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NEWS RELEASE FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Supermileage Vehicle Team at Kimberly High School Brings Home Awards

Students Create Vehicle that gets 523 mpg

Kimberly, Wis. – June 20, 2017 – The Supermileage Vehicle (SMV) team at [Kimberly High School](http://www.kimberly.k12.wi.us) (KHS) had a successful season. The team, made up of 18 KHS students, took home three awards this year. At the May 5, 2017, competition at Fox Valley Technical College (FVTC), they earned first place in the Briggs and Stratton Stock Engine Class and Best in Show. The team next competed at Road America where they also earned first in their engine class. The vehicle they created had a run on the track that was able to get 523 miles per gallon (mpg).

“Our car that won this year had major modifications,” said Kevin Janota, technology education teacher and the team’s advisor. The team spent three months modifying and refining their winning vehicle. “The updates allowed it to spend a lot of time on the track and perform very well among the competition.”



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The team members were: Nicholas Beck, Solomon Best, Cole Botzet, Lukas DeGoey, Owen Edwards, Nathan Fleming, Brandon Fochs, Trevor Gardner, Ely Herbst, Sydney Lamers, Dain McBair, Logan Paalman, Ryan Schumerth, Elaina Sirois, Josh Vander Heiden, Zackery West, Gabby Weyer and Connor Zirpel.

Students learn about the components of building a vehicle from start to finish. Some of the Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM) skills they learn through SMV are:

- Computer-aided design (CAD)
- Fabrication and composite work
- Welding
- CNC machining
- Computer programming
- Laser etching
- Graphic design

The team also seeks sponsorships and assistance from local organizations. “A project like this would not be possible without our sponsors,” said Janota. “It takes a fair amount of funding to operate a class like this as well as some of the skills and services sponsors share to help our team.”



For one student, the connection to the SMV team extends beyond the classroom. Josh Vander Heiden was also a youth apprenticeship with AZCO INC. He received hands-on experience with the Supermileage Vehicle and on-the-job experience in

a career he is interested in with a company that is also one of the team’s sponsors – it’s a win-win-win scenario.

Supermileage Vehicle is an activity for students that provides opportunities to develop their engineering and manufacturing skills. Students discover transportation possibilities that focus on energy conservation.

These local competitions were organized by Wisconsin Energy Efficient Vehicle Association (WEEVA), which was established to continue a high level of rigorous challenges as well as continuity between the events in Wisconsin. WEEVA strives to engage schools, business, industry and leaders in Wisconsin to take part in these events as well as possible sponsorships.

According to Janota, who is also an associate director for WEEVA, that organization will be holding a week-long Summer Build-a-Thon to encourage more educators to develop Supermileage and Electrathon Vehicle programs at their schools.

About the Kimberly Area School District

The Kimberly Area School District is a progressive public school district committed to providing the best possible education available to students. Its responsibility is to help lead the way in developing well-rounded students and future citizens. The District wants every student to be given the opportunity to reach their potential through academics, the arts and co-curricular activities. It encompasses approximately 17 square miles and serves over 5,000 students in one 4K center, four elementary schools (5K-4), two intermediate schools (5-6), one middle school (7-8) and one high school (9-12). To learn more about the Kimberly Area School District, call (920)788-7900 or visit www.kimberly.k12.wi.us.

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