



FIRST Robotics Worldwide
College Signing Day
Information Kit

May 18, 2016

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Motivation

Dean Kamen, Founder of US FIRST? Robotics said that one purpose of Robotics Programs are

“To transform our culture by creating a world where science and technology are celebrated and where young people dream of becoming science and technology leaders.”

A National Signing Day helps celebrate a major milestone in the lives of our students advancing this vision.

Goals for the FIRST Robotics College Signing Day

- Create a nationwide campaign recognizing the outstanding high school seniors that have participated in *FIRST* Robotics programs and are choosing to continue with their education beyond high school
- Encourage each *FIRST* robotics team to host a signing day on May 18, 2015 to recognize their graduating seniors
- Increase awareness of *FIRST* Robotics programs and the success they are bringing to students in local communities
- Increase awareness of *FIRST* Robotics programs at colleges that these students will be attending

Planning Your Signing Day

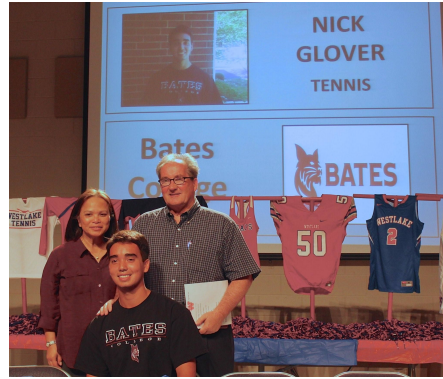
How to organize your team's participation in Worldwide Signing Day

- 2 - 4 Weeks Before Secure a location and time for signing day on May 18, 2015. This could be anything from a large office to a small auditorium based on size of team.
- 1 Month Before Up to Day Of: Promote your team's participation in Signing Day to Local Media, Sponsors, local businesses, local college reps, school administrators, and families. Create slide show of students with University Logo.
- Day of: Signing day will take about 30 minutes. This is not a recognition of each students' achievements but just a short statement by each student stating their intentions for college.
- Day of: Take pictures for release to local media, school papers and social media

Ideas for Room set-up and Students Participation



Have students wear shirts, hats or other gear from schools they choose to show their pride.



Each student individually recognized with their family, along with a slide of their college and study.



Table with the team or high school banner on front like this. Students may sit behind the table with parents behind them facing the audience

Have underclassmen from the Robotics Team attend the event to cheer on their departing seniors!

Agenda

- Coach/Mentor makes a brief statement about the team and may introduce each student with any robotics honors and number of years of participation.
- Each student then takes turn saying:

“My name is _____ and my intention is to attend _____ majoring in _____.”

They then sign the Intentions Letter and pass the pen to the next participant

- Be sure to have fun with this!!
 - Wear school hat, hoodie or t-shirt
 - Have fun with announcing it
 - Take individual pictures and/or group pictures and PROMOTE on social media
- Coach thanks everyone for attending and then dismisses those in attendance.
- Coach collects the letters and sends them to *FIRST* or enters information

Example Press Release

Eastern Southern High School and *FIRST* Robotics Team XXXX will participate in Worldwide *FIRST* Robotics College Signing Day that highlights academic scholars and Robotics students who have committed to attend college next fall. The purpose is to celebrate the STEM education received in the classroom and as members of *FIRST* Robotics teams by formally acknowledging this milestone. We will host a signing event on May 18, 2016 at 7:30am where students and community members will witness our robotics seniors sign a letter of intent to enroll their respective chosen college.

Add description of team accomplishments, if desired.

Social Media Examples

Twitter • “This is a huge day for robotics students across the nation! Congratulations FIRST Robotics Team XXXX Seniors #FIRSTSigningDay”

Facebook • “Happy Signing Day to all the robotics seniors! We are so proud of you! #FIRSTSigningDay

Instagram • [Photograph] “Eastern Southern and US First robotics team XXXX high school seniors on National Signing Day 2016 #FIRSTSigningDay”

Follow Up - Data Capture

Team coach or designee to collect the Letter of Intent from each student signing.

- Within two days of the signing, visit website (**this pathway still needs to be determined**) and enter the student information.
- Current plan would be to use the *FIRST* Robotics Signing Letter of Intent Document for a way to consolidate information regarding your team.

Future plans would be for *FIRST* to compile this information and publish it to all FRC/FTC teams in the summer following the signing day.