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Holland Middle School Robotics Team Advances to VEX World Championship

BALDWIN PARK – Holland Middle School’s underdog robotics team pulled a surprise win at the VEX VRC Middle School State Championship, qualifying for the VEX World Championship, to be held Wednesday, April 24 through Saturday, April 27 in Kentucky.

Holland eighth-grader Lorenzo Gomez had a flash of panic at the VEX State Championship when he realized that his USB drive with the programming for the team’s robot was left in the classroom.

Gomez, lead programmer for the Bulldog’s robotics team 68689B, pored over his laptop to identify and input the correct coding instructions prior to the day’s tournaments on March 9.

After a series of all-day competitions, team 68689B outmaneuvered its opponents and excelled in the autonomous period, earning top points in the qualifying portion and ending the tournament with a spotless 7-0 record.

“A major reason why we won was because of the autonomous programming and our points for the driver control component,” Gomez said. “As the team’s programmer, it will be a great experience to go to the World Championship and see how other teams program and deal with solutions.”

This is the second year in a row that a robotics team from Holland Middle will represent Baldwin Park Unified and California at the VEX World Championships.

“When we found out that we won, it was exciting and felt like a dream,” Holland Middle School eighth-grader Danny Li said.

Li serves as the driver coach, and was on the Holland team that made it to the World Championship in 2018.

“What I learned from last year, I can share with my team mates and help them with what they need,” Li said.

In preparation for the World Championship, Holland’s team upgraded its programming to a next generation hardware and software that allows for easier bot coding and control.

MORE

In a culture of high expectations and academic rigor and an environment of support, understanding, and emotional safety, all Baldwin Park Unified School District students will graduate with a valued and highly respected diploma, prepared with the relevant skills, knowledge, and personal attributes necessary for success in a university or other institution of higher education and/or any post-secondary options of their choice.



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Read more about Holland's journey to last year's World Championships [here](#), and find out about the Baldwin Park Unified School District's robotics expansion [here](#).

PHOTO

HOLLAND_ROBOTICS: Holland Middle School's robotics team 68689B won the State VEX Championships on March 9, qualifying the team for the VEX World Championship in Kentucky from Wednesday, April 24 through Saturday, April 27.

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