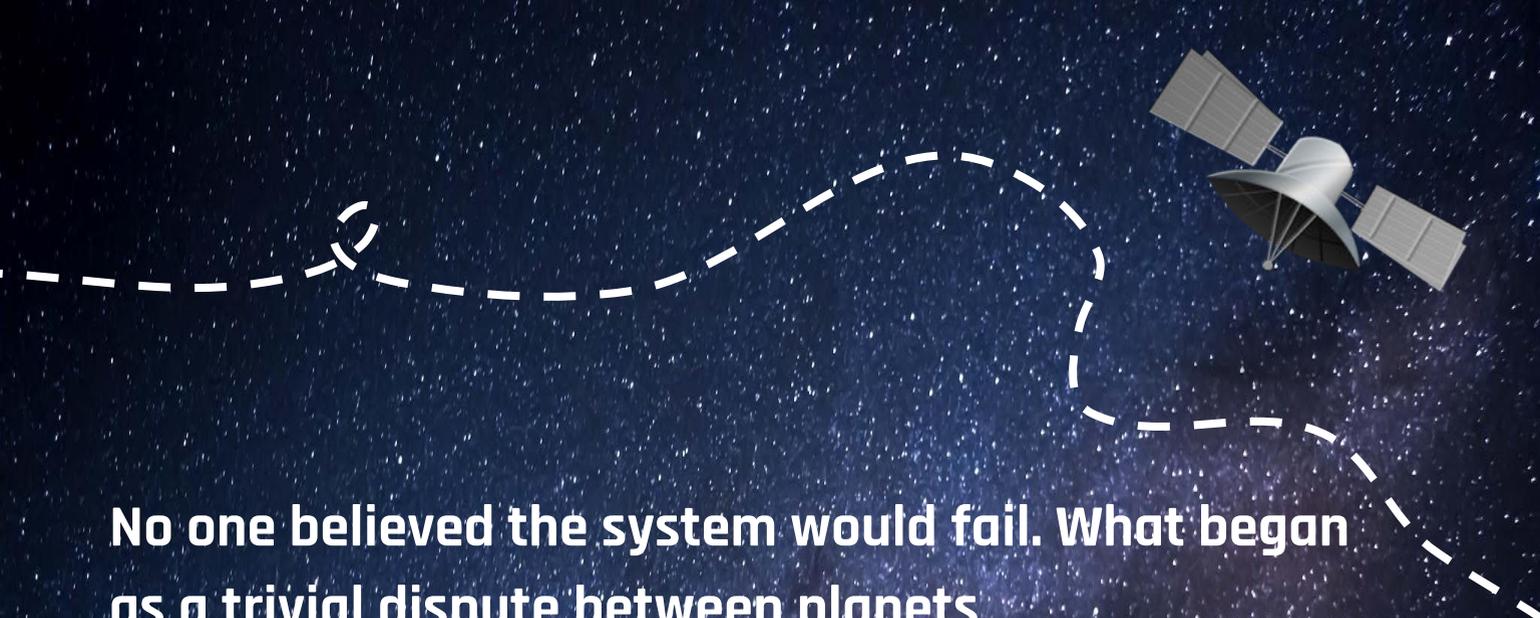




The
Adventures of 2602G

REVIVING THE STEM SYSTEM



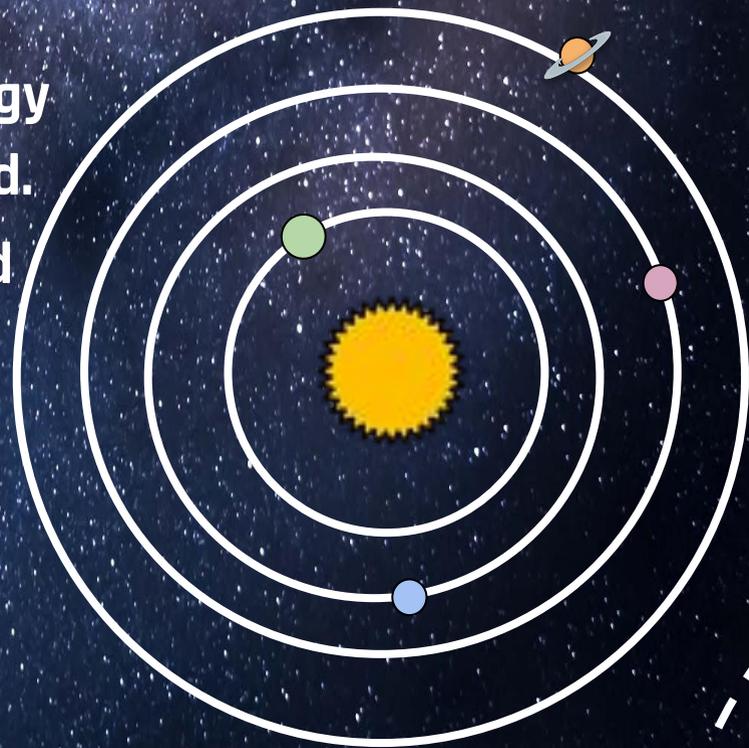


No one believed the system would fail. What began as a trivial dispute between planets soon escalated.

