

STEM Press Release

**Demarest Middle School
568 Piermont Road
Demarest, NJ 07627
201-768-6061
Contact Person... Jonathon Regan
Regan@nvnet.org**

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Demarest Middle School STEM Team comes in 1st Place Overall in Waldwick Middle School STEAM contest.

Demarest, NJ June 6, 2017 - Demarest Middle School is proud to announce that their STEM League Team won the Middle School STEAM (science, technology, engineering, art and mathematics) competition held at Waldwick Middle School on June 1st. The team, headed by Demarest STEM teachers Bridget DiMartini and Therese Fortunato, consisted of Erica Choe, Gavin Wong, Daniel Kim, Sachin Kirtane, Elman Yip, and Andrew Tandler. The contest was open to middle school students in grades 6-8.

The themed challenge, "Gone With the Wind", had teams create a high-rise building that could withstand the kind of strong winds felt during Superstorm Sandy. The diverse groups of talented students researched prior to the event and, once there, they completed a hands on science lab, wrote an engineering design document, drew and constructed a structural prototype, designed a facade, and tested the stability of their structures. They presented their work and were judged by real life engineers, including guest speaker Daniel Cook, a structural engineer with Simpson Gumpertz & Heger Inc. and Christopher Perez, an engineer from the Upper Saddle River-based firm, Triangle. This is the second year Jim Dreschel of Waldwick schools has organized the middle school event.



The Winning 2017 Demarest Middle School STEM Team: Gavin Wong, Sachin Kirtane, Erica Choe, Elman Yip, Andrew Tandler, Daniel Kim.