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National Science Foundation Center for Manufacturing hosts Robotics Camp & STEM Workshop for Teachers at HCC

Florida Advanced Technological Education Center (FLATE)—the National Science Foundation Center for Excellence in Manufacturing is hosting two STEM (science, technology, engineering and mathematics) related camps at Hillsborough Community College in Brandon. Rachel Burgin, Representative for District 56 will be attending both camps, and will be talking to students, parents, and teachers about the importance of STEM education in Florida.

The robotics camp will introduce middle school students to the world of robotics and automation, sharpen skills in science, technology, engineering and mathematics, and teach students their application in modern manufacturing operations. During the camp, students will learn how to re-configure Lego® Mindstorms® robots, program them to follow specific commands, and be part of several robotic team challenges. Participants will also be engaged in hands-on SolidWorks design and 3D printing projects, and will tour a modern manufacturing facility, or a scientific laboratory to witness robotic applications at work.

The “summer camp style” professional development workshop focuses on STEM curriculum and resources for teachers. During the workshop participants will have an opportunity to explore and observe various facets of robotics technology and gain insight on how it can be used within a classroom setting. They will also explore a variety of technology applications and enjoy hands-on soft skills activities.

- WHO:** **Robotics Camp:** 25 middle school students (from the greater Tampa Bay area.)
Teachers Workshop: 20 teachers from middle school/K-8, high school and adult education.
- WHAT:** Lego® Mindstorms® Summer Robotics Camps. (and)
Summer Camp Style STEM Workshop for Teachers
- WHERE:** Hillsborough Community College-Brandon.
Student Services building. Second Floor—Room: 213.
- WHEN:** Friday, July 2 at 12:30 p.m.

EDITOR’S NOTE: Dr. Marilyn Barger, executive director of FLATE, David Gula, outreach manager, and Dr. Marie Boyette, teacher’s camp director will be available for interviews. Opportunity for photo and video coverage will also be available.