## Purple Boot Mentoring Program

It is the mission of the Purple Boot Mentoring Program to educate, empower, and employ young African-American and Hispanic boys, ages 7 to 14, residing in Southern Maryland communities to take ownership of their destiny, actions, and heritage, while becoming stronger role models within their homes, neighborhoods, and institutions of learning. We aim to increase academic performance, improve behavior reports at home and school, improve social skills, and expand the awareness of positive African-American men.

On April 5<sup>th</sup> 2014 the PBMP robotic teams, Robo-Bots and Reckless-Robot competed in their first robotics competition. Reckless-Robot included team members Nathaniel Humphrey, Jason Richardson, Dexter Gilliard and Devon Wright. Robo-Bots included team members Zachary Fox, Mike Fowlkes Jr., Devin Cunningham and Jeremiah Vaughn. Approximately 76 teams participated in the Lego Robotics competition held on the campus of the College of Southern Maryland and both teams performed extremely well. The Robo-Bots team was recognized as the Top Programmer Award.