

The background is a dark navy blue. It is decorated with several large, overlapping, semi-transparent geometric shapes in various colors: bright green, cyan, magenta, orange, and red. These shapes are arranged in a way that creates a sense of depth and movement, with some appearing to be layered on top of others.

# HALF METAL JACKETS ARE GIRL POWERED

By: 1296A Team Members Austin Taylor, Austin Knoff,  
Grant Zeller, Addison Brown, Audrey Smith

# Girl Powered?

## **Audrey:**

To me, Girl Powered means headstrong. In history girls did not get to vote. Girls have equal rights and can do anything the boys can do.

## **Austin K.:**

When I think of Girl Powered, I think of robotics not being gender specific.

## **Grant:**

Girl Powered to me means that girls can do everything that boys can do and sometimes things that boys can't do like the splits.

## **Addison:**

Girl power to me means girls rule the world and they help us change our perspective on our robot by helping us visualize things that boys miss.

## **Austin T.:**

Girl Powered is girls have the power to be engineers also.

**HALF METAL  
JACKETS**



**1296A**

# Austin Taylor



**Austin Taylor** is an 8<sup>th</sup> Grader in Rockwall ISD. He is the only returning founding member of the Half Metal Jackets Team 1296A. Austin has competed in FLL, VEX IQ (advancing to Worlds in 2016) and VEX EDR. Austin has worked on the arm, lift, claw and participated in drive train discussions as well as some software discussions.

**Strengths:** Mechanical

**Role:** Lead builder & Drive Coach

# Austin Knoff



**Austin Knoff** is an 8<sup>th</sup> Grader in Rockwall ISD. He is a rookie team member. Austin Knoff has competed in FLL. Austin Knoff has worked on design for drivetrain as well as helped build towers, software, and journaling.

**Strengths:** Journaling

**Role:** Controllers & Driver

# Grant Zeller



**Grant Zeller** is an 8<sup>th</sup> Grader in Rockwall ISD. He is a rookie team member. This is Grant's first year participating in robotics. Grant has worked on design for the drivetrain as well as helped with the claw and helped with the engineering notebook.

**Strengths:** Mechanical

**Role:** Builder & Driver

# Addison Brown



**Addison Brown** is a 7<sup>th</sup> Grader in Rockwall ISD. He is a rookie team member. Addison has competed in VEX IQ. Addison has worked on drive train, and journaling.

**Strengths:** Design

**Role:** Builder & Driver

# Audrey Smith



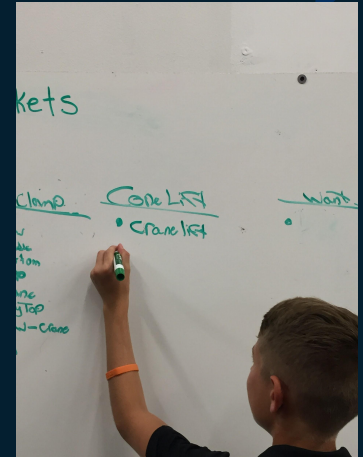
**Audrey Smith** is 6<sup>th</sup> Grader in Rockwall ISD. She is a rookie team member. Audrey has competed in VEX IQ. Audrey has taken a lead role in the engineering journaling as well as programming.

**Strengths:** Software

**Role:** Lead Programmer & Driver

# Five Different Kids - Five Different Ideas

Our team is made up of a 4 year returning member who is in the 8th grade, 2 rookie 8th graders, 1 rookie 7th grader, and 1 rookie 6th grader. Everyone brings different ideas to the team. We make lists of the ideas and we think about this year's game. Our team is a democracy where each of us gives an idea. We are all included on team decisions by voting on what type of ideas like drivetrain, claw, lift, mechanism to build the best robot we can. Being diverse helps us take multiple ideas to create one plan.



