

Largo school tops in regional competition

LARGO — Pinellas Academy of Math and Science in Largo won first place in the Tampa Bay Future City Regional Competition on Jan. 19, earning students, their teacher sponsor and professional engineer sponsor an expense-paid trip to Washington, D.C., to the national competition.

Team members include Anderson Kimbrell, Ava Chown, Timothy Murphy, Hayden Lauer, Patricia Crews, and Tyler Nations. Students were supported by Principal Linda Schwerer, Future Cities Sponsor and PAMS faculty member Roni Milligan and volunteer engineer from CDM Smith Engineering Gina Cashon-Frontiero.

Future City is a project-based learning program where students in sixth, seventh and eighth grades imagine, research, design and build cities of the future.

The Future City Competition consists of five deliverables: a virtual city design, a 1,500-word city essay, a scale city model built from recyclable materials, a city presentation to local engineers and a project plan.

The Future City theme this year was Powering our Future. Teams were challenged to design a resilient power grid for their future city that can withstand and quickly recover from the impacts of a natural disaster.

Pinellas Academy of Math and Science took a young but powerful team of sixth grade students to present their city, Valhalla LORE (Land of Resilient Energy). This team received the highest combined score in the Tampa Bay Region and look forward to competing with national and international schools, including regions from China and Canada.

Pinellas Academy of Math and Science is a STEAM school that prepares students to be citizens of today's complex and technical world and provides opportunities to discover engineering careers. The focus to develop writing, public speaking and problem solving skills allows students to apply math and science concepts in real-world issues.

PAMS is a charter-public school managed and operated under the Charter School Associates Inc.



Photo courtesy of PAM

From left are Roni Milligan, Anderson Kimbrell, Ava Chown, Gina Cashon-Frontiero, Timothy Murphy, Hayden Lauer, Patricia Crews, and Tyler Nations, students at Pinellas Academy of Math and Science. They recently earned first place at the Tampa Bay Future City Regional Competition.