

2020-2021 VCMS Robotics Membership Information

Welcome to the VCMS Robotics Club,

Students, I'm excited that you have chosen to participate in the Vickery Creek Middle School Robotics Club. Your involvement in this club will afford you the opportunity to compete alongside your classmates against teams from around the state and world. My name is Mrs. Savage, and I am the sponsor that will be working with the Robotics Club at VCMS. I look forward to a wonderful year of competition robotics, and making positive memories!

The robotics team will meet weekly before school, from 7:45-8:30am in the MOD POD. We will spend our first meetings talking about the challenge, and different parts of the competition. The club will be split into teams of 4 students, who will work and compete together for the entire game season. The teams will compete in the VEX IQ competitions during most of the school year (probably to start in December). If an individual team places high enough in the state, they will be invited to attend the world competition in April.

Team members are expected to make a commitment to their team, and the club as a whole. As stated, the team will meet every morning with a staggered schedule. Each practice will begin at 7:45am. In addition, the MOD POD will be open for students to work on competition preparations Friday mornings at 7:45. Attendance on the Open Lab Fridays will be up to the student's discretion. Close to competitions, it will be highly recommended to attend Friday mornings and prepare for the event.

The only other requirement to participate is a contribution of \$150 in dues to the VCMS Robotics Club. Dues are used to cover: Robotics Kits for the team, a Robotics Team Shirt for each student, team registration costs, event registration costs, snacks at some meetings, and meals for some competitions. **The Money should not be a deciding factor in whether or not a student plans to participate.** Payment Arrangements can be made on an individual basis, with no effect on any student's eligibility to participate. For Any Specific Questions about the dues, feel free to contact me at bsavage@forsyth.k12.ga.us.

Parent Involvement is an important part in student success, both in and out of the classroom. Parents are encouraged to spend time with the teams during our meetings, work sessions, and at competition events. Technical Knowledge is a plus, but most of the time, the students really just need a cheerleader to keep them motivated. Even parents who have no knowledge of Robotics or Engineering can play a vital role in the success of teams. During the competitions, I ask that each student has some adult present at the event. Having an adult attend allows Me (sponsor) to assist in helping teams be successful at the events.

I look forward to an exciting year of robotics with the VCMS Robotics Club. I hope every student is excited with an end goal of winning VEX WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS in April! I can guarantee that I will do everything in my power to prepare the teams to win, all I ask is for students to work hard, and parents to support in any way possible to help us achieve our goal! .

Brigid Savage
CTAE: Engineering Tech and Audio Visual Teacher
VEX IQ Robotics Sponsor

VCMS Robotics Membership Information

VEX IQ is a robotics platform designed to transform STEM learning for young students and their teachers. In the VEX Competitions, students are tasked with designing and building a robot to play against other teams from around the world in a game-based engineering challenge. Classroom STEM concepts are put to the test on the playing field as students learn lifelong skills in teamwork, leadership, communications, and more. Tournaments are held year-round at the regional, state, and national levels; local champions go on to compete against the best in the world at VEX Worlds each April!

VEX IQ Robotics provides:

- ❑ Challenging Competitions
- ❑ Leadership Development
- ❑ Teambuilding and Friendships

Membership Dues:

\$150 Includes: Robotics Shirt, competition fees, robot kits, spare parts, and competition meals.

Payment Arrangements can be made with Dr. Woods: Money should not be what keeps any student from participating in the robotics team.

Meeting Dates and Information

- ❑ **Meetings and Work Sessions** – Meetings will take place weekly from 7:45-8:30am. Optional Friday morning work sessions will be from 7:45-8:30am, as well. As competition dates approach, some students may choose to make arrangements to work other days in the mornings, or afterschool, at the teacher's discretion.
- ❑ **Competitions** – Students will participate in 2-4 events throughout the school year. These will take place usually on a Saturday morning or afternoon. Please note all team members may not drive the robot at competitions, but are still expected to be at the competition. Some teams will rotate drivers while other teams will use the best drivers.

For more information, visit:

<http://www.roboticseducation.org/vex-iq-challenge/viq-current-game/>

Or contact: bsavage@forsyth.k12.ga.us

Please turn in all completed applications to Mrs. Brigid Savage by Friday, Oct. 9th. Late applications will not be accepted.

Dues must be turned in before October 23rd. Students do not have a guaranteed spot on a robotics team until dues are paid, or specific arrangements have been made with Mrs. Savage.

In the event more than 40 students apply, the first 40 who turn in a completed application and dues (Or Make Specific Arrangements) will have guaranteed spots, with the next 5 students going on a waitlist.

VCMS Robotics Membership Information

To become a member, please fill out and return the forms and payment to Mrs. Savage by October 9, 2020.
Late forms will not be accepted.

Parent/Guardian Signature for Permission to join: _____

Student Name (print): _____

Current Grade: 6th 7th 8th Gender: Male Female

T-shirt size (check the size): Youth Small Youth Medium Youth Large
 Small Medium Large X-Large XX-Large

Parent/Guardian Information:

Name: _____

Cell #: _____ E-mail: _____

Name: _____

Cell #: _____ E-mail: _____

VEXIQ has multiple jobs for team members. Which job(s) are you interested in, a good team member usually participates in multiple jobs. Teams win awards at competition for Robot Skills, STEM Research, Excellence, Design Award (judging of the robot and design notebook), and Teamwork Champions.

- | Job | Description |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Driver | A team of 2 students is responsible for driving the robot during competition. Teams will tryout the week before the competition. The strongest 2 drivers will drive. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Programmer | VEXIQ has a 60 second Skills Challenge. The programmer would write the functions for the robot to do. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Builder | Builders are responsible for building the robot. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Design Notebook | This person records all of the team meetings and information in the design notebook. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> STEM Research | VEX has a research component called STEM Research. Students would conduct and create a project based on the current STEM Research topic. |

Please write a paragraph about why you want to be on the robotics team.

Visit the following website to look at this year's game.

<http://www.roboticseducation.org/vex-iq-challenge/viq-current-game/>

