



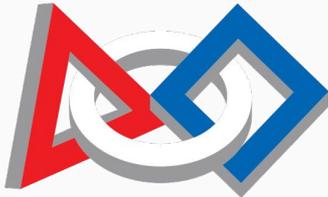
THE BODY ELECTRIC

Walt Whitman High School ⚡ Team 1389

WELCOME!



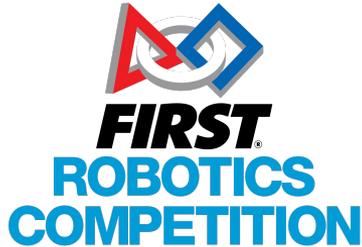
What is FIRST?



FIRST
ROBOTICS
COMPETITION



What we do

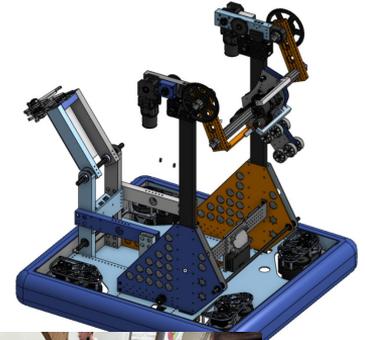
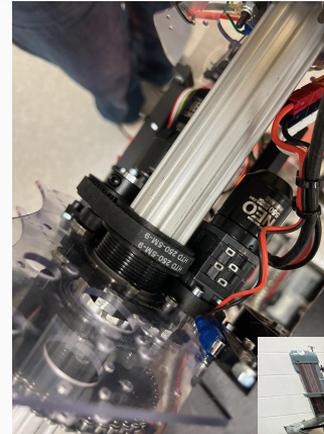


- We participate in the FIRST Robotics Competition
- Every year there is a new challenge, with new objectives and new rules, announced on **January 10th, 2026**.
- During Build Season from January to March (~10 Weeks) we design, build, program, and make a robot to take to competitions
- Our team is split into three main “subteams” to do this

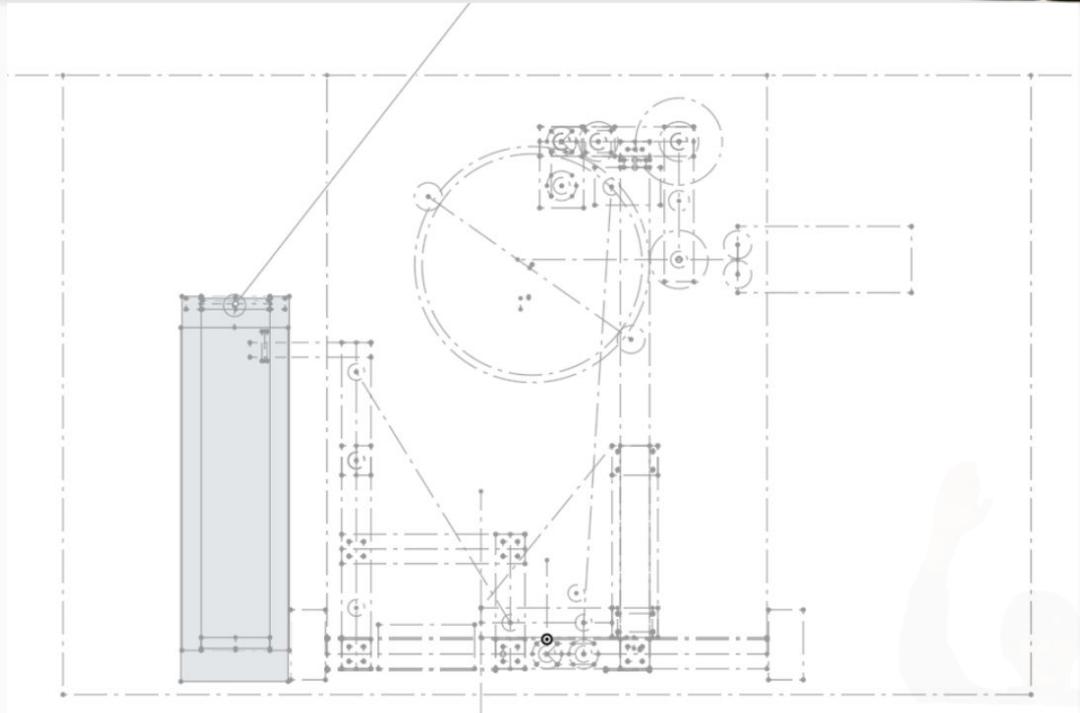
Mechanical

Harrison Kurtz
Jasper Benke
Vini Santos

- We design and build the **physical robot**
- First design it on **Onshape**
- Develop skills with power tools:
Drill, bandsaw, hydraulic press.
- We test throughout the building process, and do lots of problem solving



