Code Billie's

We have been given a Girl Power Grant and using this we created our all-girls Vex robotics team! We work hard together and doing this we know we can accomplish anything! We take our robotics and academics seriously. With our strategy, we plan to be a dominating team and will try to make it to the Worlds Championship. We girls on the team have always thought robotics could have a role in our future, and we will **not** let stereotypes stand in our way. We got a chance this year to judge elementary school Vex IQ Robotics tournaments. We already started to judge. It was really fun and we got to help teams get into robotics.

"We cannot change what we are not aware of, and once we are aware, we cannot help but change " -Sheryl Sandburg

When we get our robot, we will immediately begin coding. We will work hard and become a strong, put together team. We have not been able to encourage other girls to do robotics. Most girls believe it is not ladylike to do something like building or coding. We are trying to change this. We are encouraging girls outside of our team to look in to this interesting profession. If more girls realize they can be as powerful, or more powerful as a man in this field, then it could be dominated by women. When we hear the phrase "Girl Powered" what comes to our mind is strong independent women. We also think of equality and independence, and improvement because our rights have come a long way. We believe that all girls including ourselves are amazing and special in their own way, and if we are together then we can be unstoppable. This is our opinion of what we think when we hear the phrase "Girl Powered". What comes to mind when you hear this phrase? "Encouragement," "Equality," and, "Achieving goals," have come to our minds. With encouragement from each other, we know we can accomplish anything! Girls are MVPs just like the guys in our school are. Achieving goals is on the top because together we set goals and reach above them. Our team represents diversity because, our group allows people of all sorts to join. We like to be on a girl powered team because it supports a name and who we are. Women have found power in a variety of ways throughout justice and equality. Elizabeth Cady Stanton found power through gender solidarity. Elizabeth Cady Stanton once said "I would have girls regard themselves not just as adjectives but as nouns." Elizabeth Cady Stanton and other people who were fighting for women's rights are very important to us. These people are inspiring us on a daily basis to stay and be girl powered. Peggy Johnson is a good role model, a girl can look up to, because she has a bachelor's degree in Electrical Engineering. She is also the Executive Vice president of business development, at Microsoft. Peggy Johnson recently was the vice president at Qualcomm technology. Peggy Johnson parents said "you have to go to college, and pay for yourself." Peggy Johnson went from engineering to electrical engineering

Alli Torman is one of the members on the Code Billies team. She says she had once practiced coding in a computer class she took but never really liked it. Alli then found her love for building and putting together robots when she joined this robotics team. This team was an opportunity for her to really discover her true love and admiration of building these robots. Another teammate Delaina Fleming tried building but said that she could never get it right so then she tried out coding and was amazed at these new found skills. With these acquired skills she is now the team captain for the Code Billies robotics team. With this team she made some amazing friends and improved her point of focus

and her coding skills. Ava Bentley is another teammate for this marvelous team. She was mostly just a builder in the beginning, but now works in multiple areas of engineering. She logs and graphs the various changes in our robot. Ava has worked on this robot and loves the different aspects of engineering and the new jobs it brings. Her time on this team has really pushed her towards a better future. She is now great at all of the different engineering jobs that have been offered to her. Elsie Robbins is an amazing builder. She is a miraculous person to work with and she loves working with the robot. Elsie is now one of the team's star builders and has really magnificent ideas. We love having Elsie on our team and we couldn't do it without her. Keri Mabon has tried building and is spectacular at it, but her true passion lies with coding. She can code a robot like no other and can get it done quite quickly. Keri is essential to this teams coding factor. She has the most admirable attitude and sees the light in every dark corner. Meredith Shuff is another one of this teams great coders. She is really good at coding and helps Keri with building and coding the robot. Meredith has been a grand teammate to work with and helps wherever she can. This team is a big part of this whole team's future and supports a turn towards engineering if the choice is made to go that way. The Code Billies are an outrageously marvelous group of girls to work with and this team has really bonded over these practices. The Code Billies are an unforgettable group to work with and they are like a second family.



<u>Credits</u>

Team Members/Authors of Essay

- Delaina Fleming
- Alli Torman
- Meredith Shuff
- Elsie Robbins
- Keri Mabon
- Ava Bentley

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