School District Offers Pre-School Program

The Livingston public schools will once again offer an integrated pre-school program for the 2011-12 school year. This fee-based program will serve the needs of both pre-schoolers requiring special education services and those who do not need special services. Classes will be held Mondays through Thursdays, from 11:50 a.m. to 2:20 p.m.

Regular education enrollment in the program is limited and will be determined by lottery. Students eligible for the lottery must be four years old by October 1, 2011 and may not turn five prior to the same date. A birth certificate and proof of Livingston residency will be required.

The lottery will be held on Thursday, February 10, at the Board of Education office, 11 Foxcroft Drive. Completed applications are due to the Board of Education office no later than 4 p.m. on Wednesday, February 9. Applications are available at the Board of Education office or on the website at www.livingston.org.

Applicants will be notified of their children’s status no later than Friday, February 11. For additional information, call the Office of Student Services at 973-535-8000, extension 8032.

A team from Heritage Middle School took third place in the New Jersey Regional National Engineers Week Future City competition. The competition took place at Rutgers University on Saturday, January 15. The team won $2,000 from IEEE-USA for its school’s technology program.

Students created cities on computers using the SimCity™ 4 Deluxe software, provided by Electronic Arts, and then built three-dimensional, tabletop models to scale. To ensure a level playing field, the models had to be made of recycled materials and could cost no more than $100 to build. Students had to present and defend their designs at the competition before a panel of engineer judges who tested the depth of the teams’ knowledge. Students started with a research essay describing their concept. They were also required to write a City Narrative, outlining the key features of their city. This year’s topic is “Providing a Reliable and Effective Health Care Product or System that Improves a Sick, Injured or Disabled Patient’s Quality of Life and Comfort.”

The HMS team, Avegules (visually impaired), consisted of students Desai, Julie McEldon and Samantha Nigan.

The 19th Annual Future City Competition for sixth, seventh and eighth grade students is sponsored in part by the National Engineers Week Foundation, a consortium of professional and technical societies and major U.S. corporations. Bentley Systems Incorporated supports the national finals and Shell is also a national sponsor for the competition.