Educational Drones in the Classroom

Over the past several years, increasing opportunity in and improving Science, Technology, Engineering & Mathematics (STEM) education has been a pressing issue in our nation. The Bayonne school district understands this challenge and has taken steps to improve STEM activities in the classroom.

Students in Lincoln Community School, as well as the rest of the schools in this district, are participating in a comprehensive technology curriculum. This curriculum includes not only basic computer skills such as typing and creating documents, but has a heavy focus on many STEM activities.

To start our STEM curriculum we are using sites such as Code.org and Tynker.com to present computer coding lesson that prepare children for the electronics of the future. All Lincoln Community School students kicked off computer coding with “The Hour Of Code”, a world wide event to introduce people of all ages to computer science. Students learn problem-solving, strategies, and algorithms to engage a character on their screens. After the Hour of Code, students continue coding lessons throughout the year. Using what they’ve learned of coding, Grade 7 and 8 will be beginning to operate and fly drones by the time the spring comes.

Many people only think of technologies as things that are electronic or “hi-tech.” Technology is really anything designed by people to help solve a problem. Because of this Lincoln Community School students have been participating in various “unplugged” STEM activities throughout the year. Students are presented with real life problems and asked to use the engineering process to improve upon them. From towers, cars, planes, and baskets, our students will be asked to “engineer” it all.

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