



Pendergast Environmental Engineering Students Headed to National Competition

Copper King STEAM students excelled in the 2019 Youth Climate Summit



April 30, 2019 – Phoenix, Arizona – Students and teachers from the Pendergast District Environmental Engineering Academy at Copper King School in Phoenix attended and competed at the recent KidWind Regional Competition in Flagstaff, AZ during the 2019 Youth Climate Summit. The 2nd Annual Flagstaff Youth Climate Summit celebrated youth action and ingenuity for sustainability. Fifty-four students from 10 schools and organizations throughout Arizona presented their projects on climate change and renewable energy, participated in an activity-packed sustainability expo, learned about climate research locally and in

Alaska, and competed for prizes. The Copper King Team Windova was the 4th-8th grade Challenge winner and they have been invited to the national competition in Houston, Texas in late May.

Copper King student Samantha Nanez shares, “Going to Flagstaff meant a lot to me. It gave me a new experience and makes me want to try more things. I had a great time during the competition and hope to have more experiences like it. I think it is important to have this type of exposure so that people can try new things and have great time.”

STEAM Academy teacher Allan DeOrnellas says, “Having the chance to take my students to the KidWind Regional Competition in Flagstaff was a great opportunity. I’m grateful to my principal, Janine Ambrose, for her support. It allowed the students to show their abilities and knowledge to other students and adults. All of the teachers, judges, and other competition personnel were impressed by our students’ creativity and knowledge of their projects. It’s important to continue to allow our students access to these types of opportunities to reinforce their abilities, confidence, and efforts in school.”

According to Cindy S. Wiste, Assistant Director of Math and STEAM in Pendergast District, “Our K-8 grade Academies range from Dual Language, Architecture, Construction and Building, Environmental Engineering, Agriculture, to Computer Science and more. We are so proud to be able to offer these signature programs where our students have a rigorous curriculum and project-based educational opportunities where they are engaged at the highest levels of learning. We are so proud of these amazing scholars and wish them the best of luck at the national level of competition.”

For information about STEAM programs in PESD contact Cindy S. Wiste at cwiste@pesd92.org or 623-772-2296.