RACE DAY 2010 IS MAY 15TH

9:00 to 1:00 at Becker High School Field House

12000 Hancock St., Becker, MN (40 miles NW of Twin Cities)

JOIN US for a morning of FUN!

B*E*S*T

Bridging Engineers, Science, and Teaching

www.BestOutreach.org

We are a group of volunteer engineers and teachers who are promoting science, math, and life skills for 4th, 5th, and 6th grade students (who think they're just having fun building things!). Our primary activity is supporting groups of students who are building their own electric car. Small groups in each class start out by building table-top sized electric cars, then the whole class works as a team to build an electric car big enough to ride.

The design and construction of the car is entirely up to the students. The teachers and engineers facilitate, teach related subjects, and ensure the safe construction of the vehicles. Students are given a limited amount of materials (a 12V battery, motor, and circuit breaker) and a small budget that they can spend, but they are encouraged scrounge and to be creative in using found parts and materials to build the car.

Students and mentors will provide a demonstration as part of the ITCEP Mathematics Fun. The Fun Fair is a day of exhibits and activities attended by hundreds of students and their parents. Our last activity of the year is Race Day, in mid-May when all of the teams bring their cars to a local high school track for a morning of racing, pizza, and fun. See our web site at www.BestOutreach.org for details about these activities.

The program provides many benefits:

- Students learn that they can achieve a goal that at first seems insurmountable to them, by working towards it step by step.
- Students learn principles of engineering: planning, designing, testing, and redesigning.
- Students learn how to translate dreams and ideas into reality.
- They learn communication and negotiation skills while working together.
- They learn by doing (vocational learning style). For many this is their first exposure to using tools.
- Students learn to apply math and science to real life situations, which may in turn spark an interest in the sciences.
- Students interact with a positive role model; they learn what an engineer does and what it is like to work in an engineering field.

Please feel free to call the B*E*S*T organizers if you have questions or want to participate:

Paul Patton - 763-954-4764