



## ***FIRST For All***

### **Workshop #4 - Dare Mighty Things in STEM**

*Breakout Room Insights - 1/25/24*

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## **QUESTIONS**

1. Who are your role models and where do you find them? Can you be a role model for others?
2. Beyond your own *FIRST* team, what other STEM opportunities are there for girls in your community and how can you promote those?

## **1. Role Models and Mentorship**

- Jen in this meeting, she is a technical lead and one of the few female leads. Team mentors, Projects looking up to those who lead them. Teachers who have a passion for STEM.
- Can you be a role model for others? Being a team leader, empowering others is a good way to be a role model, Having your voice heard and sharing your own story."
- It's important to find a mentor who can advise and advocate for you.
- Role Models: 1) My uncle – one of the first engineers in the family 2) Amelia Earhart 3) Alumni – older students; near peer 4) Previous team captains 5) My sister.
- Being a role model: 1) Setting a good example for the team 2) Being sure to be inclusive and encourage participation and team bonding.
- Role model was a previous team member that guided through the rookie process. Peers were a big inspiration. Being in STEM related teams/clubs will inspire others to join.
- Student leads train new comers and is a form of mentoring/role modeling.

- Mentors are so important – they are the reason our teams are where they are today. Great to have them at competition.
- Seeing ourselves as mentors or role models for FLL teams, younger girls especially. Inspiring the next generation to see if they like engineering, give it a try. Alumni mentors are really someone students look up to. FLL and FTC mentors were female and motivated students to stay in robotics.
- Friends are role models that encourage us to go outside our comfort zone (and join robotics teams) so having buddy systems on teams to encourage friendship.
- Mentor roles are not just to advise you but to advocate for you, so take advantage of them! Seek out their help, it can take you further than you imagine. Seeing representation in mentors is important— female teachers, female mentors, female team leads.

## 1. STEM Opportunities and Inclusion

- Started a SWE Next chapter to go out and help change cultural Libraries have a lot of STEM activities. STEM events with VEX and FTC teams help garner excitement for STEM.
- 1) Not a lot - *FIRST* robotics is the main 2) Internships from local companies 3) Medical programs at school 4) Some engineering courses.
- Teams are leveraging SWENext, WiSTEM, Girls Who Code, Future Tech Leaders of America.
- Would like to see more Space STEM opportunities. Sharing with everyone on *FIRST* Team.
- A lot of schools seem to have Women in STEM clubs, Girls Who Code. As these have become more inclusive spaces, there are more women stepping up; inclusivity works and also begets more opportunities and experiences.
- Increasing diversity at a young age is important, us as high school students are mentor figures to younger students.