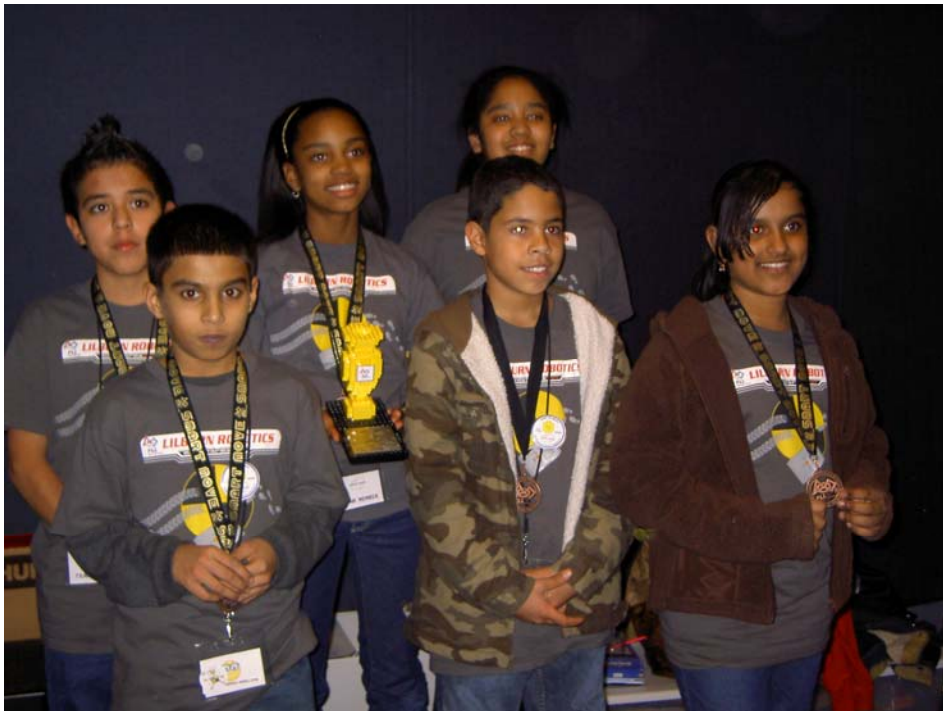


On Saturday, January 23rd, 48 out of the original 259 FIRST Lego League (FLL) qualifying teams from across the state of Georgia met at Georgia Tech for the FLL State Championship. One of two elementary teams and five middle school teams from Gwinnett County was Lilburn Elementary's team the "Legomatics". To get to the competition the team had placed in the top sixteen in their region and took home a second place trophy for research. The Legomatics were fourth in Robot Performance at the Super Regionals where they won a first place trophy in research. Advancing to the State Championship representing Gwinnett County Schools, they took a second place trophy for teamwork.

The First Lego League is an international robotics program that incorporates a number of core values as children ages 9-14 compete in a solving a real world scientific problem and robot challenge designed to promote enthusiasm for science and technology. Teams have eight weeks to build an autonomous robot using technology and engineering designed to carry out a given number of missions in two and a half minutes. They were to analyze research and come up with a solution to a real world problem. This year's challenge was *Smart Moves* asking students to consider different ways of accessing people, goods, places and services in the safest and most efficient way possible. Lilburn researched piezoelectric technology and designed the energy efficient "Glideator" powered by students own footsteps to move disabled students alongside stairwells.

The Teamwork Award is the key to any team's success. *"This award is presented to the team whose members best demonstrate extraordinary enthusiasm and spirit, exceptional partnership, the utmost respect for their own teammates, and support and encouragement of fellow teams. They demonstrate confidence, strong problem solving skills, and great group dynamics."* (US FIRST.org)

Lilburn Elementary Legomatics are showing some "Smart Moves."



Left to Right –Gabriel Jasso, Hashim Amin, Victoria Watson, Jordan Boucher, Katelynn Cheeseborough, and Shormi Kar