



# Profile

Each year, through the Innovative Learning Grants program, the Hatboro-Horsham Educational Foundation awards grants to teachers and principals for projects that enrich the district's curriculum and expand our students' learning experiences.

During the past few years, thanks to growth in our sponsorship and EITC partnership funding, we have been able to significantly increase funds for Innovative Learning Grants. In fact, grant awards have totaled approximately \$100,000 each year for the past three school years, as well as the upcoming 2012/2013 school year!



## Eric Zygmont

### Hatboro-Horsham High School Robotics Club Advisor

Eric Zygmont has witnessed first-hand the positive impact of Hatboro-Horsham Educational Foundation's (HHEF) Innovative Learning Grants and how the instructional funding strengthens the learning experience. The robotics club, known as Team 708 Hardwired Fusion, is an extra-curricular program that allows students to exercise their math, science and technology skills obtained in the classroom in a hands-on environment, where they can work with teammates and compete against area schools. Mr.

Zygmont explained that Team 708 Hardwired Fusion members expand their technical insight by solving specialized problems and using industry standard technology, equipment and materials.

The ongoing funding to Team 708 Hardwired Fusion from the Foundation through its Innovative Learning Grants supplements students' classroom instruction and ignites their passion for careers in engineering, technology and science. The robotics program instills a sense of urgency, cooperation, teamwork and competition in its members — skills Mr. Zygmont believes are valuable for those exploring a technical career.

"The support of the Foundation and its Innovative Learning Grants means that Team 708 Hardwired Fusion has the resources to explore additional technologies, materials and designs," Mr. Zygmont stated. "Future students may be inspired to discover the next cure, create the next technology, invent the next great life-altering innovation, and thanks to the Foundation's continued support, they can fully pursue those aspirations."

