



High School Team:

Nathan Creamer, Cody Self, Doug Bowden, Tawni Nichols, James Sullivan



Junior High Team:

DJ Horito, Riley Lawrence, Preston Posuk, Justin Willis, Josh Branch

Mrs. O'Briant and Mrs. Webb attended a workshop at TSTC Sweetwater October 8 where they received the rules and a NXT robot. The meeting was attended by 17 other schools that would be competing in an NXT robotics

contest November 18<sup>th</sup>. The students had just over 5 weeks to prepare for the competition which involved designing their robot and programming it. They competed against a total of 18 teams which included teams from Copper High School, Graham, and Sweetwater.

Cross Plains High School took home 3rd place in Speed Racing at their first robotics Competition, November 18. The contest titled "2008 Techstorm - Lego NXT Robot Competition" was at TSTC Sweetwater!! Cross Plains sent a Junior High and High School Team, sponsors were Kim O'Briant, Junior High Math teacher, and Dianna Webb, High School Technology teacher.

The program is designed to inspire students to pursue careers in engineering, science, technology, and math through participation in a sports-like science- and engineering-based **robotics** competition. The Texas Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math Initiative will build on state and local efforts to improve math and science achievement among Texas students. The Texas Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math Initiative will pilot innovative ways of delivering science, engineering, and math education and will focus on increasing the number of students who study and enter science, technology, engineering, and math careers.

Governor Rick Perry has made economic development, especially growth in high-tech fields and the innovation economy, one of the key focuses of his administration. While economic development efforts have become more dependent on workers with greater scientific and technological expertise, a number of reports have revealed that our education system is not producing enough graduates with strong backgrounds in math, science, technology, and engineering to sustain job growth in these key businesses of the future. To ensure that Texas will continue to grow its economy, land more job expansions than any other state, and remain at the forefront in the battle for 21st century jobs, Texas is launching a bold and forward-thinking education program—the Texas Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math Initiative. Cross Plains is staying on the cutting edge encouraging our students to participate in this initiative.

For more information please visit the following site:

**[http://www.tea.state.tx.us/ed\\_init/thsp/tstem/index.html](http://www.tea.state.tx.us/ed_init/thsp/tstem/index.html)**