



Girl Powered

7983R

— Leveling the Playing Field —

Last Year

Only two of our team members were in a competitive team last year, Kimberly and Anna. Both girls were the only girls on their teams. Although the boys were encouraging, it was difficult to be understood or listened to when surrounded by boys.



Last Year Cont.

Later in the year we were given an opportunity to create an all girls team to participate in an all girls tournament. It was an amazing experience to be surrounded by intelligent girls and to work together to create a robot from scratch in a month. It opened our eyes as to how the world could be.



Last Year Cont. - Day of the Girl



Last year we were introduced to an event that our SWE Club puts on, the Day of the Girl. We invited girls from all over the county to come and explore different parts of STEM and talk to females in STEM fields.

Role Models

We also became involved in the Society of Women Engineers at our school, and we looked up to the officers of the club, most of which were on the W team, as role models. When they qualified for Worlds as an all girls team, we were inspired and hoped to do the same one day.



Role Models Cont.

We are still in the SWE Club now and we have taken more active roles, but we still look up to the girls who were on the W team last year. They showed us how we can work together to get anything done, regardless of our circumstances.



Our Team - 7983R



Anna

Kimberly

Alina

Brett

Oliver

Brandon

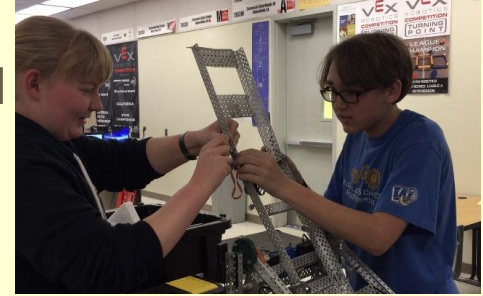
Our Team



Our team this year is composed of six people, each with very different backgrounds. Alina, Brandon, Brett, and Anna are all involved in the PLTW Engineering program, while Oliver is a part of the Biomed program and Kimberly is not in a PLTW program. Even within the engineering program, there are many different paths, and no one of our teammates is interested in the same thing. This diversity allows for unique perspectives that are beneficial to our team, despite being difficult at times.

Roles

Each of us have our jobs with the robot. Anna and Alina help in many ways on the team, they help create beautiful designs in the notebook, they help build and design mechanisms, and they strategize at competitions. Kimberly builds and designs, while also assisting in the programming and strategizing. She also is a backup driver for the robot. Brandon does many of the same things while also being a backup driver. Oliver helps strategize, design, and build the robot, and Brett does the same while also being the main driver. Overall, everyone helps equally.



Day of the Girl

This year, we became more involved in the SWE Club and helped with the organization of the Day of the Girl event. Kimberly and Anna ran the blind driving station together, Kimberly designed shirts, and Anna contacted a female engineer to come and speak to the girls about her journey with STEM.



The Goal



Girl Powered is about inspiring girls to pursue their interest in STEM, despite being a minority right now. Our team, although not made up of entirely girls, works to make sure us girls have a voice and can be heard. Only half of our team are girls, but we contribute just as much as the boys. We hope that in the future, all girls have the opportunity to have a voice and be heard, no matter what career they pursue.

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