

Robotics Team Formed at TCTC



Within a few weeks, athletes competing in winter sports for the 09-10 seasons will resume conditioning. TCTC students participate in extracurricular activities at their home schools, but we do possess a team that is gearing up for competition. Junior students in the Engineering program are members of our first Robotics squad. They are currently working on their programming skills and mechanical talents. They use kits based on LEGO and TETRIX systems.

Student homework assignments are to research online past solutions to robotic problems and to collaborate with their peers. All students are assigned to a team and they acquire tech savvy skills from each other as well as the instructor, Mr. Jason Rupe.

Rupe stated, “In the Engineering world, you are given a problem and you work as part of a team to find the solution. We use the same approach at the TCTC. “We give each group a problem and it is their responsibility to solve it. The students receive a kit of parts, basic instructions on programming technology, a laptop computer and Internet access. Every team has a different idea on what it will take to have the best design. The end results will be different because each robot will have unique components. “

The first contest is in Chicago and the teams are working to be ready for the competition. The ultimate goal is to qualify for the national event that will be held in the Atlanta Dome.

What is Engineering Tech Prep?

Engineering Tech Prep is a national initiative that combines college prep academics with a high technology focus. After spending two years in the high school program, students can make a smooth transition to associate degree and bachelor degree programs at the post-secondary level. They can also earn college credit while still in high school.

Some of the fields of study include: Precision Machining, CNC Programming, Hydraulics, CADD, Electricity, Robotics, Plastics and Metallurgy. Students will graduate from high school with entry level skills in Manufacturing and Sales. Upon completion of post secondary studies, they will qualify for a wide variety of Electrical, Mechanical, Industrial and Civil Engineering positions.

The job market of the immediate future has positions available for qualified students with the necessary technological skills. There is a forecast for a major shortage of Engineers. Why not get a head start on a rewarding career with a great opportunity for employment?