

This challenge was an eye-opening experience for my team. Together, we selected an old computer because we believed that this would be the best way for use to visually see all of the components inside of the computer. One day, we all hope to be future engineers and all of this will benefit us.

Before we received our computer, we spent class time reviewing the different parts and components inside of the computer. What really made this challenge cool for us was seeing everything in a way that was not just words in a textbook. The pieces that we were able to find and identify were the case, CPU, RAM, the Hard Drive, the Heat Sink, the Cooling System, the Power Supply, the GPU, Motherboard, the optical drive, and the PCI card. Unfortunately, none of the parts we removed were from Texas Instruments.

The CPU is the Central Processing Unit. It is the hardware where the computer processes all of its instructions. This part is composed of a main memory a control unit and arithmetic-logic unit. RAM is the Random Access Memory. RAM behaves like a short term memory for the computer. The RAM is super important because this memory allows the person working on the computer to switch tasks constantly. The hard drive is a data storage unit. This is the most important part of the computer because without this piece the computer can't store any documents and more importantly we couldn't play any games. Heat Sink is a metal part that absorbs and sends heat away from the computer. Cooling System is a fan that can be found inside the computer. Its purpose is exactly what the purpose of a fan in the house is, cooling in this case the computers inside. The Power Supply's function is to convert the power from an

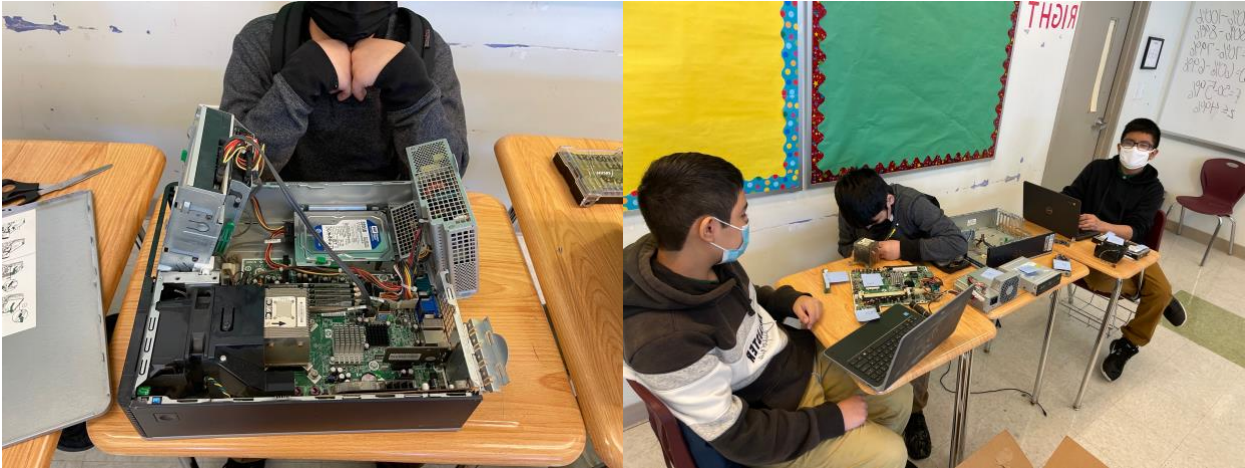
electrical outlet. It converts alternating current to direct current. GPU is the Graphics processing unit. This part is in charged to process all the information the computer is working with simultaneously. The motherboard is the main circuit; it makes every part work together like a time to complete the assign tasks. The case is the external hard protective layer of the computer it's also called the tower. Optical Drive is where a laser or electromagnetic waves read or write information from the optical discs. Pci Card is the Peripheral Component Interconnect; this is a way to connect parts on a computer to the motherboard.

One thing that we all learned was how difficult it was to work carefully to take apart the pieces of the computer without breaking it. For this purpose, working as a team was very important. This was probably the first time that any of us worked together to complete something. This challenge gave us a chance to study robotics, learn how to cooperate as a team to learn about the different computer parts. This way we can have a taste of what our future as engineers will be.

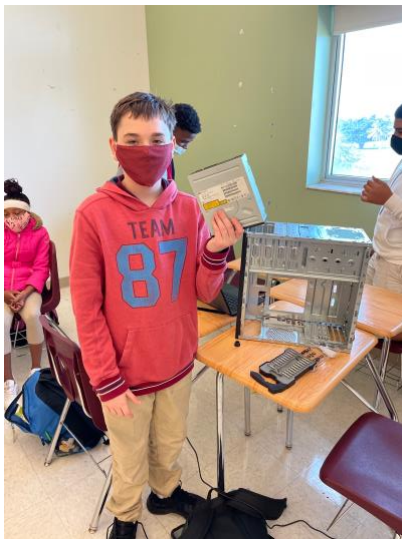
This is how we started. We had just received the computer tower.



This is us working as a team to figure out how to open the computer without breaking the parts.



Here we are almost done opening the computer, we are categorizing and making notes of the parts we see. To then label the pieces.



This was the last part of our project. We had finally take all the pieces apart, here we are labeling the pieces and looking for information of how the pieces should look if they are working pieces and what is their function.

