

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 173

BY SENATOR GATTI

A RESOLUTION

To commend the Kingston Elementary School in Benton, Louisiana, engineering team for obtaining the highest instant challenge score at the Destination Imagination Global competition.

WHEREAS, the Kingston Elementary team, led by sponsor, April Murphy, fifth grade teacher, and Paula Prichard, librarian aide, who served as team manager for the engineering team and students Turner Hubbard, Jack Ouellette, and Payton Prichard, fifth grade, Talmadge Wright, fourth grade, and Jersey Shadoin, third grade, received the highest instant challenge score in the 2017 competition; and

WHEREAS, the instant challenge is one component of the Destination Imagination team challenge and its content is top secret until each team is called upon to compete and solve the challenge using the many skills that they have learned working on challenges throughout the school year; and

WHEREAS, the overall winner of the competition is the team with the highest total score in the entire event of which the instant challenge is a portion; and

WHEREAS, Destination Imagination, founded in 1999, is a volunteer-led, educational, nonprofit organization that teaches twenty-first century skills and science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM) principles to kindergarten through university level students; and

WHEREAS, in the Destination Imagination construct, teams of students develop solutions to open-ended challenges presented to them using creative and collaborative problem solving; and

WHEREAS, through the challenge program students learn and experience the creative process from imagination to innovation and they learn skills needed to succeed in school, career, and life, in general, including teamwork, communication, project management, perseverance, creative and critical thinking, and self-confidence; and

WHEREAS, each year Destination Imagination releases seven challenges geared to specific learning objectives in the areas of technology, science, fine arts, improvisation, engineering, service learning, and early learning challenges for ages four to seven; and

WHEREAS, challenges solved by the teams have both long and short-term components and the students operating as a team and aside from working to devise a solution, learn to value each person's abilities and particular strengths; and

WHEREAS, all challenges include a presentation portion, whether rehearsed or on the spot and the participating teams, once the challenges are announced, have until the date of their first tournament to work on their long-term component of the challenge; and

WHEREAS, the students at Kingston Elementary School excelled in the instant or short-term component where the teams do not know the task until the time arrives to compete, but the team brings the skills learned in the long-term component to approach and solve the instant challenge; and

WHEREAS, the outstanding students who comprise the Destination Imagination team of Kingston Elementary School and their adult sponsor and team manager have excelled in their instant challenge and, in doing so, have brought honor and acclaim to themselves, Kingston Elementary School, Bossier Parish schools, and the entire state of Louisiana.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Senate of the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby commend the Kingston Elementary School in Benton, Louisiana, engineering team for obtaining the highest instant challenge score at the Destination Imagination Global competition.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to Debbie Gegg, principal of Kingston Elementary School, on behalf of the Destination Imagination engineering team students and supervising adults.

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PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE