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Four Academy teams excel at securing cyberspace

The four Academy teams entered in this year's **CyberPatriot National Youth Cyber Defense Competition (NYCDC)** performed admirably in the second **Qualification Round** in mid-December with each earning top honors.

Three teams, **Team404**, the **CyberBeans** and the **CyberLancers** placed in the *Platinum Tier*, the highest level; while the **CyberLambs** took the first ranking in the State in the *Silver Tier*.

The teams move on to the next six-hour round versus State competition from January 13 to 15 to vie for a spot in the **Regional Round** in mid-February.

The participating CyberPatriot students are acting as "information technology professionals," tasked with managing the network of a small company. In each round, teams are given a set of virtual images representing operating systems and are tasked with finding vulnerabilities and "hardening" the systems while maintaining critical "company" services.

The Academy teams are advised by **Deborah Kula**.



LEFT: Academy CyberPatriot students, Leona Domingo, Janelle Lauronal, Shailyn Wilson, Monica Kenny and Aiyana Arnobit fine-tune their cyber security skills under the guidance of Deborah Kula.



CyberPatriot NYCDC 2016 to 2017 Participants

- > **The CyberBeans:** Aiyana Arnobit, Laura Farias, Monica Kenny, Stella Supall and Jalen Tam
- > **The CyberLambs:** Stephanie Desroches, Brianna Ho, Jasmine Matsumoto, Meghan Matsuoka and Kaitlyn Pang
- > **The CyberLancers:** Christina Chen, Sydney Chock, Leona Domingo, Janelle Lauronal and Shailyn Wilson
- > **Team404** (above right): Samantha Ishihara, Taryn Wong, Carlee Matsunaga, Megan Backus, Raelynn Chu and Neicy-Mae Fujiwara

From the Head of School

EVALUATING THE LEARNING PROCESS

The holidays are behind us, and the second semester has begun! Report cards for students in grades seven to 12 are scheduled to be mailed this afternoon. Reports for students in grades



Junior Kindergarten to six will be in their backpacks on January 13.

As the formal marking period concludes, thoughts turn to the single, most useful tool to assess how well students are learning and how successfully teachers are doing their very important job. The school knows exactly where to look for the best advice for improving students' learning – we look to the "experts," our students.

At the end of each semester, students in grades seven to 12 evaluate their classes through on-line, anonymous surveys.

Students are surveyed on the effectiveness of teaching methods, work load, pace of class, relevancy of content and clarity and are queried with an open-ended request for any related feedback. Our students respond constructively and with zest!

By giving voice to every student, the course evaluations give teachers invaluable information. This input is taken very seriously by teachers and administrators and provides collaborative guidance for the ongoing quest to improve.

At the same time, warm, complimentary and, sometimes humorous, comments are very much appreciated by the teachers.

In this year of the Rooster, may all signs point to good health, fortune and happiness.

Betty White

Collaborating with North Carolina



The third graders (above) participated in a collaborative learning experience during a **Skype** session with third and fourth grade students at **Carolina Francis School (CFS)** in Durham, North Carolina, on December 13.

The CFS students are studying islands and reached out to the Academy to get additional knowledge, first-hand.

The Academy students in **Melody Coloma's** class taught their North Carolina counterparts how to do the "shaka" and the "Hawaiian 12 Days of Christmas" and described what life is like living on the Island.

In return, the Academy third graders learned much about going to school and living in North Carolina.



MARTIN LUTHER KING DAY

January 16 (No School)

GRADES NINE AND TEN COLLEGE NIGHT

January 19

CATHOLIC SCHOOLS WEEK

January 30 to February 3 (No School on February 3)

LIFE MASS AND WALK

February 3 (Grades Seven to 12)

SCIENCE SYMPOSIUM FOR GIRLS

February 18 (Open to Grades Five to Eight)



Students crazed about creatures at State Expo

About 50 Academy students in grades one to three showcased their **FIRST LEGO League (FLL) Jr.** robotics skills at the **2016 LEGO Expo** at the Neal Blaisdell Exhibition Hall on December 3.

Beginning this past summer, the students on the nine Lancer teams met with their dedicated parent coaches on weekends to tackle this year's **FLL Jr. Challenge, "Creature Craze."** For the Challenge, the Academy participants focused on honeybees and their habitats – researching all-things-"bee," exploring their importance to the world and benefiting from informational sessions with bee specialists.

The students also learned about another animal that shares habitats with bees and built a LEGO model with at least one motor to showcase their learning, which included making gears, pulleys, moving parts and robotic sensors work.

The teams (*above and left*) also created a "Show Me" poster of the Creature Craze information gathered, which was displayed with their robot at the Expo.

Under the guidance of **Advisor Peter Park**, about 50 percent of the students in grades one to three participate in an extra-curricular robotics program at the school.

Park and his students are extremely grateful to all of the adult mentors who assisted with this year's FLL Jr. project.



Sophomore aspires to compute

Aiyana Arnobit (below with her mother **Sandra Arnobit**, a Junior Kindergarten teacher at the Academy) was selected as a 2017 **National Honorable Mention** recipient of the **National Center for Women Information Technology Award for Aspirations in Computing (AIC)**.

This award honors high school young women who are active and interested in computing and technology.

AIC recipients are chosen for their interest and achievements in computing, leadership ability, academic performance and plans for post-secondary education.

Arnobit is an active member of the Academy's **VEX** and **FIRST Robotics** programs, and her **CyberPatriot** team earned a first place **Platinum Tier**-ranking in the December Qualification Round (see page one).



Intermediate cagers finish on strong note

The **Lancer Intermediate basketball team** finished their season on a strong note in the **Inter-scholastic League**



of Honolulu (ILH) Division II Championship Tournament from December 13 to 16.

The young cagers won their first game versus Hanalani School and upset the top-seeded Eagles of Hawai'i Baptist Academy, 43-40, before falling to a strong University Lab School team in the Tournament title game – eliminating them from playing-off for the **ILH DII Intermediate Title**.

Under the guidance of **Head Coach Rick Shibata** and **Assistant Brian Yamamoto**, the Intermediate team included seventh graders **Jadyn Agua, Isabella Savea** and **Sydney Shiroma** and eighth graders **Isabel Allen, Kiana Alo, Sugar Chung, Carolei Edra, Peti-i-te-Rangi Fox-Reo, Mallory Maddox, Mia Ming, Emma Premeaux** and **Naiya Raphael**.

TEACHING teachers

Academy educators (right) **Carrie Knebel, Rosalynn Cambé, Veronica Preslin** and **Erin Flynn** participated in the **Teacher Leader Institute**, presented by the



Principals' Training Center (PTC) on December 2 and 3.

The two-day Institute aimed to help teachers better understand the complexity and importance of their roles and provide them with essential tools for effective leadership.