

Talon Robotics Talking Points 2022

- FIRST stands for “For Inspiration and Recognition of Science and Technology.”The program was founded with the ultimate goal of inspiring young people to be the science and technology leaders of the future.
- FIRST accomplishes this goal by challenging students to create robots that compete in fun, game-like challenges. Past challenges include games similar to Frisbee golf, soccer, and basketball. With themes ranging from medieval to science-fiction.
- The FIRST Robotics’ program progression starts in kindergarten and continues through high school. Younger students use EV3 kits, while older students build robots from scratch.
- I am on Eden Prairie High School’s Talon Robotics Team 2502. Five students started our robotics team in 2007. Since 2008 we have qualified for the World Championship 7 times and now have more than 40 members.
- This year's challenge is called Rapid React. During autonomous, teams have to score cargo into the hub. During endgame, they can climb onto the hangar and try to traverse the uneven bars to get more points. There is also an interesting human player aspect this year. During autonomous, human players are allowed to throw cargo into the hub from the perimeter of the field.
- Historically, we provided financial support for Jr. FLL, and FLL (FIRST Lego League), and mentored four FTC (FIRST Tech Challenge) teams.
- In a normal year, we demonstrate our robot annually at the Bots for Tots, scout troop meetings, Eden Prairie 4th of July Celebrations, Minnesota State Fair, and at many of our sponsors’ locations.
- Each summer we run summer camps through community education. Students get to participate in STEM challenges and build their own robot using Arduino.
- In addition to corporate sponsors, we typically raise funds to help offset travel costs through team fees and team fundraising events.
- Our robot this year attempts all high scoring tasks. We have an active intake that allows us to pick cargo up off the floor and a turret system to align our flywheel while scoring. We also have a climber that attempts to reach the traversal rung.