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Boynton Beach teacher selected to participate in Arctic program

By Mike Rothman

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[Boynton Beach](#) – The city will get a chance to correspond with one of its own teachers while she is on a research trip in Alaska.

St. Mark Catholic School teacher Elizabeth Eubanks has been selected to participate in the National Science Foundation's PolarTREC, Teachers and Researchers Educating and Collaborating.

The program, which involved more than 250 applicants of which 12 were selected, pairs teachers with researchers and sends them to one of the poles to study with a research team.

Eubanks, the only Florida teacher represented, will be going to Barrow Alaska in the Arctic Circle June 10 and will spend one month working with researchers Dr. Steve Oberbaur and Paulo Olivas from Florida International University.

They will be conducting studies on carbon and methane levels in the arctic tundra.

All students have prepared for this event by contemplating what a research scientist does.

Eubanks said she has encouraged her students to follow their TREC to the Arctic by reading her journals, asking the team questions and participating in Webinars – a seminar on the Internet.

Eubanks also said she wants the community to follow in her efforts as well by watching the Webinars. She will be keeping a log and journal, which she hopes to share with residents of [Boynton Beach](#) and beyond.

To participate in a Webinar all that is needed is a phone and a computer. The Webinar is set for 1 to 2 p.m. June 18 with a second Webinar July 10, time to be determined.

Visit www.polartrac.com to sign up for the events.

Karen Abramson, [Boynton Beach](#) City Library spokeswoman, said the library, 208 S. Seacrest Blvd., is joining in on the Webinar by airing the casts at the library as well.



"The moment Elizabeth called and asked us to participate, 'I said of course, no question,'" Abramson said. "It's terrific and anyone in the program room can ask a question."

She also said the broadcasts times of the Webinar may change.

"Anything taking place in that part of the country is subject to change," she said.

For information about the Webinars at the library, call 561-742-6390.

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