



# We Are Stronger When We Work Together

By Maile, Sloane, Dylan, and Ian



# People should be equal

Do you treat girls with the same respect as boys? Many people don't. We think that everyone should be treated equally. Male or female, we all deserve to be treated the same. It has improved since the past, but there are still some people that treat others differently just because of their gender. For example, this election, the problem of people not getting treated the same has gotten a little bit better because America elected the first female vice president that the United States ever had. This is great because now we have a girl in office that is able to talk about their opinion a little more than others. Since the vice president is the second in the presidential line, we think that things will change because our new vice president is a female. We think that everyone should be able to be heard and not just stand on the side to listen.

# What we think of girl powered

When we think “Girl Powered,” we think about all the people in the world that made a difference. Maile is a driver and Sloane is a programmer. Dylan is a driver and Ian is a programmer. These jobs were picked by the whole team, not just the boys or not just the girls. We have seen robotics teams with one girl on it who sits on the side and does sometimes what is considered the girl job like documenting.



Ian, Dylan, Maile, and Sloane are setting up the field for our match. We are doing programming skills

# What Girl Powered Could Mean

Girl Powered could mean that girls have the same power, like decision making and the same rights, but unfortunately they usually don't. Girls think they get treated differently just because they are female. A survey said that 63% of girls and 52% of boys think girls are treated differently than their classmates. We should strive to change that. We would like to change it by encouraging girls to try things they wouldn't normally try.



Sloane and Maile virtually showing the judges our robot to make sure it is in all the limits.

# Girl Powered on our team

Our team could be more girl powered by helping anyone and everyone who needs help. It is challenging in online learning because we can't always be unmuted and talking. There are also people that need help and don't want to show they need it. We could help them by asking anybody that seems like they are struggling if they need help. In our first year of robotics the people in their second years helped us which made us be more successful. We could help the new robotics kids this year because they sometimes struggle. We can't always be there to help but we try to help when we are. We show girl power by encouraging 4th grade girls to join robotics at the start of the year. Although it can be hard, whenever we get the chance, we are teaching people and helping with anything we can.



Maile looking at the robot and Sloane setting up the field.

# Helping others

We should help the fourth graders by asking the teachers to ask the fourth graders if they need help on something. We have to ask the teachers to ask them because we are mostly in separate meeting rooms. We could also give them ideas for their robot, helping with programming, driving, and documenting. We could also ask if we could have an assigned time that we meet with the fourth graders for them to ask questions.



Sloane, Maile, and Liana talking to a legislator.

# One step at a time

Our team has taken the first step to encouraging others to join robotics because maybe then they will feel more equal. We will try to do this by having a virtual event where people that are interested in robotics come on a google meet room and ask any questions they have, or they could ask to join. To get those people that are shy, we could do a poll to see who wants to come.



Sloane is doing programming skills. She is aligning the robot and starting a new program to do different things



# Diverse Perspectives

We believe that a diversity of perspective changes our robot design by making it more unique. We all have different ideas and ways of doing things. This can make things difficult but it works out. It is nice seeing all of our ideas coming together. All of these ideas make our robot what it is. We have pretty good team chemistry but it is hard doing it virtually.



Sloane working on the program and Maile writing a daily entry.



# Maile and Sloane experience last year

Maile and Sloane used to be on an all girls team. We would do roles that we don't normally do because boys are usually doing them. We believe many people think that “boy jobs” are the important jobs, like driver and programmer. We think that people consider “girl jobs” to be piece organizer, engineering logger, and all the other not-so-important jobs. Since we need 2 people assigned to each job, we decided that Maile will be a driver and Sloane will be a programmer so that we have a girl in each role. Our roles are still the same, even on a co-ed team. We got really good at our roles last season. Now we have the courage to still do it, even on a mixed gender team. Last year we were on the all girls team to boost confidence. This improved our self-esteem by having fellow girls on our team which made us feel more comfortable. We had arguments here and there but we got along pretty well. Being in that team strengthened our friendship and helped us a lot.



Paige, Maile, Sloane, and Liana using STEM at a tournament.

# Dylan and Ian's experience last year

Dylan and Ian were on an all boys team last year. On our all-boys robotics team last year, we had different perspectives on decision making but we still worked together and agreed on most things without any major arguments. Although we still had minor arguments and some major disagreements, we enjoyed being on a team with other boys who we are comfortable with. Now that we are on a co-ed team, we get along better and the girls volunteer for almost everything and are very hard working. On our all-boys team, it took around 15 minutes just choosing who does what. The girls also take leadership roles which makes our team more girl powered.



Team 10142Y from last year winning the “think award.”

# Our team chemistry

The chemistry on our team is different than an all one gender team. We don't communicate much with each other and we think it's because of the boy-girl division. We felt more comfortable with an all same gender team. It helped us enjoy robotics more and prepare us for the next year. Although it is challenging with different gender and people, we are still trying to talk to each other a little more because we noticed we have not bonded much over the past few months as we did last year. We think part of the reason we have not bonded is because we have not had enough in person experience with each other. We should talk more and try to do as much as we can with each other. The team we are on came out better than we expected. It came out really good, although we still have minor arguments from here to there. We have been more successful than expected because we practiced, but if we had more time we would have probably gotten a higher score in our first tournament. We all value the new opinions of the different genders. We think that girls and boys sometimes have different ideas and different talents. This makes our teams essay, robot, and engineering log a little more unique than a team with all boys or all girls.

# Mary Jackson



Mary  
Jackson

Our STEM role model is Mary Jackson. Mary Jackson was a black woman. She was the first black woman engineer who worked to make a wind tunnel that was capable of producing wind speeds faster than the speed of sound (or Mach 1). After that, she worked as a women's program manager to hire women for NASA. We chose Mary Jackson because she helped girls, women, and black people break the job barrier. She was a very kind and welcoming person to new employees that were worried and were lost in their life. She also devoted herself to help women employees, hire them, and promote them to a higher job in NASA. She fought hard for what she wanted in such a difficult time. She inspires us to have a more diverse team and program. She inspires us to have more girls on the robotics team and our whole program. She also inspires us to teach more people to join us on the robotics program because she tried to include many people just by doing little things (and big things) like trying to promote STEM by talking in the local newspaper especially about girls being outnumbered by boys. Mary Jackson once said *"Every time we get to the finish line they move it. Every time."*

# Make our world equal

We will try much harder to make this world more equal step by step. First we will encourage people to do robotics. Then we would like to help out the ones who agree to do robotics with anything they are having a problem with. We think that we should be working a little harder to be more girl powered. We hope one day females will feel equal and be able to have their voices heard.



Dylan is driving the robot



Sloane is doing her program

Entrants: Sloane, Maile, Dylan, and Ian

Team: 10142X

Title: We Are Stronger  
When We Work Together



Our team, Maile, Sloane, Dylan and Ian

# Citations

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