Buildings burned, technology broke, and citizens suffered. For years, disputes plagued

THE STEM SYSTEM

The bond that connected citizens began to deteriorate, and rivalry ensued. Negative stereotypes in society were reinforced and subsequently, the gender gap grew more extreme.



Team Assembly

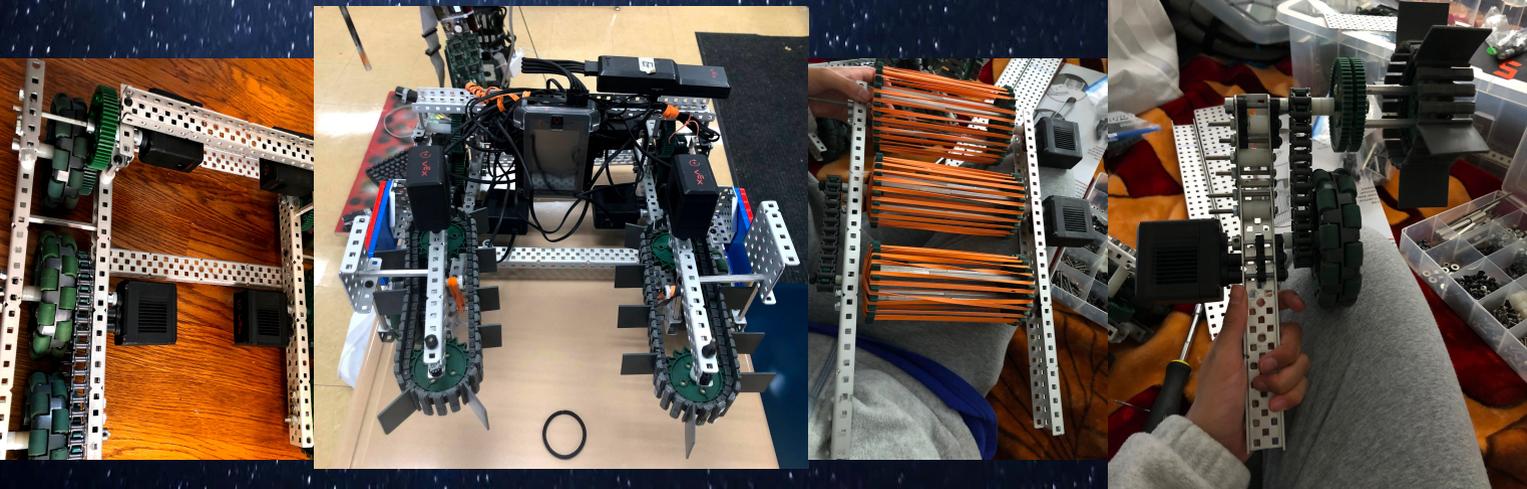
Expectations of women had reached a new low, and females from across the STEM System felt unheard and discouraged by the societal regression. Amidst the turmoil, like a beacon of light in a sea of darkness, we emerged. A crew of passionate girls with separate backgrounds and strengths all uniting together for a single purpose: To show everyone that females and males are equally capable, and our gender does not define our worth and capabilities.



Our Mission

We pledge to protect all residents of STEM System from all dangers regarding stereotypes against any race, gender, or ethnicity, and assist our fellow citizens in times of hardship.

~ 2602G



Distributing Jobs

When we first announced our team, the public was doubtful, for it was impossible for eight mere citizens, much less eight girls, to make an impact on the world. However, we didn't let their skepticism deter us. We focused on strengthening and building a cohesive team that could function properly.



BANG

In order to do this, we focused on distributing jobs. We shared out our own strengths with the others, but we didn't stop there. Aside from bettering the STEM System, our newfound organization was also to better ourselves and improve our skills. So, we left our respective comfort zones and experimented with new jobs, because just like our gender, our current strengths do not confine us to one role; they should not act as shackles tying us in one place, but instead, as wings to help us fly.

