



207 W Main Ave
West Fargo, ND 58078
www.west-fargo.k12.nd.us

Contact: Stephanie Hansen, Community Relations
Phone: 701.356.2000
Email: info@west-fargo.k12.nd.us

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

West Fargo Robotics Team Using STEM Skills to Prepare for Competitions

West Fargo, ND – (February 6, 2017) – West Fargo Robotics will be spending the next few months building a robot for the FIRST Robotics Competition. This is the fifth year for the team, which continues to grow in experience and ability. This year the team is made up of 29 students from West Fargo High School, Sheyenne High School, Fargo South High School, and Fargo Davies High School. The team’s activities are assisted by 12 mentors from around the community.

The goals of the team are to learn more about the technology, engineering, and programming of robots, as well as the marketing and organizing activities that go into building a successful team. The goals of the team are closely aligned with the drive to encourage STEM in schools.

The West Fargo Robotics Team 4818, “The Herd”, is currently meeting four times a week and is preparing for regional competitions in Duluth, Minnesota (March 1 – 4) and Cedar Falls, Iowa (March 22 – 25). Two years ago, The Herd won the regional competition in Duluth by winning the first finals match by one point and the second finals match by two points. This success brought them to the 2015 World Championships in St. Louis, Missouri.

During team practices, members plan and build a robot which will be used to compete in the [International FIRST Robotics Competition](#). The 2017 *FIRST* Robotics Competition game, Steamworks, is inspired by the era of steam power and has teams preparing their airships for the ultimate long distance race. The game involves designing, building, and driving a

robot to do three tasks: build steam pressure by retrieving and shooting fuel balls into a boiler, create a gear chain by retrieving and delivering rotors to an airship, and then climb aboard the airship by climbing up a rope. As in previous years, the 150-second matches involve two sets of three teams going head-to-head for supremacy.

The team will be hosting a sponsor and parent night on Thursday, February 16 at West Fargo High School in room 116G from 5:00PM-7:00PM. The students will be available to talk about this year's challenge and will be giving demonstrations on how the team's 2017 robot will play the game and dominate its competition. To see the West Fargo Robotics Team's progress, visit their [website](#) for photos, articles, and videos.