News release



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Robots invade H.M. Jackson High this weekend! Robotics team to compete in and host FTC regional competition

On Dec. 12, 48 *FIRST*® Tech Challenge (FTC) Robotics teams will compete at a regional event to be held at <u>H.M. Jackson High School</u> in Mill Creek, Washington. This event will be hosted by H.M. Jackson's robotics team, Jack in the Bot – Team 2910.

This is a dual regional event. At the competition, fans will be able to watch two exciting robotics matches at the same time.

FTC competitions are spirited in the stands, fiercely competitive on the field in their alliance, cooperative in the pit (the pit is where they repair the robots in between matches). It is truly a unique experience and one that is great for all ages.

Washington state is the first in the nation to host dual FTC regional events due to the state's history of support of robotics teams. For the past three years, the Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction has offered grants to help get teams started.

FIRST® Robotics Programs (FIRST® Lego League, FIRST® Tech Challenge, FIRST® Robotics Competition) promote Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM) education. The goal of FIRST® is to develop in the world's young people a lasting interest in science and technology through participation in a *sport for the mind*.

Come to the regional event on Dec. 12 at 11:30 a.m. and watch an event that truly celebrates students that are pursuing the application of science, math and engineering principles in the design of their robots. The game is played in cooperative alliances so students compete but also cooperate with other team members on an alliance to play the game. You can view a video at the following website (http://usfirst.org/roboticsprograms/ftc/).



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At this regional qualifier, there is a bigger reason to come than the fun you will have watching the robots compete. You will be supporting Kayla Healy. She is a student at H.M. Jackson High School with cystic fibrosis who needs

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a double lung transplant and the robotics team, Jack in the Bot – Team 2910, is donating the proceeds of their concession stand to Kayla to help her pay the costs of the transplant. H.M. Jackson High School has raised \$25,000 for Kayla so far. The robotics team hopes their proceeds will help her get closer to the \$50,000 goal that she needs.

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