

Letter Home to Parents

Welcome to the Team!

We're thrilled to welcome your student to our 2026-27 VEX V5 Robotics Competition Team! Being part of a robotics team offers incredible opportunities for students to explore STEM and develop career-ready skills in areas like engineering, coding, and creative problem solving. Beyond technical knowledge, your student will also build essential life skills such as communication, collaboration, leadership, and perseverance.



What to Expect

As a robotics team parent, there are a few important things to keep in mind:

About the VEX V5 Robotics Competition:

- **V5 Robotics Competition teams are student-centered.** This means that students do *all* the work of the team. The role of coaches, mentors and parents is only to provide guidance, facilitation and support.
- **V5 Robotics Competition is a collaborative competition.** This means that teams are incentivized to help one another, to share their learning, and to be supportive of each other. Your team will be competing collaboratively as part of an Alliance in competition, so they will be relying on their communication and collaboration skills to succeed.

About Team Logistics:

- Our team is called **Team Name**, and our number is **Team Number**.
- We will meet to practice **Days, Times**.
- We are scheduled to participate in the following competitions: **Names, Dates, Locations, Times**.
 - More will be added! Please keep an eye out for future communication about competitions.
- Complete the Participant Release Form before your team's first event.
- The team's coach is **Coach Name**. They can be reached at **Contact Information**.

Supporting Your Student

Your help as a parent is essential for our team's success. There are many ways you can provide support over the course of the season. Use the ideas below to help you support your student:

- **Commit to helping your student attend each practice and competition.** Our team thrives on the combined strengths of our members, so it is vital that your student is present at practices and competitions. Make a plan now to help them arrive on time to each practice and event.
- **Help your student understand failure as an opportunity to learn.** There will be inevitable setbacks along the way as students learn, grow, and begin to engage in competition. Help them to develop a growth mindset by

- Asking them what went well in a competition and what they would like to change for next time. Remind them that coding and building take practice and experience, and even though they may not be able to achieve exactly what they wanted *yet*, they soon will if they persevere!
 - Encouraging them to set small goals. When students set small, achievable goals, they are motivated by incremental successes!
 - Be sure to acknowledge and celebrate each success, no matter the size!
- **Volunteer your time and expertise.** There are many ways to donate your time and knowledge to our team. If you are interested in any of the opportunities below, or have another way in which you would like to volunteer, please contact the coach.
 - **Cheer the team on** - Show your support by attending events and cheering for our team! Remember that we focus on *learning over winning*, and acknowledge team effort, as well as successes big and small.
 - **Volunteer at events** - There are numerous volunteer roles at competitions. Volunteering offers parents a front row seat to all of the action!
 - **Share your skills** - Although parents must not *actively participate* in the design, building or coding of the team's robot, sharing knowledge is always welcomed. If you have expertise in STEM skills like engineering or coding, or other vital skills like presenting or even t-shirt design, we welcome you to share them with the team!
 - **Help with Fundraising** - Help with planning fundraising events and reaching out to community sponsors is always welcomed and appreciated.

We have a great season ahead of us!

We are looking forward to a great season and look forward to watching our team grow and thrive. Thank you so much for your support, which will help your student to build confidence and lifelong friendships while advancing their knowledge of engineering, coding and more. If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to reach out. Let's make it a season to remember!

Sincerely,

Coach Signature