19 October 2020

FCC NTX Update: Resources and getting started

All:

I know we are all trying to figure out what we’re doing this year – so, if you have any problems or questions, please let me know. We’re trying to be as flexible as possible, within the constraints of the program.

There are still a few weeks left to register for the Future City Competition – tell your colleagues and encourage them to join us in this adventure. We currently have more than 25 schools and organizations signed up which is enough to qualify the region to advance our winner to the National Finals in February. (See list of organizations at www.dfwfuturecity.org/team_sch.html). There won’t be a trip to Washington, DC in 2021, but there will be a Virtual Finals Competition and a chance to win the trip to Space Camp in the summer.

We are continuing the FUTURE CITY JUNIOR program for 4-5th grades. Please help us spread the word and encourage your feeder schools to sign up – and you can reap the benefits in the next few years. See www.dfwfuturecity.org/team_junior.html for details and to register.

WEBINARS AND VIDEOS:

- General informational videos on this year’s virtual program and deliverables: https://futurecity.org/about-the-competition/2020-2021-updates
- Recording of the Educators’ Discussion (Sept) - https://youtu.be/WgE13hAuj_c
- Living on the Moon – theme webinar. 20 October, 3-4pm. All team members welcome. Register: https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_TnAJ5EYfRfGzOB1aX3G8xA A recording of the webinar will be posted later in the resources section of the website: http://futurecity.org/resources.
- Recorded webinars on most of the deliverables on NTX resources pages: www.dfwfuturecity.org/team_rsrc.html. Managing projects, City planning, Model examples, and Presentation skills.
- Records of past webinars on the national website (http://futurecity.org/resources) including Educator Best Practices and Eye on Engineering.

ACTIVITIES AND BACKGROUND INFORMATION
Check out the resources section for extra activities and exercises to help with various aspects of the program. Right now, look for Team Building exercises and City Planning activities. http://futurecity.org/resources.

TEAM BUILDING AND MENTORS
As you enlist your volunteer engineer mentor help, please have them enroll in the online Team Center system. Go to www.dfwfuturecity.org/teamcenter.html and register. Mentors will then be able to upload files and manage teams. If you are having trouble finding mentors, we have some suggestions online – see the Team Center Resources page (www.dfwfuturecity.org/team_rsrc.html). You will also find tips and advice on how to be a mentor. And, finally, if you cannot find a mentor, please contact Tom Hunt
(tom8hunt@yahoo.com), our mentor coordinator. He will reach out to his network for volunteers.

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