



January 2017 | Vol. XXVIII, No. 22

FIRST Robotics picks up steam

Excitement filled McKinley High School Auditorium on January 7 as members of the **Lancer Robotics team** eagerly joined thousands of other high school students and mentors across the world for the unveiling of this year's **For Inspiration and Recognition of Science and Technology (FIRST) Robotics Competition (FRC) Challenge**.

The McKinley event kicked-off the six-week period during which the aspiring engineers and programmers will build a robot of up to 120 pounds to tackle the "**Steamworks**" Challenge, based on the era when technology relied on steam power.

The Lancer Robotics team conducted a "brainstorming" session and must now decide how best to tackle this year's challenge of preparing their robot and "airship" for the ultimate long-distance race using "fuel," gears and rotors.

Under the direction of **Peter Park** and a crew of adult community mentors, the Academy students and their robot will compete in a number of district qualifying competitions, including the Hawai'i Regional in April, with the goal of reaching the FIRST Championships later this year.



From the Head of School

SUCCESS OFTEN DETERMINED BY GRIT

The second semester is under way, and our teachers are again focusing our students on what it takes to achieve success. The buzz word is "grit," and recently, the word has developed a populariza-



tion all of its own. Many educators are adamant that grit is the number one predictor of success. It can be grinding away at homework for hours or athletes practicing in the most arduous way possible.

To me, grit is passion and perseverance – the willingness to stick it out day-by-day, often engaging in challenges and not giving up.

When our students fail or arrive at a wrong conclusion, we must encourage them to view it as an opportunity for genuine, authentic learning and growth. It may mean showing courage, resolve and a strong sense of character.

While we all want our daughters to possess raw talent, and outstanding test scores, these are not always what determine success.

As parents and teachers, it is important that we remember that feedback should be about the process, not the product. It is about the amount of hard work, deep thinking and effort put into the process. And, we must encourage our daughters to stick it out and engage in the struggle.

During this new semester, let's emphasize that a key to success is effort and grit. Although it is sometimes difficult, let's try to get better at building grit in our students and daughters. It will serve them well in the long run!

Betty White

OPEN HOUSE
FEBRUARY 12, 2017
2:30 P.M.

The key to **SUCCESS** is having a **GOOD PLAN**

LEARN MORE ABOUT OUR PLAN FOR OUR STUDENTS' SUCCESS

New Year's filled with 'ohana

On January 8, ten Academy **Japanese Language** students volunteered at the 2017 **New Year's 'Ohana Festival**, organized by the **Japanese Cultural Center of Hawai'i (JCCH)** and held in Mo'ili'ili.

At this community event, filled with Japanese and multicultural customs and activities, the students assisted Festival-goers with directions and answered questions about various facets of the event as well as queries about Japanese culture.

While working at the Festival, the students experienced some authentic, Japanese New Year's traditions first-hand, including mochi-pounding.



Academy bids aloha to veteran Lower School teacher

In December, the Academy bid “aloha” to fifth grade math, science and Theology teacher **Sheila Banigan**, who retired at the close of the Fall Semester.

Banigan, a veteran educator with 23 years at the Academy, retired a semester early due to unforeseen family circumstances.

Her teaching colleagues and current students expressed their bittersweet “farewells” during a special gathering on December 16 to honor Banigan’s illustrious teaching career.

Angela Sanborn stepped in to fill Banigan’s teaching position (*see below*).



Duo joins teaching ranks in January

When the Spring Semester commenced on January 4, the Academy welcomed two new faculty members to its ranks – one in the Lower School and one in the High School.

► **BERNADETTE Rosano**

High School math teacher **Melinda Rocha** relocated to Connecticut in December with her husband, an active-duty military member. And, in January, **Bernadette Rosano** took over Rocha’s Pre-Algebra and Algebra I classes.

Rosano moved to Hawai’i from Alaska, where she gained teaching experience at several schools, including, most recently, as a math and science teacher at Kodiak High School.

She also conducted Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) outreach for two years in the local school district for the Juneau Economic Development Council.

Rosano holds a Bachelor’s Degree in Electrical Engineering from the University of Arizona and spent five years doing systems engineering integration work with Raytheon Missile Systems before earning a Master’s Degree in Teaching from the University of Alaska-Southeast.



► **ANGELA Sanborn**

Taking over as the fifth grade science, math and religion teacher, **Angela Sanborn** brings 13 years of experience as a biologist with Monsanto Life Sciences Company in Saint Louis, Missouri.

Sanborn, whose husband is from Hawai’i, relocated to Islands, and her daughter is a Senior Kindergarten student at the Academy.

Her teaching resume includes work at Immaculate Conception Dardenne School in Missouri and at Saint Louis School in Kaimuki.

She majored in Biology and holds an undergraduate degree from Truman State University and a Master’s Degree from Washington University in Missouri.



2017 TO 2018 DATES TO NOTE

JUNE	5 > First Day of Summer School
4 > 4th of July* 7 > Last Day of Summer School	JULY
AUGUST	7 > First Day of School 17 > Mass of Holy Spirit* 18 > Admission Day*
4 > Labor Day (No School)	SEPTEMBER
OCTOBER	6 > First Quarter Ends 9-13 > Fall Break*
10 > Veterans' Day* 23-24 > Thanksgiving Holiday*	NOVEMBER
DECEMBER	20 > First Semester Ends 21-31 > Christmas Break*
1-5 > Christmas Break* 8 > First Day of Second Semester 15 > Martin Luther King Day* 29-31 > Catholic Schools Week	JANUARY
FEBRUARY	2 > Annual Conference of Catholic Educators* 19 > Presidents' Day*
9 > Third Quarter Ends 12-16 > Spring Break* 26 > Kuhio Day* 30 > Good Friday*	MARCH
APRIL	2 > Easter Monday*
23 > Second Semester Ends/ Last Day of School 26 > Commencement Exercises	MAY

* - NO SCHOOL

Get stoked with
STEM!

SCIENCE symposium

02.18.2017
7:45 TO 11:20 A.M.

> Fun, hands-on STEM activities **FOR GIRLS IN GRADES FIVE TO EIGHT**

> Parent sessions with a panel of STEM experts and Dr. Holly Olson of the John A. Burns School of Medicine



REGISTER NOW:

www.sacredhearts.org/sciencesymposium2017