Meet The Superheroes



Amanda:

Documenter, programmer



Chloe:

Builder; documenter



Disha:

Co-leader, documenter,
builder, co-driver



Emma:

Builder, scout

Meet The Superheroes



Imaan:
Builder; driver



Shanzay:
Co-leader, scout



Srilakshmi:
Documenter, programmer



Rithika:
Documenter, programmer

Middle School Mentoring

We received a transmission from two of our fellow middle school superhero teams from the Technology planet. They needed help with their STEM project.

The Gear Signal

Civilians can call for help when in urgent need by shining the symbol into the air.

FOR EMERGENCY USE



We decided to mentor them as five of us had been awarded one of the grand STEM prizes of the Regional Championship on the Science planet in 2019. We wanted their journey to have as few bumps along the road for them as possible.

The screenshot shows a Zoom meeting interface. On the left, a slide titled "Research" is displayed with the following text:

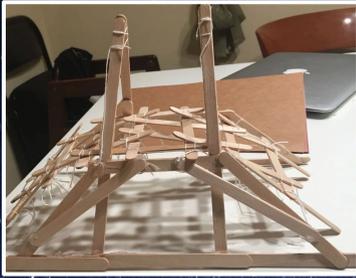
- Research is very important, so do as much research as you can!
- Whatever you research, make sure you confirm all the details with multiple reliable sources! Even a small inaccurate detail can affect your project dramatically.
- Research more than you need to! Better over prepared than under!
- Always research a bit in every field
- If your topic consists of several subtopics, research all the subtopics.
- Visit professionals that are experienced in your field (if possible)
 - Take notes about it. It is part of your research!
- Make a document for all topics and subtopics so that all your research is organized (Here are our [notes](#))
- Think outside of the box, even if you are not actually doing something, re how you would do it. What materials you would need? What would be constraints? Think about the design process!
- MAKE SURE TO CITE YOUR SOURCES!

On the right side of the screenshot, there is a vertical stack of five video thumbnails showing participants in the meeting. The names of the participants are visible below each thumbnail: Siddhant Verma, Emma Khan, Anshika Ver, Anny Kang, and another participant whose name is partially obscured.

We spent hours brainstorming our finest advice and curated an all-in-one guide on how to tackle their technological adversities.

After meeting up, these middle school superhero teams went on to face their project head on with newfound inspiration and knowledge.

Virtual Summer Tournaments



While we continued our mission in helping civilians, our younger siblings and family wished to follow in our brave footsteps. Kaitlyn, Datta, Hamsini, & Joseph were the children who longed to help save our world, so over the summer, we invented the Virtual Tournaments. Kids on the Engineering planet practiced their hero skills by engineering different structures while competing for the STEM awards.



Everyone united from different backgrounds got a chance to participate in STEM activities. Weeks of planning and coordination was worth it when we saw pure enjoyment on our superhero in training faces.

STEM AWARDS

Bridge Build-off

Placing as many pennies as possible on a handmade bridge



Car Racing

Making a rubber band powered car out of household materials



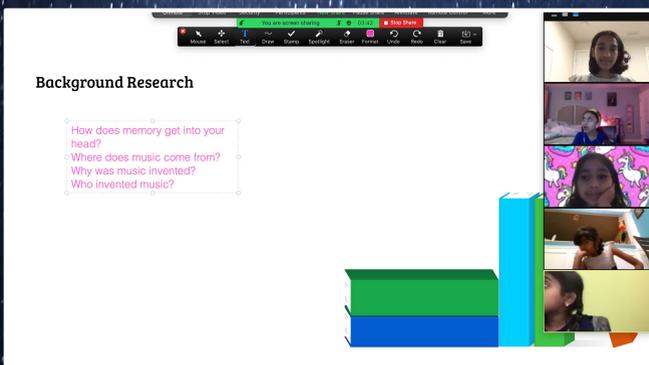
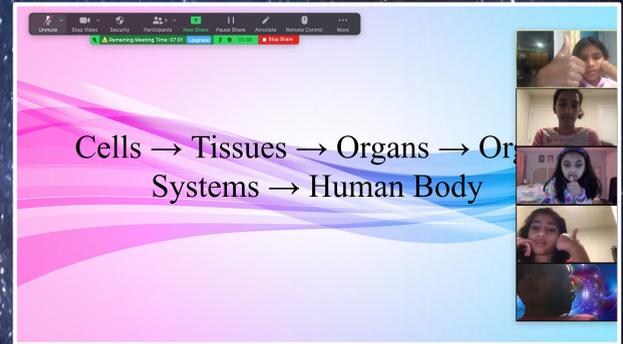
Catapalooza

Launching quarters on your own catapult



Prepare

Meanwhile, in another part of the STEM system, children weren't getting proper STEM education in their rural communities. We decided to help them by fundraising for the nonprofit organization Prepare.

