

# Boca High's NJROTC is Florida's State Champion!

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This message was originally sent out by Commander Bingham to the Staff of Boca Raton High School:



## **NJROTC FLORIDA STATE CHAMPIONS!**

Dear Teachers and Staff:

"Endurance is one of the most difficult disciplines, but it is to the one who endures that the final victory comes". -Buddha

This past Saturday the Bobcat Battalion traveled to Oviedo High School in Orlando to compete against 23 other high school finalists in the NJROTC Florida State Championship. This year the Bobcat Battalion led by Battalion Commander Austin Haynie and Executive Officer Krystal Echeverry dominated the State Competition by beating our rivals Winter Park and Flanagan High Schools by over 150 points!

What a great feeling it was for Chief and I, halfway through the day, realizing that no school would come close to beating us!

The Navy sends the top two teams from each area to Nationals in Pensacola, Florida, The Cadets are excited about going to the National Championship April 8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> and finally bringing home the National Title. We are "going to the 'ship"!

Academics' Rule! Cadet Commander Austin Haynie led the Academic Team to a First Place in Academics. He also achieved 1<sup>st</sup> Place Individual Academics Overall in the state of Florida, followed by Sean Osler in 3<sup>rd</sup> Place, and Robert Kruger in 4<sup>th</sup> Place! The Academic Team out scored all the other teams by over 50 points giving us an early lead in the field meet, and then there was no catching up to the Boca Bobcats! The Cadets finished Second in Personnel Inspection. The Drill Events were next with Nick Ruggiere commanding the Armed Drill Team to a First Place in Exhibition Drill and a Third Place in Basic Drill. Krystal Echeverry also commanded her Unarmed Drill Team to a First Place in Exhibition and a

Third Place in Basic. Nick Ruggiere also commanded the Color Guard Team to yet another First Place. The Bobcats truly dominated the drill field by finishing First in Overall Drill!

Athletics were next where Gabriel Rivera led us to a Second Place in Team Push-ups. He placed second overall in the state of Florida in individual male push-ups! And, Sofia Melgar placed fourth in the state in individual female push ups! Samuel Romano and David Snyder led our Bobcats to a fifth place in Team Sit-ups. In the running events we had our fastest times ever and the Bobcats finished Third Place in Overall Athletics.

The Cadets begin hitting the books, participating in PT, and practicing drill maneuvers two weeks before school starts in August and work hard towards their achievements every week until May when new leaders are selected and the learning process begins again. All these efforts have gained them a well deserved STATE CHAMPIONSHIP, and this time for the second year in a row!

All I can say about these young adults, our Cadets, is ***Awesome Job!***  
Bravo Zulu, job well done!

“Success is where preparation and opportunity meet.” -Bobby Unser

“Only brag about what you’re going to do tomorrow...  
when you did what you were going to do yesterday.” -Derric Johnson

And as always, thank you all for your continuing interest and support!

**Go Navy!!! Go Bobcats!!!**  
Commander