



Holiday Update

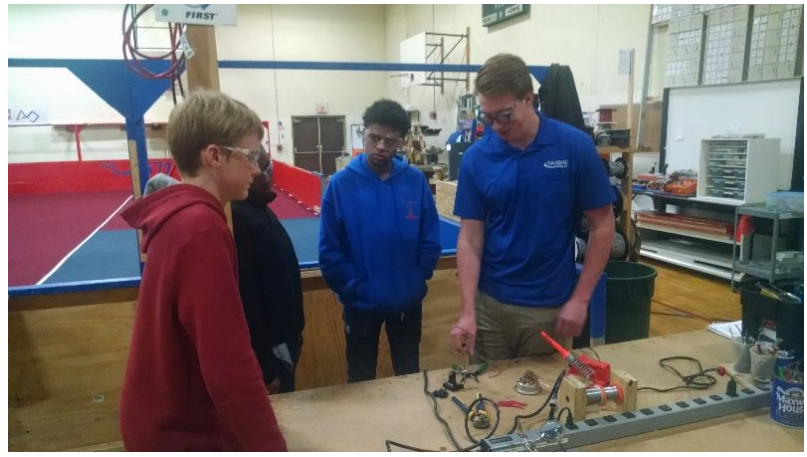
Team Paragon



January is getting closer and closer which means our preparation is nearing an end! Fundraising and volunteering are both being wrapped up in a nice holiday fashion as the team celebrates the lovely season before the multi-week rush ahead. Christmas tree sales, toy drives, and more allowed for an eventful lead-up to what everyone is waiting for: **Kickoff!**

Meeting - November 7th

At our first November meeting, students learned details about different kinds of motors, both ones we use on our robot and others used in most industries. There was a brief introduction of to the relationship between torque and speed, and the proper situations to value one over the other.



WHS Club Night - November 10th

At the annual Windsor High School 8th Grade Club night, Paragon students talked to 8th graders from all different schools about what Team Paragon is. While giving a brief overview of our past competitions and different subgroups we have to offer, many students seemed interested in joining the team next year.



EMS Food Drive - November 12th and 13th

Team Paragon again took part in their yearly community service event with the Windsor EMS, (Emergency Medical Services) at the Windsor Stop and Shop. Students handed carts to customers and took the opportunity to provide customers with flyers about the food drive so that they could donate to the EMS providers upon their departure from the store. Overall, the event was a huge success, and hundreds of pounds of goods and dollars were collected on behalf of the Windsor Food and Fuel Bank. Thanks to all who participated!



Meeting - November 14th

During this Monday meeting, students learned all about the different kinds of linear motion. Students brainstormed types of linear motion in their everyday lives, as well as were able to see firsthand exactly how certain examples are able to move. The new team picture was also taken, and to close the night students split off into subgroups of

their choice to work either on build, web, or programming.





Jaycees Christmas Tree Unload - November 26th

On a crisp fall morning, Paragonians gathered to help the Jaycees set up for their annual fundraiser. Donned in work gloves and warm clothing, team members unloaded Christmas trees off of trucks into the parking lot and help set up the sales area. The Jaycees is very thankful for the team's help.

Meeting - December 5th

A series of drive trains was discussed at this meeting, with discussions on the benefits and disadvantages of all. We looked back on past Paragon robots to see what type of drive train was most common and why. With this new knowledge, brainstorming for our new robot at kickoff will hopefully go more smoothly than usual. 😊



Project Santa Toy Drive - December 10th and 11th

At this Project Santa Toy Drive, students helped out Windsor EMS and stood in the middle of the road (safely of course) to collect toy and monetary donations from passing cars. A record breaking total of \$4817.16, multiple ambulance loads of toys (and one parking token) were raised at this event to support Windsor families. Windsor EMS was incredibly thankful for our continued support.

Meeting - December 12th

Instead of learning "oldmatics", we learned "newmatics", aka pneumatics. Pneumatics are often a crucial part of our robots. Though not used every year, they provide an ease of linear movement through pistons and tubing and are a fundamental subject in our team's curriculum.



Girls night



In keeping with the tradition we started last year, we had our second annual girls only (except for Mr Koenig and Mr Boehm) build night. It's a chance to only do what the girls want to do...we decided to work on driving. Also there was an alumni visitor, Devin Meacham, who stopped by to talk with the girls about how engineering has been applied in her life, how the

team has had an impact on her career and how the skills she learned put her ahead of many of her classmates in regards to use of tools and concepts.



Team Paragon involved in Teaching Elementary Students about robots

On Friday afternoon, Team Paragon students go into the elementary school to share their enthusiasm of robots and science at the the weekly Jr. FLL program. This program introduces young children to robotics through legos. The task

is simple, easy to get the hang of, and the students (both elementary and high school) really enjoy the time together and learn alot at the same time.



Upcoming events:

Kickoff- January 7th

Waterbury District Event: March 3rd - 5th

Hartford District Event: March 21st - April 2nd

Happy Holidays to All! And to all a good night....so that you can rest of for build season.

-AMANDA AND JUSTIN 💡