



# Executive Summary

Woodlawn High School's Robotics Team, Panthrobotics, provides students the opportunity to engage engineering, science, technology, and business skills in a high-impact, hands-on environment.

Panthrobotics motivates students from all walks of life to employ the skills they have learned in school to real-life experiences.<sup>1</sup> Each year, club members design a robot from a set of common parts to compete in robotics competitions through FIRST (For Inspiration and Recognition of Science and Technology)<sup>2</sup>. They accomplish this task in six weeks with the help of engineers, scientists, and other mentors. The team then competes with this robot against thousands of other schools from around the world in regional competitions and at the World Championship in Saint Louis, Missouri.

Panthrobotics creates opportunities for students to engage science and technology through participation in these yearly robotics competitions. Studies have shown that participants in FIRST Robotics Competitions are<sup>3</sup>:

- Three times more likely to major in engineering.
- Ten times more likely to have had an internship, apprenticeship, or co-op in their Freshman year of college.
- More than twice as likely to pursue a career in science or technology
- More than twice as likely to volunteer in their communities.

Panthrobotics is a student-run club whose members also engage in the management of team infrastructure. Members learn how to manage an organization through day-to-day business processes and by engaging in organizational committees.<sup>4</sup>

Panthrobotics depends on the funding provided by businesses, civic groups, and individuals that recognize the need for a workforce trained in the fields of science, engineering, and business. The team requires approximately \$50,000<sup>5</sup> to cover yearly budget costs such as travel, registration fees, and building components. Sponsors also provide a consistent group of mentors to assist in the management of the team as well as lending their experience to students in the design and implementation of the robot.<sup>6</sup>

Organizations that choose to support Panthrobotics through a tax-deductible donation are publically acknowledged<sup>7</sup> in the media as well as on our promotional material as well as on the robot itself. By lending support and funding, sponsors can guarantee that students will leave their high school with the skills necessary to succeed as well as lead in today's society.

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<sup>1</sup> Further details can be found in our School Population Section (Page##)

<sup>2</sup> Further details can be found in our "What is First" Section (Page##)

<sup>3</sup> According to a study done by FIRST and Brandeis University. More information can be found at:  
<http://www.usfirst.org/who/content.aspx?id=46>

<sup>4</sup> Further details can be found in our Organizational Chart Section(Page ##)

<sup>5</sup> Further details can be found in our Financial Budget Section(Page ##)

<sup>6</sup> Further details can be found in our Request for Mentors (Page ##)

<sup>7</sup> Further details can be found in our Sponsor Recognition Section (Page ##)