

Community

Weekly Report 4/2/18 to 4/8/18

Over the course of this past week, I have been working on various components of my final product. After my latest mentor visit, I resolved many of the issues I was facing and determined what and how to implement next. Outside of ISM, however, I encountered a few problems in leadership.

As you may know, I am the captain for the Robotics Team here at Reedy High School. For roughly a year now, I have been trying to participate in the First Robotics Competition (FRC), an extremely prestigious and outstanding competition. However, many problems, ranging from sponsorships, bank accounts, and logistics, arose from the administration. Even as of right now, we still do not have any confirmation on a set solution for any of these three problems. As a person striving to become a leader, this was quite disheartening, not just for me but for the idea that students are being deprived of their dreams due to a force they cannot control. My co-captain, who has been heavily involved with FRC before moving to Frisco, burst into tears after hearing the notion that we must abandon the organization that we worked hard to create.

However, I would not, and will not, let the robotics community fall so easily, and after much deliberation, we collectively decided that we will relocate to be under a different group, such as the Frisco Public Library or the YMCA. Nevertheless, this event showed me how robust the community I built actually was. From the beginning, I wanted to build a culture full of innovation and research and determination, much like the one ISM possesses. Until this point, I did not believe that I achieved this goal and thus believed that I had failed as a leader. Amidst this hardship, however, we strove above our station with our heads held high to create a hopeful

future. As a future ISM II student, I will take what I have learned from this experience to help guide my connection as the ISM community continues to grow.

Being a leader is not always easy nor is it always simple, but the biggest lesson that I have learned is to trust in my members and trust in their opinions and mindset. Only then can we as a group create a machine capable of impacting the world.

Until next week,

Sahil Jain