# BEATING THE ODDS

#### STEM & SPECIAL NEEDS

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#### Parents are exercised by one question above all others:

What can my child be or become?





## In the case of a child with special needs, the question is complicated by two facts:

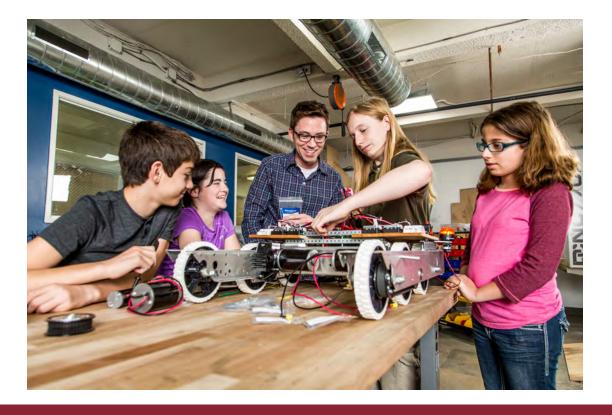
- Between 80% and 90% of individuals with special needs are unemployed or underemployed
- Technology has transformed every area of human endeavor, including what we
  do and how we do it—we live in an era of autonomous vehicles and robotic arms,
  of data analytics and cyber security





But our students thrive in areas where the demands of technology are great: computer programming, robotics, electronics, video production and game design.

- Rookie All Stars in Robotics at FRC
- Winners of the 2017 Raytheon
   Engineering Challenge





Our students have superior visual discrimination, can persist at a task for long periods of time, have a strong sense of logic and often are strong in math and pattern recognition—these are all benefits in STEM fields





### The goal is to beat those poor odds quoted at the outset by:

 Offering a rigorous curriculum from elementary school through high school including: Math, English Language Arts, science and history, but also engineering and design, programming, art, PE and a foreign language





- Offering 7 AP classes in high school enabling students to get a jump start on their college education, including AP Calculus and AP Computer Science:
- Offering elective classes in Digital design,
   Game design, Character development and
   Videography, in Python and cryptography
- Embedding social emotional learning into the curriculum







- Last year, all graduates accepted to college and still thriving in college
- This year, 14 graduating seniors accepted to UC Colleges such as UC Davis, UC Irvine, UC Riverside and many Cal State campuses including Cal State Northridge, Cal Poly Pomona, Cal State LA, Cal State Long Beach, Parsons School of Design, Woodbury University and Bard College in NY

