

EL DORADO UNION HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT  
**PRESS RELEASE**

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## ORHS Students One Lego Up Become Entrepreneurs

Oak Ridge High School, with support from Intel Corporation's Matching Funds Program, will be sending two outstanding Oak Ridge High School students to Tokyo, Japan, to showcase their talents in the First Lego League Asian Open Championship to be held at the Tokyo Netropolitan Gymnasium from April 24 through April 30.

First Lego League is a global robotics program that was created to ignite student enthusiasm for discovery, science, and technology. The program's goal is to challenge and inspire thinking, provide a creative, hands-on learning experience, encourage students to explore possibilities as well as teach them to overcome obstacles. Most of all, students learn how take an abstract concept and make it concrete. This program has reached more than 90,000 kids in 45 countries around the globe.

This past January, the Oak Ridge High School robotics team won several awards at the Northern California State Championship Tournament. **Brian Kim** and **Katie Tucker** not only received first place for best Robot Design, but also for best Robot Performance, setting a California record of 2 perfect scores out of 3 rounds. They were able to accomplish their 9-mission feat in 90 seconds, while most other teams took the full 150 seconds allocated for each round. By demonstrating the best in creativity and design, the team was invited to the Asian Open Championship as one of four representatives of the USA.

When Kim and Tucker arrive in Tokyo, they will be teamed up with two students from Rolling Hills Middle School. The team will present their project and answer questions in a three-round competition before a panel of judges who will assess each team's project on presentation of their research, teamwork, and robot design. As part of the team's research assignment, they were charged with the task to audit a building and provide suggestions for improving the energy efficiency of the building. The team came up with a very innovative way of improving energy efficiency which led them to apply for a U.S. patent and form a California-based company to market their solution. They eventually hope to have their ideas installed on about 20% of households in greater Sacramento, resulting in about a \$70 million savings per year. Their system costs slightly more than \$100 to install and is expected to save about \$700 per summer per household.

The team is coached by **Kee Sup Kim**, an employee of Intel, who has been a robotics coach for 7 years.