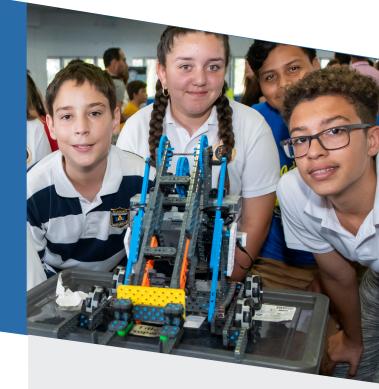




THE SITUATION

Prior to January 2016, Miami-Dade County Public Schools lacked any robotics programs and sought a way for their students to share in the hands-on excitement of STEM activities in the form of robotics competitions throughout the school district. They faced a few challenges. They lacked robotics equipment, curriculum, access to teacher training, and the funding that would open doors for students in the district.



THE REC FOUNDATION APPROACH

The REC Foundation strives to make its programs accessible, affordable, and sustainable. By working with school districts, military installations, and nontraditional schools, funding for VEX Competition programs can be provided to underrepresented populations such as minorities, women, low socioeconomic populations, urban, and rural communities.

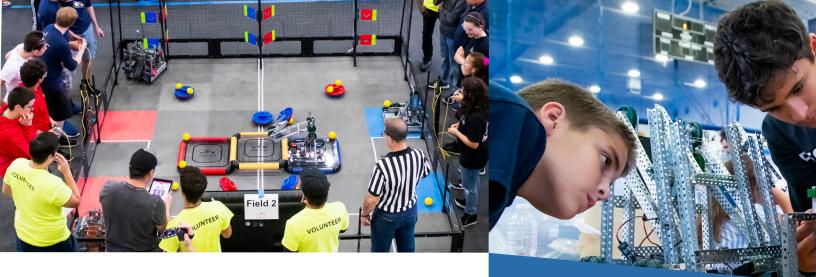
THE RESULTS

In 2016, Miami-Dade County Public Schools received a four- year grant for robotics programs from the Robotics Education & Competition Foundation.

Since January 2016, Miami-Dade County Public Schools have gone from having no robotics program in any of their schools to having robotics programs in 318 of their schools. Those 318 schools have created 273 VEX IQ Challenge teams and 45 VEX Robotics Competition teams.

MIAMI-DADE GRANT INCLUDED

- VEX IQ Challenge Grant Kits
- VEX Robotics Competition Grant Kits
- Registration Fees
- Sponsored Event Bundles for both programs
- Competition Fields and Materials for both programs
- Professional Development and Training
- In-person training and supervision during select events



GRANT RESULTS













Robotics Education & Competition Foundation Inspiring students, one robot at a time. (903) 401-8088 RoboticsEducation.org © Photos by Junior Orange Bowl / Mitchell Zachs "Robotics has motivated the students to be involved in STEAM-oriented activities; increased their math, technology, and engineering skills; and has brought teachers, students, and PTA members together as we design our robots and compete with other schools."

- Nataly Bohn Instructor at Dr. Gilbert L. Porter Elementary School

"Without a doubt, the partnership with the REC Foundation provided instructionally-enriched programming that supported 21st Century learning where students used teamwork to develop leadership and problemsolving skills in order to be prepared for a future in a global work environment through STEM lessons and project-based activities".

- Cristian Carranza, Administrative Director Division of Academics Office of Academics and Transformation Miami-Dade County Public Schools

"Through robotics and their STEM project, the students think of future ideas that can be used in the community. Most importantly, it gives them the freedom to grow and encourage their ideas with their engineering designs".

- Marilyn Dieppa STEM Academy Coach/Teacher Bob Graham Education Center