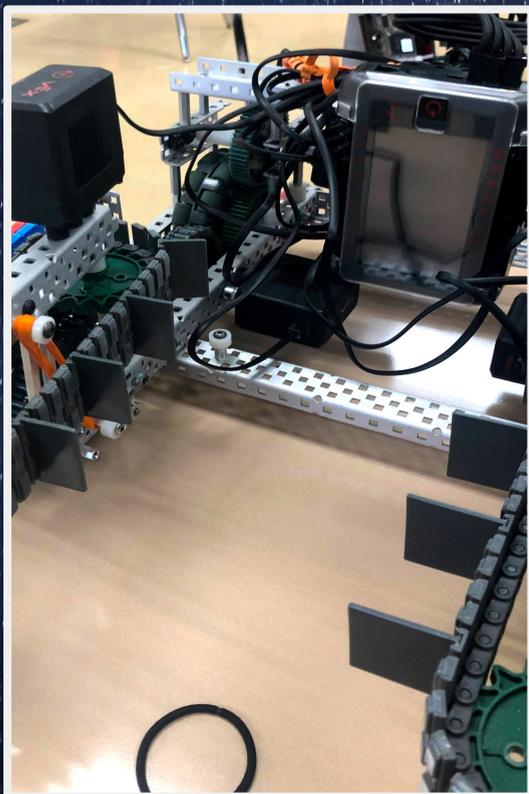


We tutored children in our community in order to raise the money. We tutored them in STEAM related topics. This raised a grand total of \$140! The children who were tutored and the children we raised money for were both overjoyed to get to learn more in the STEM field. Another mission accomplished once again!

1st Competition

Other superhero organizations had formed as well, and all of these newly formed groups agreed to hold an event that would help compare our capabilities at how well we could assist our fellow citizens.

We spent months preparing. On the day of the competition, our fear was palpable. Our robot wasn't in good shape and as a result, it was not smooth sailing.



Despite all of our hard work, we didn't meet our goal, and we felt utterly disappointed and frustrated with our performance. How could we revive the STEM System if we couldn't succeed in these competitions?

Our next competition was in one month. We needed to spend these next weeks working on our robot so much so this never happens again.

Our Role Model Superhero

Sometimes superheroes need other superheroes to look up to. After experiencing a loss, we remembered our role model superhero: Emily Calandrelli. We remembered how she was able to succeed at similar goals despite the gender barrier, and reminded ourselves not to give up. Failure is inevitable, and we just have to get up and continue.



Emily Calandrelli is an MIT-engineer as well as a Emmy nominated Science TV Show host. She is a professional speaker and runs Women in STEM: A project to get more people involved and getting exposure to the field, especially women. We decided that we wanted to advocate and get more people involved STEM as well.

2nd Competition

November 14th. The day we were nervous for had finally arrived. A month of rebuilding our robot, testing, and driving all built up to this moment. As we arrived our anxiety grew. Competition after competition, it was clear our robot had improved. "It is time for awards!" Mr. Scott exclaimed. As each award was announced we were filled with hope with a hint of disappointment.



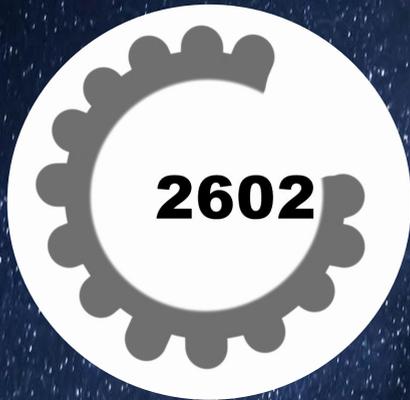
As he announced the final award, we were full of fear. "And the Design award goes to 2602G!" Disbelief was clear on our faces. We won an award! Our hard work had paid off! Our role model had motivated us and showed us how to truly believe in a superhero team of girls.

Conclusions

- We are always looking for more ways to help our community and will keep improving.
- We prove to the world that girls can save the day too. We inspire those around us in STEM with our bravery, helpfulness, intelligence, and kindness.

**WE ARE JUST EIGHT SUPERHEROES,
SPREADING HOPE AND EMPOWERMENT,
REVIVING THE STEM SYSTEM.**

Credits



Chloe Barnes

Rithika Kilari

Disha Mudenur

Srilakshmi Venkatesan

Amanda Xie



Girl Powered



VEX Robotics