



Grand Blanc High School Robotics Team



2017 FIRST Kickoff Event Information and Agenda

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Hey NERDs!

The 2017 FIRST Robotics season, *FIRST STEAMWORKS*, is nearly upon us! Our favorite time of the year, Kickoff, is just around the corner. It is **strongly** encouraged that ALL students and Mentors attend the Kickoff Event. You may be asking, "What is Kickoff?" - it's the day all of the FIRST Robotics Teams around the world find out exactly what our game objective will be for 2017, and we'll be hosting a strategy session for our Team, and determine where our robot strategy will be heading this season.

While not detrimental to their success on the Team, missing the Kickoff event will put Students at a severe disadvantage, and cause them to enter the Robotics Season behind their peers. The information covered at our Strategy Session is an integral part of the design process, and should be taken very seriously. Students will be expected to stay focused, on task, and respectful of the other Students and Mentors while at the FIRST Kickoff, and may be asked to leave if this guideline is not followed.

Due to limited seating, Parents may not attend the broadcast at Kettering University's International Room, but are welcome to join us for our strategy session and lunch. For more information about the broadcast, visit FIRST's website at:

<http://www.firstinspires.org/robotics/frc/kickoff>

We will also be setting up for our Day-After Kickoff Workshop (new title: Robot Build and Season Prep Workshop at Kettering University) after our Strategy session, so please wear comfortable shoes and be prepared for a little manual labor. Parents are encouraged to help us with this part – many hands make light work.

Please review the following information regarding the Kickoff event. And as always, please feel free to contact either Head Mentor with any questions you may have. Our personal contact information listed above, and text messages are usually the best way to get in touch with us.

Thanks,
Clinton and Brandi

TLDR: Come to Kickoff, it's important. You'll be sad if you don't.

Event Details:

Required Forms (due on or before Thursday, January 5, 2017):

1. All students (including those over the age of 18) are required to turn in a permission slip in order to attend the event. Teacher signatures are NOT required on this permission slip. Permission slips are available on the Team Hub.
2. In order to attend Kickoff, all Students must:
 - a. Print and obtain Parent/Guardian signatures on the Permission Slip,
 - b. Sign and turn in the Team Contract (from the Mandatory Meeting in December)
 - c. Complete all required online forms (available on the Team Hub)

Transportation:

1. Event location: Kettering University International Room, 1700 West University Avenue, Flint, MI (Campus Center 5th floor).
2. The Team will be meeting at Premier Tooling Systems to carpool to the event.
3. All Students will be assigned a Parent/Mentor driver, and must ride to and from the event with their assigned driver. **PARENTS MAY NOT DRIVE THEIR STUDENT TO THIS EVENT UNLESS BRANDI BOLINGER HAS ASSIGNED THEM AS A TEAM DRIVER. STUDENTS MAY NOT DRIVE THEMSELVES OR ANY OTHER STUDENT TO OR FROM KETTERING.**
4. Parking: Available in LOT 3, behind the Rec Center/Thompson Hall. Entrance to Lot 3 is located on Chevrolet Ave, at the bottom of the hill near the KUSARA, and is most easily accessed using the Hammerburg/Miller Rd. Exit from I-69. Please see attached map for parking location.
5. Kickoff Location: Proceed up the stairs from Lot 3, and follow the sidewalk behind Thompson hall to the Campus Center. Proceed to the 5th floor, and sit with our Team.
6. Punctuality is a very valued aspect of our Team. It is not acceptable to be late to Team events. Please contact Brandi via text message if any problems occur with transportation on the day of the event.
7. After the event, students should be picked up from Premier Tooling Systems at the designated time.



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Food:

1. Students and Mentors should eat breakfast at home prior to travel (if desired).
2. Lunch will be provided at the event. Please consult the Team Meal Calendar (on Team Hub) for menu selections.
3. Students and Mentors may also bring additional snacks or beverages to be consumed throughout the afternoon/evening brainstorming session.
4. A reusable water bottle is highly recommended at all Team events.

Uniform:

1. Students should wear an EngiNERDs Team Shirt. You may also wear a team Hoodie or jacket if you have one.
2. If you do not have a Team Shirt, please see Brandi to get one.
3. Safety glasses may be required, and will NOT be available at the event.

Behavior Expectations:

1. Students may bring an electronic device (phone, tablet, laptop, etc) for use in reviewing the game rules. Use of these devices must be limited to Team-related business, and may be taken away for inappropriate or distracting use. Students are responsible for the transportation and storage of these devices, and the Team will not be responsible for any personal belongings that may be misplaced at this or any events.
2. All Team Members attending the FIRST Kickoff event should review and become very familiar with the information in the Required Team Documents, which are available on the Team Documents section of the Team Hub. These expectations should not be taken lightly, as they are the cornerstones of the Team. Violations of these documents can result in dismissal from the FIRST Kickoff Event, or suspension from the Team.

About the 2017 FRC Season and other helpful resources:

1. FIRST Steamworks Teaser Video: <https://youtu.be/37GBEBlhWA>
2. Game and Season Materials and Q&A Forum/Updates - <http://www.firstinspires.org/resource-library/frc/competition-manual-qa-system>
3. Frank's Blog: <http://www.firstinspires.org/robotics/frc/blog/>



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Tentative Schedule of Events

Tuesday, January 3, 2017

Time	Description
6:30pm – 8:30pm	Meet at Premier to prep workshop materials (attendance HIGHLY recommended)

Wednesday, January 4, 2017

Time	Description
6:30pm – 8:30pm	Workshop Training at the Team Meeting (attendance HIGHLY recommended)

Thursday, January 5, 2017

Time	Description
6:30pm – 8:30pm	Meet at Premier to prep workshop materials and load trailer (attendance HIGHLY recommended)

Saturday January 7, 2016

Time	Description
7:30am	Meet at Premier Tooling Systems, check in with Brandi, move to assigned vehicles
7:40am	Depart for Kettering University
8:00am	Arrive at Kettering University, Flint, MI
8:10am	Proceed to International Room, Complete Registration, and be seated
8:30am – 10:00am	Workshops and Seminars
10:30am	FIRST Kickoff Broadcast begins
11:30am	Broadcast Ends
11:30am	Proceed to Academic Building room 1817 for brainstorming session.
11:30am	Lunch Served (provided)
12:30pm to 6:00pm*	Strategy and Brainstorming Session
6:30pm	Set up International Room for Workshop
8:30pm*	Depart for Premier Tooling Systems
8:45pm	Arrive at Premier Tooling Systems; Students should be picked up promptly.

