



PRESS RELEASE FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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VIEWEG STEM ACADEMY ROBOTICS BRINGS HOME CREATIVE AWARD IN FIRST YEAR PROGRAM

Ridgecrest, CA – Vieweg STEM Academy Robotics came home with some bling from the final VEX Robotics competition of the school year! Competing on Saturday, Feb. 7, in Bakersfield, one of Vieweg’s middle school teams earned the **Create (Creative) Award** for the **most original robot design**, standing out among **41 teams** in the program’s very first year.

A robotics competition took place on Saturday, Feb. 7, in Bakersfield. Students in grades 5–8 worked on their robots throughout the week leading up to the event, with a select group attending the competition. During the event, teams of three collaborated with students from other schools, competing in 1-minute matches to earn the most points.

Across multiple matches, Vieweg teams placed in the middle of the 41 participating teams overall, with the middle school team earning the **Create Award** for the most original robot design. While many robots at the competition followed one of two common build styles, the Vieweg team chose to design their robot without a guide, resulting in a truly unique and creative build.

Carson Beeler, 7th grader, reflected on the experience, saying:

“The event was wonderful; it had so much creativity with all the other teams. The event showed us how different teams who have just met can work together well on the field during game play. When we met our partner teams for each match, we didn’t consider who had the better robot; we strategized how to work together, get more points, and try to win the competition. Even though

all the Vieweg teams didn't go home with a trophy, we all won first place in our hearts. These competitions taught us how anything is possible with the right attitude; you just have to try. We can't wait to go back to robotics next year so we can sharpen all of our ideas from this year, make our imagination a reality, and teach others about our joy of robotics.

I believe that because we went through many stages in our robot design, working on it even the night before, we made a truly unique robot. I think our team worked well together, and we learned a lot about teamwork and time management."

Micah Hardy, 5th grader, shared additional insight into the process:

"We had lots of difficulties on many things. We always bounced back up and faced our challenges. All of our robots had many different and unique problems. This made it a truly challenging experience to go through multiple designs and try to find the best one. It was a very hard learning experience on teamwork, brainstorming, and technique."

Carson Beeler and Alexander Alonzo, 7th graders, added:

"The team had many emotions, some good, some bad, but in the end we succeeded in our goal of having the most creative robots."

Principal Marina Amador praised the students' accomplishment:

"We are incredibly proud of our students for earning an award in our very first year. Their creativity, perseverance, and teamwork truly shine. This award reflects not only their talent, but their willingness to take risks, learn from challenges, and support one another. We couldn't be more excited for what comes next."

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