



INVESTING IN INNOVATION



PHYSICS OF FLIGHT GRANT TAKES OFF

June 24, 2013

Leonardo Da Vinci is credited with saying that, "Once you have tasted flight, you will forever walk the earth with your eyes turned skyward." This year, a CREF grant gave many Council Rock students a chance to "taste" flight and explore the world of aeronautics through CR South's UAV (Unmanned Aerial Vehicle) Club. Created by CR science teacher Joe Warwick in September 2012, the UAV club was created to offer students interested in the physics of flight and aerodynamics an opportunity to get hands-on experience with designing, building and flying remotely-operated aircraft

CREF's "Science in the Sky" grant has allowed the UAV program to take off in the 2012-13 school year. Mr. Warwick said that once funding was in place, the students researched technology offerings and selected a Dragonlabs aircraft as their project focus. The aircraft was constructed by CR students and customized to carry GPS, video recording and virtual reality transmitting devices. In effect, students can "see" from the aircraft's perspective while it is aloft, and watch the flight live on a remote screen. The craft's GPS has a homing feature that assures safe return of the aircraft should an errant wind gust send it off course.



Dan Eddowes, who actively participated in the design and engineering of the aircraft, takes particular pride in the skills the UAV club has developed. "You cannot just plug things together," Dan said. This fall, Dan will attend Cornell University (Ithaca) to study applied physics. .

This year, South graduate Logan Turco will study aerospace engineering at Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University. Logan understands that the opportunity to study flight dynamics in high school is valuable, and rare. "This project was special. I am already interested in flight, but participating in this project alone ignites the passion."

For more information on this program and other grant projects, contact the Council Rock Education Foundation at office@creducationfoundation.org.

WHAT IS THE

COUNCIL ROCK EDUCATION FOUNDATION?

The Council Rock Education Foundation is a non-profit organization dedicated to securing funds to provide innovative educational experiences that enrich the excellent quality of education and bring the community together in support of our school district.

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