The Paladin Post: November 22, 2015

- To learn more about the FRC FIRST program, visit their website at: usfirst.org.
- All students should be registered on STIMS for the team. If you haven't completed the registration process yet, please do so now. If you have questions, please give me a call. Problems with this site are normal – there are issues every year. Please call so I can help you through it. **Students we are waiting on: Andrew M., Brett, Cam, Dakota, David P., Ivan, Kaden, Kassie.** https://my.usfirst.org/stims/Login.aspx
- Pay to play and first payment for team dues should be paid. The final $75 of team dues is due January 5. There are fund raising opportunities to help cover the cost of the team fees. See Mr. Ochs for information. Pay to play fee is due to the school administration office.
- There are all team meetings scheduled each Wednesday afterschool @ 3:15 –4PM: ending time varies with the agenda. Check the calendar for other meeting dates/times.
- The Off Season event was a success! Thanks to everyone for their help.
- The Middle School qualifying tournament was also a success. One of the G3 teams secured their spot at the State Championship! Thanks to all the Paladins that were able to volunteer and help make this a smooth and successful event for Petoskey!
- One of the FLL teams is the Grand Champion of the Lake State competition!
- **Petoskey Robotics:** A huge thanks to JL Sumpter, grant writer, and the Petoskey-Harbor Springs Area Community Foundation. Petoskey Robotics was awarded a $5000 grant to cover the cost of 3 new laptops for programming and drive stations; tablets for scouting; a camera!

News from Team Leaders:

Graphic Design: new logo has arrived – please notice the header! Thanks team. They are now working on flyers for the Which Wich Fundraiser.

Media: Working on the introductory video for YouTube. We're also getting a system for photo storing set up.

Scouting: finished the system which was used at the off-season event, and is working to create a method to scout with tablets.

Marketing Team: Worked on and finished the press release for the fundraising event at Which Wich.

Website: Continuing towards their goal of moving the Paladin's website to a new platform. We are going to be showing kids how to use Squarespace and assigning kids to pages.

Chairman's Team: Chairman's decided on the theme for this year's presentation (Monty Python). We got some costumes for the interview. They are beginning to plan the essay and video portions of the application.

Electronics: will be watching a video series on sensors

Important Dates:

Which Wich Fundraiser Demo: December 1, 4:30 – 7PM. Stop by Which Wich for dinner – 25% of proceeds go to Petoskey Robotics. Please share this information!

Holiday Open House: December 4, 2015: G3 and the Paladins participate in the holiday open house where we demo our robots at the Center City Gym.

Robot a Thon – December 12, 2015 – December 13, 2015: Mandatory. During the day on Saturday the team attends conference sessions, many of which are presented by students, with teams from all over. After dinner and throughout the night, the team attends more sessions and participates in team building activities.

New Year's Eve Demo: Thursday, Dec. 31, 5:00 – 9:00 pm, Petoskey Robotics will join with the Petoskey District Library in the joint New Year's Eve celebration downtown. The teams will be demoing the robots and the 3D printers during this celebration.

Kick Off: January 9, 2016: Mandatory: hosted at the Boyne City High School in the morning and then the team comes back to PHS; plan for Paladins to be busy all day; new game presented and then spend the afternoon strategizing back at PHS; Game play decision is made on January 10th – plan for another all-day session.

Build Season: January 9, 2016 – February 23, 2016.

Quick Build: January 16: Paladins host a quick build session for rookie teams to come get assistance putting together a chassis.

Bag and Tag: February 23, 2016: Robot must be bagged and tagged by this date and can only be brought out with special permission. Team and parent spirit/competition meetings begin.

Standish-Sterling District Competition: March 3-5, 2016: Mandatory: Drive/Pit Team goes down Thursday, for two nights and the majority of the team goes down on Friday morning for one night. Arrive home late Saturday evening.

Midland District Competition: March 17-19, 2016: Mandatory: Drive/Pit Team goes down on Thursday for two nights and the majority of the team goes down on Friday morning for one night. Arrive home late Saturday evening.

State Championship: April 13-16, 2016: Mandatory (if we qualify): Drive/Pit Team goes down on the 3rd for two nights and the majority of the team goes down on Friday morning for one night. Arrive home late Saturday evening.

Inclement Weather Policy:

a. If there is a school weather closure or there is just bad weather, team mentors will decide if they will be having their meeting. They will then let the team leaders know, and team leaders will inform their team members. Mentors may consult with Mr. Ochs before making their decision to hold a meeting.
b. If the weather is severe and parents do not want their child to attend a meeting, it is expected that he/she will contact one of three people – Mr. Ochs, team mentor, or team leader. Mr. Ochs will attempt to update the team calendar by noon of a snow day – please check it! http://paladins.petoskeyrobotics.org/calendar-6/

Val Meyerson
231.881.7676