



## PRESS RELEASE – ORANGE UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

For immediate release

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### ***Orange Unified's Crescent Elementary Robotics Team Advances to State Competition***

Orange, CA – January 08, 2017 - Orange Unified is proud to announce that Crescent Elementary Robotics Team 15B, *Crescent Cougar Bots*, has advanced to the **State** level VEX IQ competition this spring. The Cougar Bots competed in Tarzana in December, winning the Design Award and the Excellence Award for the elementary school division.

Coached by Crescent teacher Jennie Bond, *Team 15B Crescent Cougar Bots* includes students: Anish Kalluri, Ellie Nguyen, Kayal Shorey, Niyati Godha, Riley Markley, Rohaan Trivedi, Sophia Gerges, and Tanish Basu.

"We appreciate the hard work and dedication of our Teacher Advisor Mrs. Bond as well as the time contributed by our parent volunteers to support our students so they can do their best," stated Principal Shelé Tamaki. "Our strong Robotics program demonstrates 21<sup>st</sup> Century learning to increase and strengthen student interest in Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM) education while preparing our students to be college and career ready."

The school's Robotics program is open to all students in grades three through six and eligibility to compete is based on an application process and a commitment to work and practice with the teams after school and on weekends. The student teams work collaboratively in problem solving, critical thinking, designing the STEM project and the building of robots in order to compete. Sponsored by the *Robotics Education and Competition Foundation*, these VEX IQ competitions utilize Science, Technology, Engineering and Math education as well as social skills to increase and enrich learning.

*The Orange Unified School District educates approximately 30,000 students in the Cities of Orange, Villa Park, Anaheim, Garden Grove, Santa Ana and county areas. The school district, founded in 1953, encompasses 108 square miles. The District office is located at 1401 N. Handy Street, Orange, California.*