

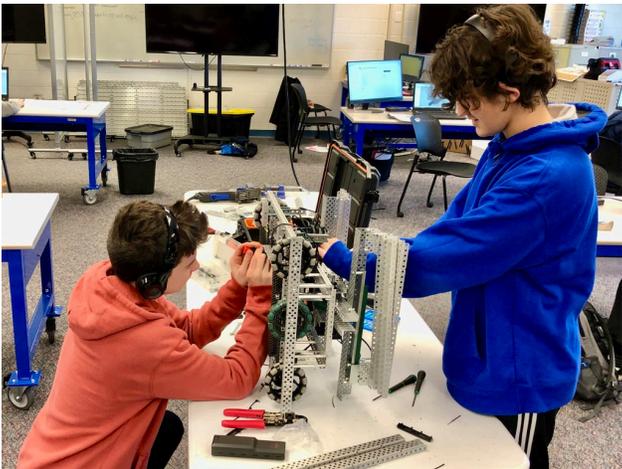


igniting your purpose!

January 17, 2020

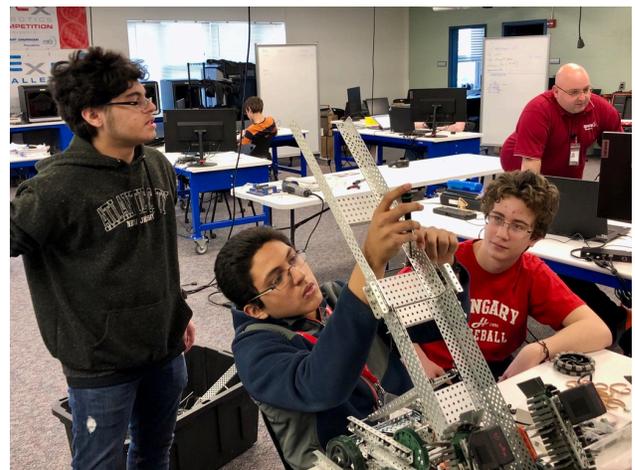
This is an exciting week for the Spark Academy community as we are hosting our first Robotics Competition tomorrow, Saturday the 18th, from 9:00 to 3:00. The students are hard at work prepping their robots for the day, and the staff is busy preparing to host 30 teams from 10 schools for the day.

I want to thank those of you who have brought in baked goods for the event and invite those of you who have not yet had the chance to do so to drop something off tomorrow morning.



More than ten schools/organizations and 30 teams will be participating in tomorrow's event! Pembroke Academy, Conval Regional High School, The New Hampton School, Pinkerton Academy, Epic, Thetford Academy, Kennett High School, Belmont High School, Nashua High School North, Paragon Robotics, and Plymouth Regional High School are among those competing. Spark will be hosting an even larger competition in February!

As we will have middle school students attending the event, we will be setting up an information table with Spark Academy materials and a slide show. It would be great if we could have parents and students at that time simply to greet families and share a few thoughts on our school. It would be a great help if you could spare an hour or two sharing your experiences with those who know little or nothing about Spark Academy.



Calendar Dates to Remember

- Saturday, 1/18 - Robotics Competition hosted by Spark Academy on the Campus of Manchester Community College
- Monday, 1/20 - Martin Luther King Jr. Day - No School
- Tuesday, 1/28 - End of Semester (Change)
- Tuesday, 2/11 - No School - Presidential Primary Day - Teacher Workshop
- Monday, 2/17 - No School - Presidents' Day
- Wednesday, 2/19 - Information Night for Prospective Families



Clarification: One of you was kind enough to point out that I mentioned our "Robotics Team" in my last newsletter and that we have several teams in competition. I tend to think of the team as one unit and the various "teams" as I would think of team squads or as "lines" in hockey. In my mind, they are all part of one team. My intention was certainly not to slight any of our Robotics Team members as I always value what each student or staff/volunteer brings to these accomplishments.

We conducted an Admissions Information Evening this week for prospective families and have more applications and students shadowing for a day as a result. The word is getting out about Spark! We have another Admissions Information Evening planned for Wednesday, 2/19. Please share this information with other families as early applications help assure a place at Spark for next year. Our homepage features this announcement so as to make it as convenient as possible for prospective families to remember the date.

Our conversations with incoming families tell us, among other things, that the website is often the first means for prospective families to find information about our school. It would be helpful to us if you, who have come to know Spark, could look through the website and offer us feedback as to how it might be improved. Just send your thoughts to me at denismailloux@sparkacademy.nh.org.

We have a new faculty member joining us. Mrs. Harnois will be teaching Biology for the second semester. Mrs. Harnois is an adjunct professor of both UNH Manchester and Manchester Community College and brings a great deal of expertise to us. We are very grateful to have her join us, and I am certain that our students will benefit greatly from her instruction. She has big plans for the curriculum! The class will include lab time in one of the MCC labs approximately once per week, culminating in an extended project at the end of the year.

I look forward to seeing many of you tomorrow and at other upcoming Spark Academy activities.

Sincerely,

Denis Mailloux
Director

