

News Release

For Immediate Release – January 26, 2015

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Stanislaus County Teams Take First and Second in the Northern California Regional State Finals Future City Competition

Gratton Elementary School 7th Grade Team in Stanislaus County took first place in the Northern California Regional contest for the **Future City Competition** held on Saturday, January 24th in Turlock at CSU, Stanislaus, and **La Loma Junior High School** in Modesto placed second. 38 schools in Northern California participated in this year's state competition, including 8 from Stanislaus County. Gratton School will represent Northern California at the national competition. This is the fifth consecutive year that a team from Stanislaus County will represent Northern California at the national competition. The national competition is slated for February 14–18, 2015 in Washington, D.C.

Future City is judged on five components: *The Virtual City Design, Research Essay, City Narrative, Model and Team Presentation*. Scores from all five components are added together to determine the top team. All Stanislaus County teams competed in a Mock Future City Competition on Saturday, January 17th at Stanislaus County Office of Education to help prepare them for the state event. The local competition is sponsored by the Stanislaus County Office of Education (SCOE) and supported by the Education Foundation of Stanislaus County and Mercer Foods.

Gratton Elementary team is comprised of 7th grade students. This year's student presenters for the team, who showcased their future city, *Eureka Key*, included: Stephanie Temnyk, Kendall La Rosa and Matthew Reis. Additional students that assisted with their Future City project included Emma Pohl, Ben Stegmann, Caleb Everett-Reed, Colton Calbreath, Chelse Sifuentes, Giana Martella, Aiden Castro-Norman, Diego Camargo, Megan Maxwell, Danny Wood, Baylee Matthew and Andre Ford. Teacher Rexann Jensen served as the Gratton coach, and Troy Gravatt served as the Professional Mentor.

San Francisco was the name of the city created by 6th grade students from La Loma Junior High School. Student presenters for the team included: Carter Neumann, Lars Paulsen, Isaac Walters. Additional students that assisted included Jonathan Swanson, Hashem Taleb, Jonathan Gain, Keegan Farris, Nick Leon and Jonathan Hong. Teacher Lee Ollar served as the coach.

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