

Bruce Bryant

Canadian High School

February 2022 TEACHERS ON THE RISE WINNER Nominated by: Tate Wilhelm

Coach Bryant, (I'm gonna call him Mr. B), has grown our school's robotics program, introduced S.T.E.M. classes into our small school, and as a result, increased the success-fullness of students that take his programs. Our school, before Mr. B, did have some S.T.E.M. offerings, We had a Computer Science class, some welding classes with our Agriculture program, and our elementary school had done First Lego League for some years, before stopping. But, after Mr. B stepped down from principal to teach S.T.E.M, the offerings for S.T.E.M. have grown significantly, and that in turn gives a lot more opportunities for students. On top of robotics for middle schoolers and high schoolers, he runs a Computer Science class, and an sUAS class (drones).

He has personally affected my life and, likely, my career choice. His robotics class helped me learn that I need to focus on a career early and that I need to invest in myself. Before I took his classes, I didn't really have a plan for the future. I thought working with computers sounded cool, and it sounded like a cool job. I dabbled in programming by making some bad games, but that was about it. But after a year of Mr. B's robotics program, it really got me to think about my future and what I want to have as a career. I, now am preparing/learning for a career in low-level programming.

I feel that, if that's what Mr. B. has done for an 8th grader who just wants to have a stable job, then I can't imagine what he's done for the high schoolers that are close to going to college and getting jobs.