

EdMatters

The Brawley School Wins First Place at North Carolina Regional Future City Competition



Brawley School explored today's challenges, crafted a compelling city essay, built a table-top scale model using recycled materials with a \$100 budget, and delivered a persuasive presentation to the panel of judges. Their innovative design and well-researched solutions earned them the top spot.

As regional champions, The Brawley School will now advance to the Future City Finals Competition in Washington, D.C. held February 14-19, 2025, during Engineers Week. There, the students will compete against teams from across the U.S. and around the world for the first-place title and a \$7,500 grand prize for their organization's STEM program.

Mr. Jay Hager, coach for The Brawley School team, said "I truly appreciate the opportunity that the engineering community has given us to dig deeply into issues that impact the world around us. I can't overstate the impact this opportunity has had on our students. In fact, two previous Future City team members told me this week that they have already secured positions in an engineering firm upon graduation this year. They credit the Future City program for their choice of major and for their success."

Sponsors for this year's NC regional competition include NCLUG, Burroughs Welcome SMT, Schneider Electric, Siemens Energy, and Duke Energy to name a few.

The Brawley School is celebrating big after winning the Future City NC Regional Competition in Raleigh, NC on January 25, 2025. The team compete against talented teams from across the state. The Brawley School impressed the judges with their innovative floating city design, which addresses this year's challenge: designing a floating city 100 years into the future that keeps its citizens healthy and safe.

Students in 6th, 7th, and 8th grade imagine, research, design, and build cities of the future. Keeping the engineering design process and project management front and center, students are asked to address a real-world question: How can we make the world a better place?

This year, over 70,000 students from 43 regions, including areas in China, have participated in the program, making it a truly global initiative. Guided by their educator and a STEM mentor, students from The

The Future City Competition® is a project-based learning experience where stu-

Virtual I-SS Students Engineer Snowflakes



Students at the I-SS Virtual Academy use their in person meeting days for a multitude of hands-on activities and experiments to reinforce classroom concepts and promote team building skills. During their January in person meeting, K-3 students engineered various snowflakes using a variety of materials.

They used their knowledge of how 2D and 3D shapes correlate in their designs as well as their science discussions on how snowflakes form. In addition, students created their own faux snow using a variety of materials. In this experiment, students were able to experience the physical changes of matter that they have been studying in science. Students always enjoy interacting on "in person" days as they work together on various theme-based projects to build community outside of their typical virtual learning environment.



Lake Norman High FFA



The Lake Norman High FFA members recently attended several events. The Ag Mechanics team won third place in the Northwest Region and will move on to compete at the NC State FFA Convention this summer! Congratulations to Branson Alexander, Kyle Hazlewood, Carter Clemens, and Carson Barnhardt. In addition to this recognition, Carter Clemens was also recognized for tying with another student at the competition for the highest scoring individual in the region.



AG Center last week. Gianna DeMarco, Taylor Mick, and Scotlyn Saville represented the Lake Norman FFA Chapter well and enjoyed hearing from the Tarheel Farmer, Will Brinkley as he shared his story.

We Proudly Support the Iredell-Statesville Schools!



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