Mechanical - Robot Design

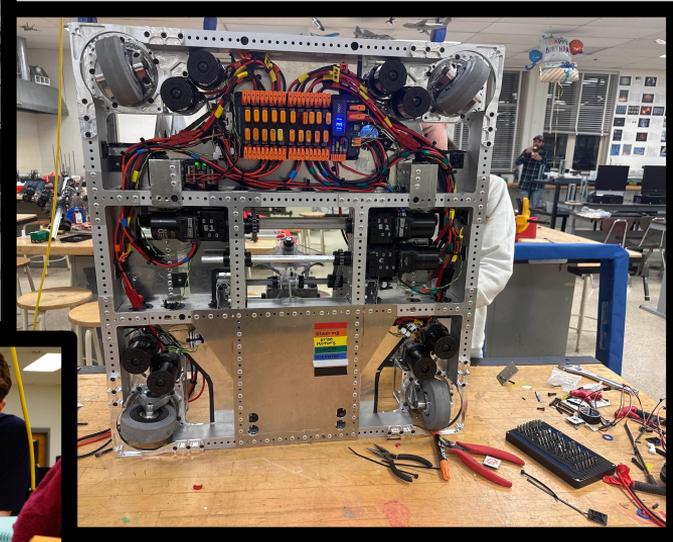


Electrical



Lucas Duffy

- Design the electrical system
- Wire electrical components
- Learn about **circuits, electrical components and systems**
- Work with batteries
- Help Mechanical



Programming

- **Write code** to animate our robot during matches
- Learn **Java, computer vision**, and more!
- Test your code straight on the robot!
- For the first 15 seconds of each match, the robots are required to move entirely independently (**aka autonomous phase**)



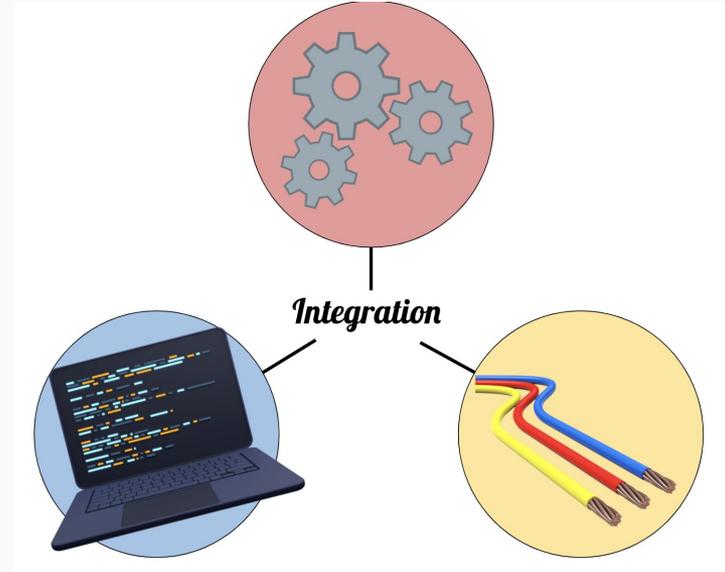
Alex Meline
Bill Zhou



Integration

Braxton Ezrailson

- **Integration connects the three teams together**
- The Swiss army knives of people, who can help with a variety of things
- Learn about all systems on the robot
- Keep the lab organized and safe to maintain efficiency



Awards

Cate Dickstein

- To advance in the competition you need points. Points come from matches and *awards*
- Some awards are submitted before the competition, others are gained at competition
- Being part of this subteam means applying for awards, and talking to judges at the competitions



Fundraising

Cate Dickstein

- The team needs a **MINIMUM** of \$35,000.00 to be able to fund the team each year.
- To make this happen, **every** team member will be involved in fundraising.
- We do this through bake sales, online sales, donations, sponsorships, and **day camps!**



Outreach/Communications

Katherine Wood

- Part of First's **GRACIOUS PROFESSIONALISM** is outreach
- Our responsibility as a team is to make more people aware of STEM, and to help our community
- We do those during open labs, robot demos, posting on social media, and more!
- **This season we will be supporting a North Bethesda FTC Team**



