***VEX creates more than robots; it creates paths to success.***

When I started my first day at high school, I thought about how great it was to be starting at a school where I could choose my classes and start directing my life. However, I was worried about finding a place to fit in and get involved, to spark my life’s route.

I had always been involved with academic team and governor’s cup, but all of the “smart kids” are in some academic program, and it really doesn’t lead anywhere. I was signed up for courses in Project Lead the Way, but I still didn’t feel like I had found my place in the school.

Finally, my engineering instructor told me about VEX Robotics, which he lead at our school, and I decided to give it a try. A few of us who were new to VEX started building a somewhat prototypical robot, which was planned only to run in TSA robotics competitions.

As the robot advanced further and further we decided we may have a chance in VEX. I eventually became captain and driver of team 6135-A, now considered the fourth best team in Kentucky, thanks to my engineering instructor and VEX Robotics.

This program is not only about robots; it helps all creative thinkers and designers discover their path and how to follow it. Thanks to this amazing program, I am more confident in my abilities as an engineer, and am better prepared to help shape our world.