

ANCHORAGE SCHOOL DISTRICT

ANCHORAGE, ALASKA

ASD MEMORANDUM #213 (1999-2000)

February 23, 2000

TO: SCHOOL BOARD

FROM: OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDENT

SUBJECT: STUDENTS PREPARE FOR ROBOTICS COMPETITION

PERTINENT FACTS:

In late March a team of students from East and Chugiak High Schools will travel to San Jose for an exciting competition. They'll leave Alaska with enthusiasm, motivation, and most importantly - Frostbyte.

Frostbyte is a student-designed and constructed robot that will take part in the FIRST Robotics Competition. This national battle of the robots was created to energize students about science and technology. Frostbyte will be put through the paces against other remote-controlled robots brought to life by over 380 high school teams nationwide which take part in this competition.

Student teams are given six weeks to complete their robot, as well as a 30-second animation video to introduce their creation. This year marks the first time a team from Alaska has participated in this event. The Anchorage School District contingent, around 30 strong, is known as the "49th Infantry Icebreakers." They have been working on the robot each day after school and on weekends, in their makeshift laboratory in the Northway Mall.

It is requested the School Board recognize these inventive students, as well as their dedicated teachers, Mike Fenster from East High School, and Don Brown from Chugiak High School.

Good luck in California. Hopefully Frostbyte and the Icebreakers will put the chill on the competition!

BC/LW/CW

Prepared by: Cindy Wilsbach, Communications Specialist

Approved by: Larry Wiget, Executive Director, Public Affairs