mrs. Belinda Guzman, FTC Robotics sponsor, said, "They overcame so many obstacles at the beginning, missing parts and not being able to compete in the first round of competition. However, they overcame those obstacles making the award more rewarding."

Congratulations Teams to Kryptic Knights and Koopa, their allies, and all other teams from across the Rio Grande who competed in the FTC Regionals.

As per the FTC website, "FTC is a student-centered program that focuses on giving studentsauniqueandstimulating experience." The 2022-2023 POWERPLAYSM challenge is presented by Raytheon Technologies. Within the square field are two red and two blue start lines "where robots start the match with an Alliance-specific energy-driven game and test the limits of performance, efficiency, and endurance to power innovations forward."

> Vanguard Academy is a free public charter school located in Phart. Alamo, and Edinburg, and is opening a new campus at Mission for the upcoming year. Vanguard Academy concentrates on giving students the highest standards of academics and extends

an opportunity to express their own unique gifts and talents. For more information, please visit the following link https://www. vanguardacademy.education/ or call the district at the following number: (956) 781-1701.

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