



Academic Magnet High
School

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Media Release

Academic Magnet Robotics Team Advances to National Competition

North Charleston, SC – The Academic Magnet High School (AMHS) Robotics Team is preparing for a major event this weekend; the National Nanoline Contest in Harrisburg, PA. AMHS seniors Gage Gailbreath, Stephen Hilton, Daniel Killough, John Paradise, and Bohan Wang qualified for the national competition with impressive performances in the regional competition February 2, 2019.

Sponsored by Phoenix Contact (a leading developer of industrial electrical and electronic technology), the National Nanoline Competition presents an opportunity for high school students to learn about STEM-related fields using the company's Nanoline controllers. The competition challenges students to build a robot for the societal purpose of their choosing; this encourages scholars to use their creativity and test their knowledge of robotics while solving a real-world issue.

The AMHS Robotics Team created and presented an underwater rover after seeing firsthand the devastation caused by Hurricane Florence in 2018. Witnessing parts of the Carolinas flooded led the team to invent a machine that makes the process of finding people more efficient, safe, and less costly for search and rescue teams. The team created a rover to search within large bodies of water, allowing human resources to be concentrated in specific locations.

"Being a part of a coastal community, we understand the tragedies that natural disasters cause," said team member John Paradise.

The team's rover includes infrared sensors and GPS technology, allowing it to detect and avoid debris while simultaneously locating people in need of rescue.

"I am continually amazed at how my students can start with pieces of plastic and bits of wire and ultimately create something beneficial to society while learning engineering skills along the way," said Maria Desbrow, sponsor for the AMHS Robotics Team and AP Physics teacher. "I look forward to witnessing our team compete in Harrisburg this weekend."

To learn more about the AMHS Robotics Team, contact Principal Catherine Spencer at (843) 746-1300. For more information about the National Nanoline Contest,

which is scheduled for Saturday, February 16, 2019, visit Phoenix Contact's [website](#).

Photo Caption

AMHS Robotics Team Members with their rover (left to right): John Paradise, Bohan Wang, Stephen Hilton, Daniel Killough, and Gage Gailbreath

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About the Charleston County School District

Charleston County School District (CCSD) is the second largest school system in South Carolina representing a unique blend of urban, suburban, and rural schools that span 1,000 square miles along the coast. CCSD serves more than 50,000 students in 86 schools and specialized programs. With approximately 6,100 employees district-wide, CCSD is the fourth largest employer in the region.

CCSD offers a diverse, expanding portfolio of options and specialized programs, delivered through neighborhood, charter, magnet, IB (international baccalaureate), and Montessori schools, and is divided into three Learning Communities. Options include specialized programs in science, engineering and mathematics; liberal arts; music and other creative and performing arts; career and technical preparation programs; and military and other public service enterprises.