

PIGMICE REPORT

The roster below is team members that went to Houston (note we have one student from Franklin). We also attended 2016 Championships in St. Louis via a lottery slot but were not selected for an alliance for the playoffs. This year was only the 2nd time we've qualified for the PNW District Championships.

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|----------|--------------|-----------------|-----------|
| Milo | Beall | Sophomore | Cleveland |
| Brendan | Burkhart | Junior | Cleveland |
| Orion | Capell | Junior | Cleveland |
| Dexter | Carpenter | Senior | Cleveland |
| Cynthia | Carrell | Chaperone | |
| Josiah | Chan | Sophomore | Cleveland |
| Jago | Dorn | Freshman | Cleveland |
| Caleb | Eby | Senior | Franklin |
| Colin | Hale-Brown | Senior | Cleveland |
| Franklin | Harding | Senior | Cleveland |
| JJ | Heldmann | Chaperone | |
| Victor | Huynh | <u>Freshman</u> | Cleveland |
| Nathan | Jesudason | Senior | Cleveland |
| Sarah | Jesudason | Chaperone | Cleveland |
| Hunter | Key | Senior | Cleveland |
| Jennifer | Kuchar | Sophomore | Cleveland |
| Henry | McCreery | Junior | Cleveland |
| Kai | Morita-Mcvey | Junior | Cleveland |
| Marcus | Polk | Sophomore | Cleveland |
| Tucker | Ramsey | Junior | Cleveland |



Team in Tacoma after 2019 PNW District Championships



Team in Houston at 2019 *FIRST* Championships

Cleveland High School's robotics team, The Pigmice (FRC 2733), recently wrapped up one of their most successful competition seasons at the *FIRST* Robotics Championships, also known as "Worlds." Seventeen team members and three chaperones travelled to Houston, where 403 teams from nine different countries took part in the four day tournament. The event was held from April 17-20 at the George R. Brown Convention Center, with the final matches played in Minute Maid Park, home of the Houston Astros.

The competition in Houston was the culmination of many months of work. Students gather at the beginning of the school year to learn the fundamental skills necessary to build a successful robot. Teams are also tasked with fundraising and outreach. The Pigmice mentored LEGO robotics teams at Winterhaven, Hosford and Tucker Maxon schools, applied for grants, and helped to build a practice field to be shared by area teams at local sponsor DW Fritz's headquarters in Wilsonville. This year's *FIRST* Robotics Competition (FRC) challenge was announced in January with detailed parameters of the game. Under strict rules, limited resources, and an intense six-week time limit, teams of students are tasked with honing teamwork skills, and building and programming industrial-size robots to play a difficult field game against like-minded competitors. This year's game was themed "Destination: Deep Space" and featured challenges to place as many polycarbonate disks ("hatch covers") and orange rubber balls ("cargo") on rockets and cargo ships as possible before returning to their end of the field to attempt to climb to one of three levels on the HAB platform at the end of the 2 minute and 30 second match. Successful robots can grasp and articulate two different shapes of cargo, place items accurately as high as eight feet, climb to the top of a platform, and operate autonomously for twenty seconds.

Leading up to the Houston Championships, the Pigmice took part in two Pacific Northwest District events in March, the first at Wilsonville High School where they were captains of the 3rd ranked alliance after qualification matches, and the second at Lake Oswego High School where they were chosen by the 6th ranked alliance captains, FRC 997 Spartan Robotics. Their performance at these tournaments qualified them for the PNW District Championship at the beginning of April in Tacoma, WA, where they finished ranked 26th out of 64 teams from around the region.

In addition to a variety of means of qualifying, *FIRST* offers teams an opportunity to attend the Championships via a randomly selected waitlist. The Pigmice were offered one of these spots and opted to take advantage of the chance to compete in Houston. The team successfully raised nearly \$7000 in a short period to defray registration and travel expenses.

The Houston *FIRST* Championships brought over 400 robotics teams from around the country and the globe together to challenge each other, including 27 from Oregon and SW Washington. Participating teams were assigned to one of six divisions (Carver, Galileo, Hopper, Newton, Roebing, and Turing), each consisting of 66-68 teams who then faced off in dueling alliances consisting of three randomly chosen robots for each of the qualifying matches. The Pigmice finished their qualification matches on Friday afternoon with a record of 5-5-0, and were ranked 21st of 66 teams in the Turing Division. On Saturday morning, the Pigmice were chosen by the captains of the 6th ranked alliance, Plasma Robotics (FRC 2403 from Mesa, Arizona) to join forces in the playoffs, along with two other teams. Together they went on to win their all four of

their quarterfinal and semifinal matches before succumbing to the top ranked alliance in the finals.

The Pigmice were founded in 2004 as a *FIRST* LEGO League team, and won the First Place Champion's Award at the *FIRST* LEGO League World Festival in 2007. The Pigmice then transitioned to a FRC team based at Cleveland High School in 2009. The robotics team currently has thirty-seven members and 5 volunteer mentors who lend their time and talent to help guide the team. The team is completely funded from outside PPS via grants from Boeing, Daimler, DW Fritz, Oregon Dept of Education, TE Connectivity and family donations.

The *FIRST* Robotics Competition (FRC) program engages students in grades 9 through 12 by combining the excitement of sport with the rigors of science, engineering and technology. *FIRST* (For Inspiration and Recognition of Science and Technology) was founded in 1989 by technology entrepreneur Dean Kaman, who was in attendance at the Houston event. Based in Manchester, NH, the 501(c)(3) not-for-profit public charity designs accessible, innovative programs that motivate young people to pursue education and career opportunities in science, technology, engineering, and math, while building self-confidence, knowledge, and life skills. More information available at firstinspires.org.

Details and match videos for 2019 season: <https://www.thebluealliance.com/team/2733>