

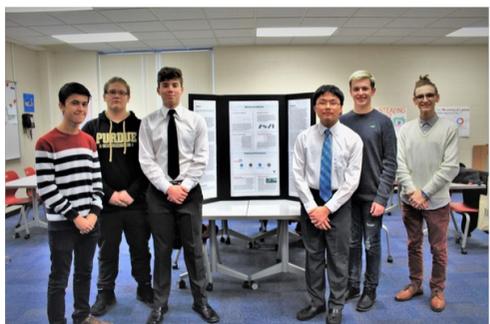
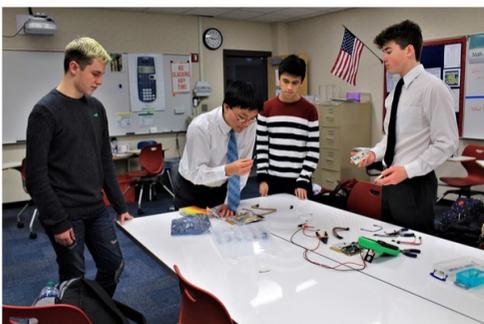


Kokomo Schools

Education Foundation Newsletter



April 2018



KHS Students Reach Finals of the Global Innovation Challenge

Six Kokomo High School sophomores and juniors are developing an app and data collection device to help kidney dialysis patients. This product design qualified the KHS students for the finals of the prestigious Conrad Spirit of Innovation Challenge at the Kennedy Space Center. These students, who make up the newly formed KHS Business & Engineering Club, were the only Indiana students to advance to the global finals.

The 26 finalist teams represented six countries – Australia, Canada, India, Nigeria, Thailand, and the United States. Within the United States, teams from 10 states – California, Florida, Indiana, Maryland, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, North Carolina, Texas, and Virginia – reached the finals.

KHS mathematics teacher and Business & Engineering Club sponsor, Kayla Siebert, noted: “I am very impressed with what these students have accomplished since September when this club was formed. Within two months the students developed their idea, and within four months they created a business plan for the competition. This club is student-driven, and these students took the initiative to create this device. The fact that these students have reached the finals in a global competition with their first idea, and in their first year as a club, is remarkable.”

The Conrad Spirit of Innovation competition challenges high school students from around the world to use science, technology, engineering, math, and business skills to improve the world through innovation in the following areas: Aerospace & Aviation, Cyber-Technology & Security, Energy & Environment, Health & Nutrition, and Smoke-Free World.

The KHS team was selected as a Top 5 finalist in the Health & Nutrition category from 40 global semi-finalists. The students, with help from an Education Foundation Enrichment Grant, recently traveled to the Kennedy Space Center to make their power pitches in the global finals.

Kokomo High School sophomores Gene Yang and Mitchell Wyrick, under the direction of Ms. Siebert, founded the Business & Engineering Club the 2017-2018 school year. Gene and Mitchell’s main goal was to create an organization where students could focus on engineering solutions to complex, global issues.

The six students in the club – Gene, Mitchell, and classmate Brayden York, along with KHS juniors Daniel Herrera, James Walters, and Parker Pluckebaum – currently are focused on developing a Dialytic Transcriber for dialysis patients.

The KHS students’ proposed product combines all vitals monitoring into one system. The device will use pulse oximetry sensors, pressure sensors, temperature sensors, and minimal user input to record the vitals of a dialysis patient. The device will fit around a patient’s arm, the students noted, so the size of the product does not limit a patient’s movement while in use.

This device then will communicate with an app on a patient’s phone to store the vital information and the dialysis machine codes in a database under a patient’s profile. This information could be shared easily with a patient’s doctor.

Team members estimated they already have spent hundreds of hours designing their product. The six students have juggled these responsibilities with their many other activities. That list of activities includes Student Council, Boys Legion, track & field, soccer, wrestling, swimming, Environmental Club, the Future Business Leaders of America, Book Club, Jazz Band, Marching Band, and an after-school job. Gene is even spending time doing research at Purdue University this school year.

Despite hectic schedules, the students have prioritized time for this project. Mitchell explained that he and his teammates are naturally motivated.

“We all are so interested in the healthcare field that we are passionate about bringing this product to the market,” Mitchell added.

Gene believes the team is at least halfway to product development completion because the design process is finished. The students are ready to develop the product.

The students currently are seeking financial support to help fund development of their Dialytic Transcriber. Anyone interested in helping these students can donate through PayPal online at www.khsbusinessengineering.com. If you are a business interested in potentially sponsoring the students, and wish to learn more, please set up a meeting with these students by emailing VitaeSystems@gmail.com.

Central Middle International Annual Art Gala

The Kokomo Schools Education Foundation recently purchased this Patti Host painting of the newly renovated Central Middle International School building. The painting was auctioned at Central’s annual International Art Gala to raise money for teacher and student programs at the school. The Foundation then donated the painting back to Central to be displayed in the historic school building.



Reunion2018

'58 '63 '68 '73 '78 '83 '88 '93 '98 '03 '08 '13

Planning a Kokomo/Haworth Class Reunion? We can advertise your event in our newsletter. Did you know you can schedule a class reunion tour of our high school or Central Middle International School to see what wonderful changes have taken place? It's amazing! Send us an email at educationfoundation@kokomo.k12.in.us.

Class of 1958 Reunion will be held on September 7th and 8th. A meet and greet is planned on the September 7th at the Kokomo Automobile Museum and the reunion (dinner and dance) at the Convention Center. A ladies luncheon is being offered at the Country Club at 12:00 noon on the 7th, golf and school tour for the interested. Contact: Dan Dunn at dfdoubled@comcast.net

educationfoundation@kokomo.k12.in.us www.kokomoschools.com

Thank you for your interest in the Kokomo Public Schools Education Foundation! For more information on Education Foundation supported projects, visit the "Education Foundation" website.

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