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MEDIA RELEASE

Fresno Unified Hosts 17th Annual Middle School Tournament of Technology

What: Middle School Tournament of Technology

When: Saturday, April 6, 2024 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. (awards ceremony at 1 p.m.)

Where: Sunnyside High School 1019 S. Peach Ave. (93727)

Approximately 400 Fresno Unified middle school students will square off in technology-based competitions as part of the 17th annual Middle School Tournament of Technology, the largest contest of its kind in the state. The theme this year is Y2K. Students can compete in 19 events in the categories of Robotics, Drones, Coding, Video Production and Design. Crowd favorites are the drone obstacle course and BattleBots, but all the events sharpen students' skills for the 21st century. Fifty judges are lined up to determine the top competitors.

The goal of the competition is to engage students with a variety of innovative technologies to help develop collaboration, communication, critical thinking, and creativity skills.

Students have been preparing for months, using design software and 3D printers to build bridges and racecars, video editing software to produce public service announcements and "blockbuster"

trailers, VEX IQ Robot Kits to build robots that can navigate mazes and battle other robots, and drones to learn piloting and navigation skills.

"Our Tournament of Technology gives our middle school students the chance to showcase their tech skills in a fun and competitive atmosphere, where school spirit and teamwork shines. TOT is all about expanding student-centered and real-world learning experiences, one of the goals we have for our students," said Superintendent Bob Nelson.

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