

Robotics 7: Competition Team
Causey Middle School
Meredith Nations, Instructor

Parents and Students,

I would like to welcome you to the 7th grade competition team Robotics course. This course is designed to continue students' knowledge of robotics engineering as well as basic/intermediate programming skills. Students will be competing in FIRST LEGO League (FLL). Throughout the course of the year students will work in teams to design and build a LEGO robot and then program it to complete a series of missions autonomously to score points in a 2.5-minute robot game match. Teams will also have a research project to complete related this year's theme, Submerged. Students do all of this while displaying the FIRST core values: discovery, impact, teamwork, innovation, inclusion, fun. More information about FLL can be found on their website: <https://www.firstlegoleague.org/about>.

This course will be mostly project-based group work. It is imperative that every member of the team contribute to the team's activities, projects, and goals. We will use LEGO Spike Prime Robotics kits along with LEGO programming software. This means that most of the work will be completed in class. It is especially important for students to utilize their class time wisely. All assignments must be completed and turned in as instructed. Late assignments will have points deducted. Students can arrange with the teacher if a make-up assignment is needed.

Every child enrolled in this course will be required to pay a \$50.00 lab supply fee. The instructor will provide all robotics supplies, competition material, and software. The fee also includes a robotics t-shirt.

The most exciting component of this course is the opportunity for competition. **All students will be required to attend the qualifying tournament.** Some teams may advance to the state championship tournament. As more information for competition becomes available, I will notify you via Remind. The qualifying tournament will either be November 23 or December 7 and the state championship tournament is on February 1, 2025.

At least one parent is required to join our class Remind. It is a messaging system I will use to send info and updates to you regarding the FLL season. You can also contact me through Remind should you have any questions. Please refer to the Remind info sheet for instructions.

I am looking forward to a fun and exciting school year! If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact me via phone, email, Schoology, or Remind. Be sure to follow us on Facebook – Causey Tigerbots.

Meredith Nations

mnations@mcpss.com

221-2060

Robotics Classroom Information

Grading Policy:

- 3 major grades minimum – 60% of the grade for the quarter
- 4 minor grades minimum – 40% of the grade for the quarter

Make-Up Assignments:

- All students can make arrangements to come to the computer lab during homeroom or PE to make up assignments. Assignments will have a due date. You are responsible for getting your assignment completed by the due date. Late assignments will result in loss of points.
- If an assignment is missed, the student will have 2 weeks to make up the work with points being deducted. After 2 weeks, the assignment results in a zero.

The CMS Way: Choose Respect, Maintain Accountability, Show Up in Every Way

Choose Respect: Follow directions, listen to understand, use kind words, honor personal space, keep areas neat and clean

Maintain Accountability: Complete and turn in work when expected, bring supplies including a charged laptop, keep up with your belongings, own your actions

Show Up in Every Way: Ask questions, help your peers, be positive and open-minded, be present and engaged, keep cell phones off and in backpacks

Rules and Procedures:

1. Sit in assigned seat.
2. No food or gum in the lab at any time.
3. Water bottles must have closed lids.
4. Everyone helps clean up to keep the room neat and orderly.
5. Do not use the computer for personal reasons such as messaging, video messaging, accessing social media sites, or other blocked sites.
6. Take responsibility for your robotics materials.
7. Report all problems to the instructor immediately.

Consequences:

If the above rules and procedures are not followed, the following steps will be taken:

1. Verbal Warning
2. Seat Change
3. Student/Teacher Conference
4. Contact Parent
5. Silent Lunch
6. Discipline Referral

*Robotics is a privilege. Repetitive behavior issues may result in dismissal from the class.