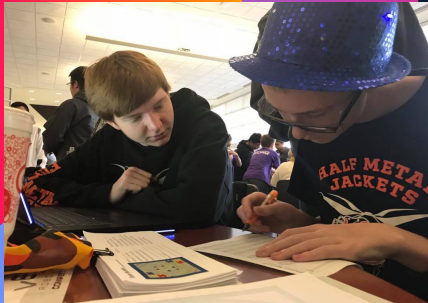


# No Role is too Small

From designing, to building, to programming, to strategy, to awards, to journaling “No Role is too Small”. Each member has tried a little bit of everything, building, designing, and programming, which helped us decide what members were best at and what they like to do the best. Some people are just naturally better a certain roles, which makes our team stronger and more efficient.

**Austin T. -**

“Communication is key to having a great team. Each person’s role is important to the team. Our team could not function without each member doing their part.”



# Girl Powered Perspectives



We all have different teachers and learn different ways of thinking so we all bring different perspective to the team. Each one of us coming from different backgrounds helps us extend our designs/brainstorming beyond our own comprehension and helps us work together to create a more powerful robot and a better team.

**Addison -**

“Girls can visualize things that boys miss.”

Our girl mentor has given me the knowledge and confidence to talk to judges and announcer when there are questions on scoring says Austin T.



# Our Role Models are “In The Zone”

## Austin T. -

Mr. Keith Buchanan is my STEM role model. He is the lead mentor for RHS Full Metal Jacket. He inspires me because he does robots and what he does seems fun. I tell him about our robot and he gives guidance when we need it. He lets us use his facility to set up our field and to hold our practices.

## Austin K. -

My sister, Lauren, is my STEM Role model. She is a 3<sup>rd</sup> year team member of FRC 1296 Full Metal Jackets. She is the head strategist for them. Lauren helps me see that girls can play a part in engineering too.

## Grant -

Coach Hill is my STEM Role model because I started doing robotics with him in middle school and he taught me a lot of the basics.

## Addison -

My Stem role model is Mr. Dave Smith. He was my robotics coach in 6<sup>th</sup> grade. He helps me with problem solving skills to fix issues with the robot. He helps me think outside the box. Not just what comes to mind first.

## Audrey -

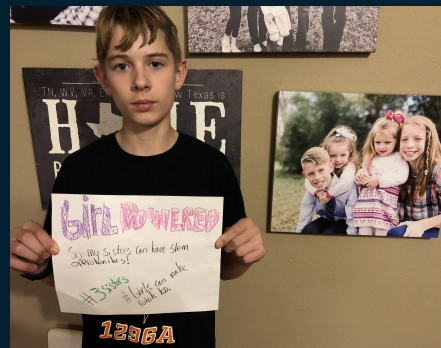
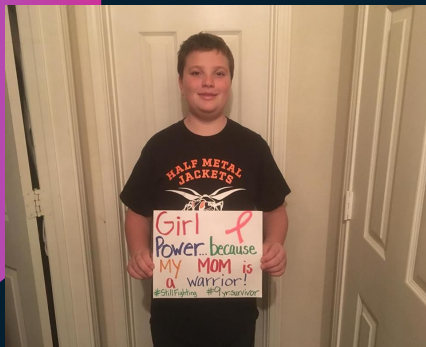
My STEM role model is Brandon, a senior at RHS and on the Full Metal Jackets Team 1296. He has patience and shows me things that I didn't even know existed. Even though he is a boy, he didn't pick a boy to be the programmer. He has had faith in me and my programming skills to make me the lead programmer for the team. I am also the youngest team member and a rookie member on the team, but he still had the faith that I could learn and do it.





Our mentors - Aaron  
Smith front row, Brandon  
Taylor far left, Hannah  
Cowgill center with green  
sign

## Girl Power Challenge Accepted







**We could not do what we do  
without the behind the scenes Girl  
Power. From all of us at Half Metal  
Jackets 1296A - Thank you to all  
our MOMS and MENTORS!**



# Girl⚡Powered

## Credits

**Entrants:** Austin T, Austin K, Grant, Addison, Audrey

**Grade Level:** Middle School

**Team Number:** 1296A Half Metal Jackets

**Title:** Half Metal Jackets are Girl Powered