Tech & Tinker

- Team 1389 hosts day camps called “Tech & Tinker” to raise money for the team
- They are hosted at Bradley Hills ES on Saturdays from 8 AM - 2 PM
- Team Members may participate in or help plan Tech & Tinker events
- Current Planned Dates:
 - November 1st
 - November 15th
 - Other Dates TBA



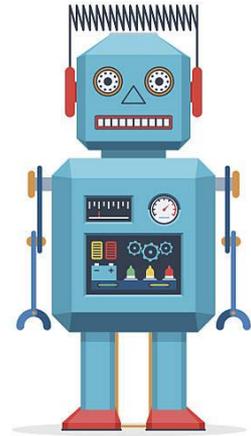
Meeting times

- Fall - Oct - December**
 - Tuesday - 6:00-8:00
 - Wednesday - 2:30-4:30
 - Thursday - 2:30-4:30
 - Occasional Saturdays - 10:00-2:00
- Build Season - January - March
 - Monday-Thursday - 2:30-8:00
 - Friday - 2:30-6:00
- Competitions - 2 in March
 - March 19-21 (We are hosting)
 - Second TBA
- No meetings are *required*, but remember, the more you attend the more you will become involved!
- Check the calendar on the website: team1389.org for more information on the schedule

**Fall hours may differ on a week by week basis

Culture

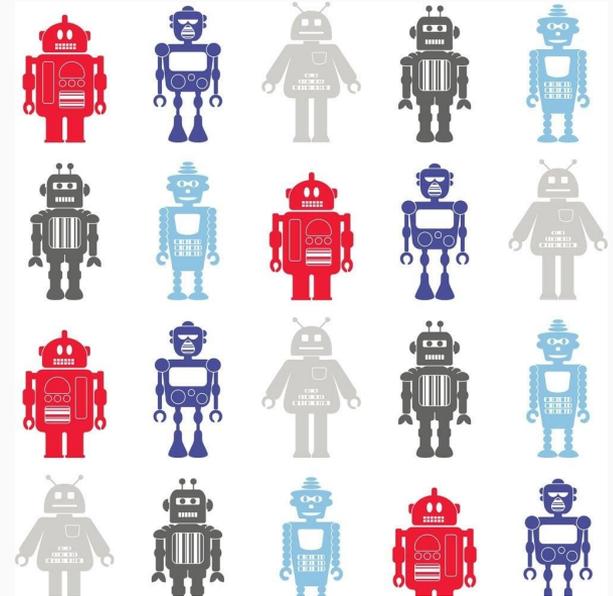
- Focused around Respect and Gracious Professionalism, robotics is an accepting learning environment
- With members coming in from different skill sets and talents, there are no bad ideas
- Everyone has something to contribute, we are all learning new skill sets and learning to work in a collaborative environment



Organization

Key to having a successful lab and season

- It is important to keep your workspace clean and to always put back what you take out
- Keep your workplace and things you are working on organized and together, so you don't accidentally lose your work or an important component of it
- If you don't know where something goes, ask a lead!



Community and Respect



- Culture of camaraderie and respect among everyone on the team, there will be lots of stress and pressure - we cannot take this out on others.
- You may not be friends with everyone on the team, but that does not mean that everyone is not entitled to respect.
- We aren't only trying to build a robot but a community by being Gracious Professionals
- It is important to respect every person on the team and their ideas and motives for being on the team
- Every person has something important to contribute to the team and if people are afraid to speak up about their ideas, our team loses a valuable resource

Safety Culture



- Safety is the most important part of the team
- You **must be tool trained** and approved by a mentor before you can use power tools, even if you already know how to use power tools
- Do not ridicule people for being safe, a “safety culture” involves being able to make safe decisions as an automatic response.
- There will be strict penalties for not following safety rules with little to no tolerance

Mentors



- We have many excellent adult mentors/teacher volunteers on the team.
- All mentors are volunteering their time so you can explore and learn about engineering and robotics.
- They are also active members of the team and as members we will respect them
- Never be afraid to ask mentors anything, they are here because they want to be - learn from them. They want to learn from us also.

Communication/ Resources



@frc.team1389

- We use **Discord** to communicate, so make a Discord and we'll give you the link to join
- chiefdelphi.com is a forum that has answers to all imaginable FRC questions
- team1389.org is our website where our calendar of meeting times are kept updated

Thanks :)



Follow us on Instagram!
@frc.team1389



Thanks :)

Please:

Sign up for CRI

Join Discord

Follow us on Instagram!
[@frc.team1389](https://www.instagram.com/frc.team1389)

