



*To our friends and fellow STEM supporters,*

Melbourne High School's Robotics Team 386, Team Voltage, has recently won the South Florida Regional Competition on March 3rd-4th. The FIRST (For Inspiration and Recognition of Science and Technology) Robotics Competition (FRC) is a unique varsity sport of the mind designed to introduce high school students to interesting and rewarding careers in Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM). FIRST Robotics releases a game to FRC teams and gives the students six weeks to design and create a robot that will compete in competitions. The short time period allotted means students must be committed and work effectively in order to achieve their goals. They gain experience in the different disciplines of engineering, learn problem solving skills, time management and teamwork. FRC takes a sports-like competition environment and combines engineering challenges to create an overall educational experience.

Over 195,000 students from around the world are involved in the FIRST program every year. In particular, the South Florida Regional Competition had several international teams ranging from the Netherlands to Turkey to Colombia. Our team 386, better known as Voltage, was founded in 2000. Voltage is not just a robotics team. Voltage gives students hands-on experiences in engineering including mechanical engineering, electrical engineering, and computer science, allowing students to receive mentoring from current and retired members of STEM fields.

Thanks to our recent win in the South Florida Regional Competition, Team 386 now has a chance to attend the FIRST Championship in Houston, Texas in April. Currently, due to a lack of funds, we are unable to take advantage of this unique opportunity. Our cost estimate including transportation, lodging and the competition entry fee is approximately \$30,000. We are organizing multiple fundraisers however this in and of itself will not be enough. Therefore we are asking businesses, friends, and family to help us achieve our goal of competing in Houston.

Depending on the sponsorship level you choose, your company's logo could appear on our team website, banner, or even on our robot. Not only will your company be represented at the FIRST Championship, your contribution through the Brevard Schools Foundation is tax deductible.

If you wish to sponsor our team you can find the sponsorship application and information regarding the FIRST Championship in Houston on our team website. (<http://www.teamvoltage.org/>). More information about the FIRST Championship in Houston can be found on the FIRST Championship website (<http://www.firstchampionship.org/houston-home/>).

Checks should be made out to the Brevard Schools Foundation, with Team 386 on the memo line. Please send checks to 74 Bulldog Blvd Melbourne, FL 32901 c/o Thomas Gabeler. Our FEI/EIN Number is 59-2895155.

You can also call us at (321)223-6329 or email us at [theteam@teamvoltage.org](mailto:theteam@teamvoltage.org).

Thank you for taking the time to read this.

*Sincerely,*

Team Voltage 386