



Wednesday, September 14, 2016

The KISS Institute For Practical Robotics Joins the White House Summit on Computer Science for All

WASHINGTON, DC - As part of Back to School Week, the White House will host a summit on Computer Science for All. The event will mark progress on expanding computer science (CS) education since the President's call to action in his State of the Union eight months ago, and celebrate new commitments in support of the effort.

The case for giving all students access to CS is straightforward. Nine in ten parents want CS taught at their child's school and yet, by some estimates, only a quarter of K-12 schools offer a CS course with programming included. However, the need for such skills across industries continues to rapidly grow, with 51 percent of all science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM) jobs projected to be in CS-related field by 2018.

Steve Goodgame executive director of the KISS Institute along with Carol Goodgame, STEM Implementation Specialist for the KISS Institute will be representing the organization at the event. The KISS Institute is partnering with the Idaho STEM Action Center to pilot the Junior Botball Challenge program in 11 Idaho elementary schools impacting an estimated 300 students.

The Junior Botball Challenge program provides equipment, software, curriculum and professional development to elementary and middle school educators (K-8) to enable them to teach their students to write computer code (C, Java, Python) coupled with real-life applications of the engineering design process. The curriculum is aligned to Common Core Math, Next Generation Science and ISTE Technology standards and vertically aligned to concepts and skills in middle and high school. The inquiry-based program focuses on discrete programming skills and engineering design concepts designed to improve computational thinking skills and promote mastery. The program is currently being implemented in over 350 elementary schools impacting an estimated 4,000 students.

The KISS Institute for Practical Robotics (KIPR) is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit STEM education organization, incorporated in 1994 and headquartered in Norman, Oklahoma. It was founded with the vision to create a center for using autonomous robotics-based technology to provide STEM education programs that include providing professional development for teachers and mentors while engaging students in collaborative, rigorous, goal-directed STEM activities that highlight academic and career pathways within STEM disciplines. Main programs include Botball (middle and high school aged students), the Junior Botball Challenge program (elementary aged) and the Global Conference on Educational Robotics.

OTHER PARTNER INFORMATION HERE

This event will be webcast at <http://www.whitehouse.gov/live>

Wednesday, September 14
Central Standard Time - Noon to 2:00 pm

EST - 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.
Eisenhower Executive Office Building, Washington, D.C.

www.juniorbotballchallenge.org www.kipr.org www.botball.org

For more information about this event, contact Steve Goodgame, KISS Institute Executive Director, at (405) 579-4609 or at sgoodgame@kipr.org.