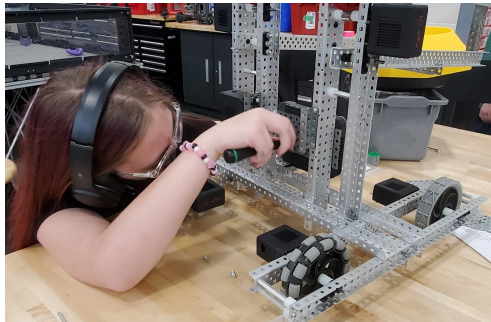


# *GIRL POWERED*

*By Rebecca Applen and Nollynn Dismuke*

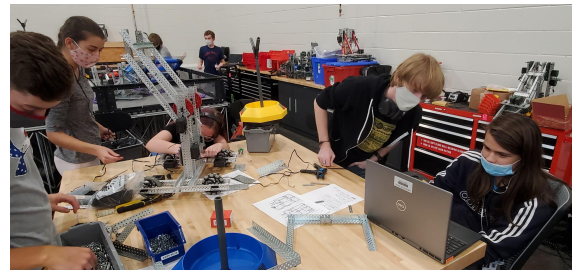
*Team 9623 Foxtrot at West Ashley High School*

A few phrases that come to mind are feminism, and many common stereotypes like looking

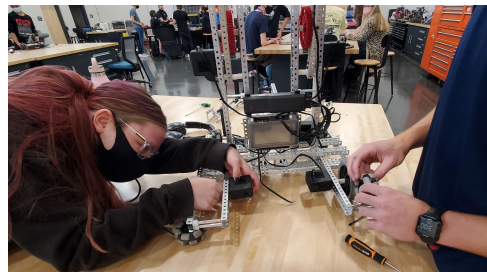


pretty and liking the color pink. These thoughts really aren't seen in our team and club because of the gender equality seen here. Most of what comes to mind for us is very stereotypical of women and the high expectations they have to meet. In our robotics club, we generally don't focus on gender, but rather on skill, and a

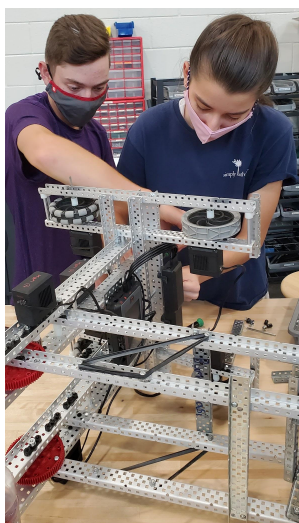
person's ability to complete certain tasks. The only time it's brought up is for this project or sweat shirt styles. We don't consciously make an effort to make



our club and team more inclusive to both genders. Instead we just focus on what someone can do or can't do rather than their gender. Our team is very open to us working on different roles at any time and we have very loosely defined jobs. While we do have one coder, our team is open for someone to join on the coding side, we just haven't felt the need to. Our team leader will help organize who's doing what, and we can be doing anything from helping build, to working on the notebook on any given day. Some us might try a different job to see if we or try to get better at it. This helps us given role for the day, and learn new building techniques. While we do have is open to teaching others how to drive robot at any time. This diversity helps ideas to the table, but not because of treating everyone equally, we are able ideas from everyone on our team as everyone has a different perspective. Sometimes it's good to get a second opinion and our team will typically help others by giving tips they haven't seen yet, and we will ask others for ideas on improvements if we get stumped on a problem we face.



days some of are good at it, adapt to our skills and one driver, he and work the bring new our gender. By to receive



I don't necessarily have a STEM role model. When I am working I try to do the best that I can do, I don't need to be looking up to someone else, when I can be my own person. While there might be people we find interesting in the STEM world, we joined the robotics team on our own accord and continue to return to every meeting because it's something we enjoy.