

# Robotics is about so much MORE than just robots...

## Volunteer Opportunities & Growing the Next Generation

- Robotics is entirely volunteer-run — ALL of our Coaches and Mentors are volunteers; Parents put in countless hours to make it all happen
- Students share their knowledge and help younger students develop skills in collaboration, design, building, and coding/programming
- Young students are very receptive to their near-peer mentors and it fosters excitement about joining the High School Team someday
- In addition to mentoring teams during the school year, High School Robotics students plan, run, and instruct Robotics Summer Camps for younger students — for 4th & 5th graders and for 6th–8th graders — where they learn to design, build, and program robots themselves!

## Charity & Community Impact

- Every year the *Bionic Black Hawks* raise money for *Operation Good Cheer*, a charity organized by *Child & Family Services of Michigan*, which donates Christmas gifts to children in foster homes all over the state
- Last year we raised \$1,200. Then students purchased, wrapped and transported the gifts to be distributed
- The High School Team also showcases Robotics and Promotes STEM Education through events like the annual Welcome Back Event, BHHS Home Football & Basketball Games, a Community Open House, a Robotics Sponsors' Night and more
- The *Bionic Black Hawks* has helped start teams in other communities (Flint, Hazel Park, St. Hugo's, etc.), most recently at Durfee School in Detroit, *The Robotic Bulldogs*, who advanced to the State competition in the 2022–2023 and 2023–2024 seasons

## College Acceptance & Scholarships

- Robotics students are 2x more likely to show an increase in STEM-related interests
- Young women who participate in Robotics are 3x more likely to major in engineering and computer technology in college
- Our graduates get accepted to universities such as UofM, Duke, Stanford, Rose-Hulman, Michigan Tech, Kettering, CCS & more
- Robotics is one of the best extracurricular activities to secure a scholarship (*In fact, more and more universities have scholarships available ONLY to Robotics students*)

## Internships & Career Opportunities

- Our students demonstrate strengths in workforce skills such as teamwork, communication, adaptability and problem-solving
- Students from our Team have received INTERNSHIPS and JOBS directly from working on this FRC Team
- Every year at the State Championship, companies such as Ford, GM, DTE, Aptiv and more, award internships to students
- Major companies know the value Robotics students bring: they have technical/programming skills, they're teachable & appreciate feedback, perform well under pressure, have excellent critical thinking skills, and already have some business acumen

## STEM Advocacy at State, National & International Levels

- Each year, several Team Members attend the *Michigan Advocacy Conference (MAC)*, where they meet state legislators and advocate for their continued support and enthusiasm for STEM funding in Michigan
- We also send a delegation to the *National Advocacy Conference (NAC)* in Washington, D.C. each year, where students learn about current bills and meet their Representatives & Senators to advocate for increased access to STEM programs, especially for under-served populations
- Several Team Members have also attended/spoken at the United Nations (UN) during the *International Day of Women & Girls in Science*