Greater Grand Forks Robotics Club

GGFRC

Contact: Aaron Stefanich astefanich@ggfrc.org

 The Dakota Science Center became a FIRST® LEGO® League (FLL®) team sponsor in 2003. The Grand Forks Public Library became a team sponsor in 2011. The Dakota Science Center, the Grand Forks Public Library and the Heritage Village (East Grand Forks, Minnesota) have partnered to support the Greater Grand Forks Robotics Club. Teams cannot be registered without parent volunteers. The Greater Grand Forks Robotics Club has 3 program components, FIRST® LEGO® League Explore (ages 6-10 / grades 2-4), FIRST® LEGO® League Challenge (ages 9-16 / grades 4-8), and the off-season club.

FLL® Explore teams meet to design a robot with LEGO® elements. Teams also document their work in an Engineering Notebook and share their journey through a team Show Me Poster.

 The FLL® Challenge teams meet August-January. The University of North Dakota, College of Engineering and Mines hosts the FLL® Qualifying Tournament and the North Dakota Championship Tournament. Teams are judged on 4 things. 1) Core Values - have they learned that friendly competition and mutual gain are not separate goals, and that helping each other is the foundation of teamwork? 2) a project - teams research a real-world problem and present an innovative solution to that problem. 3) robot design – teams answer questions regarding their approach to the design. 4) field challenge - robots are designed and programmed by team members to perform a series of missions during 2½ minute matches.

 The off-season robotics club program provides engineering and technology experience to youth that were not able to be on the team, and those honing their skills for next year. The club also provides leadership opportunities to team members who help teach the computer programming to younger children. A qualified professional or university student is hired to lead the off-season robotics club, which meets at the Grand Forks Public Library.

The mission of FIRST® is to inspire young people to be science and technology leaders and innovators, by engaging them in exciting mentor-based programs that build science, engineering, and technology skills, that inspire innovation, and that foster well-rounded life capabilities including self-confidence, communication, and leadership.

The Greater Grand Forks Robotics Club Needs Community Support

The Greater Grand Forks Robotics Club is a part of the Dakota Science Center. You can contribute your time and talents or sponsor a team.

1. Contribute your time and talents as a volunteer; contact Aaron Stefanich (astefanich@ggfrc.org) the Grand Forks Public Library Children’s Librarian

2. Sponsor a team. Each year the teams must register and purchase a field challenge kit. New teams must purchase the robot. Over time new robots and accessories need to be purchased to replace old technology.

Sponsor a Team

I/we would like to make a financial contribution in support of the FIRST Lego League *Challenge* robotics program:

 $250 (team registration) $95 (field challenge kit) $100 (tournament fee)

 Other $ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

I/we would like to make a financial contribution in support of the FIRST Lego League *Explore* robotics program:

 $125 FLL® (team registration) $200 Lego® WeDo STEM Extension Activity Pack

 Other $\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

I/we would like to make a financial contribution in support of the off-season club:

 Teacher $\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ ($500)

Name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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Mail your check to the Dakota Science Center, PO Box 5023, Grand Forks, ND 58206

(The Dakota Science Center is a not for profit 501(c)(3) organization. Donations are deductible to the full extent of the law. Please consult your tax advisor for details.)

