More than Metal

 VEX Robotics means much more to me than just simply building a robot. VEX has inspired me to study engineering in college, and it has also helped me become the person that I am today. When I first joined the Super Sonic Sparks, Team 24, I was a shy 8th grader who knew almost nothing about engineering or programming. Joining the team opened my eyes to a whole new world of possibilities. I discovered that I absolutely loved building things, watching a robot take shape in my hands, able to create and recreate as needed. I learned more about myself than just my interest, however. I learned that almost nothing ever works right on the first try, and that just because it doesn’t work now doesn’t mean it won’t work later. I found that public speaking was not the torturous activity I made it out to be, nor was interacting with people I had never met. I realized that friendship can be worth more than any trophy or plaque, and that dancing and having fun at competitions is not wrong. Today, I am a senior who has applied to all of the top mechanical engineering schools in the area and cannot wait to begin studying to become an engineer. Without VEX Robotics and the people that I have met and become friends with during my experiences, I may never have had a chance to truly discover myself and become the person that I am today.