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New Richmond non-profit aims to keep youth on TRAK'D

CHESTER, Va. (March 1, 2014)—TRAK'D, a non-profit organization providing hands-on activities in science, technology, engineering, mathematics, and arts (STEAM) for pre-k through fifth grade children in Southern Chesterfield, invites you to its summer camp community day Thursday, July 30, 12 noon – 2pm at Ecoff Elementary School, Chester VA.

TRAK'D launch in April 2014, provided its first STEAM camp this month to over 20 elementary kids from Southern Chesterfield. The camp used art and focused on one STEM area each day teaching kids through LEGO robotics and DNA extraction science experiments among other activities.

Thursday's community day will allow the kids to present what they have learned during the week. Community members can also meet the teachers and mentors that have been working with the kids during the week.

The camp was held at Ecoff Elementary. Virginia State University's physical education department provided afternoon activities.

"It was a high energy environment where science was fun and helped children grow confidence in STEM fields of study," said Dr. LaChelle Waller, TRAK'D founder and executive director.

About TRAK'D

TRAK'D is a nonprofit corporation founded by Dr. LaChelle Waller who found during her doctoral program that minorities were not adequately prepared for STEM fields of study. With her background in education and outreach, TRAK'D was formed to get students on the right track. To increase learning at home and family awareness of STEAM—science, technology, engineering, mathematics, and arts education TRAK'D encourages parents to attend workshops with their children.

TRAK'D is focused on helping children in pre-K to fifth grade in underrepresented groups and underserved schools in eight Virginia communities: Richmond, South Chesterfield, Dinwiddie, Petersburg, Hopewell, Prince George, Colonial Heights, and Sussex. For more information visit www.TRAKD.org.

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