September 9, 2020

To: Parents of Future City Competitors
Re: Future City® Competition 2020-21
North Texas Region

Your student has the opportunity to participate in the North Texas Regional Future City® Competition. Future City is a national program sponsored by the engineering community to promote technological literacy and engineering to middle school students. Our goal is to interest young people in the math, technology and scientific studies needed to develop the engineers of the future.

Because the project involves lots of volunteer-engineer mentors and lots of parent/community volunteers – in addition to lots of fun and hard work – it is important for both students and parents to understand the project requirements:

1. Students participate as a team consisting of three students, an educator, and a volunteer-engineer mentor representing their group/organization.
2. The goal is to design a livable city of the future by:
   a. Developing a concept for a livable city of the future
   b. Writing an essay on an engineering topic – this year: “Living on the Moon”
   c. Constructing a 3-D scale model of a section of their city
   d. And, finally, presenting their model and design to a panel of judges.

Teams receive awards for their work to include plaques, certificates, and gift cards. The winning team from the regional competition gets the opportunity to compete in the Future City Finals in April 2021. The first-place team from the National Competition wins a trip to the US Space Camp.

2020-21 Future City Program goes Virtual
Due to the ongoing uncertainty surrounding this school year, we have restructured the Future City program for this year to accommodate either in-person classes or distance learning conditions. All of the deliverables and the regional competition will be conducted on-line.

Timeline
The Future City program has several phases running from now until January. Participating teams may need to meet after school and on occasional weekends in order to meet the program deadlines.

- Oct-Nov  Work on the city plan, Research and write the essay
- Oct-Dec  Build the 3-D scale model using recycled materials
- Dec-Jan  Prepare and record the verbal presentation
- Late Jan- Feb  Online Q&A with judges
- Feb  NTX Regional Awards and announcement of winners

We hope that you will support the students and us as they explore the future and learn how engineers turn ideas into reality with the Future City program.

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www.dfwfuturecity.org