



**MEDIA INFORMATION  
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
November 20, 2013**

## **Career Center FIRST Robotics Team Looking for New Members**

JACKSON, Mich. – The Jackson Area Career Center’s FIRST Robotics team – the Jacktown Vectors – is looking for students and adults with diverse talents to be part of this year’s robot build and competitions.

Organizers will hold an informational meeting for interested students, parents, and mentors on Thursday, December 12, at 6:00 p.m. at the Career Center.

“This is open to all high school students who are interested in science, technology, engineering, and math,” said John Riedeman, a Career Center instructor and FIRST Robotics team coordinator.

Students interested in designing, building and problem-solving with an engineering focus will enjoy this group, but also needed are students interested in business and communications to promote the team, create a web site, create graphics, produce t-shirts and banners, as well as the organize fund raising activities.

Adults are needed as mentors to coach students, and business professionals are needed as team sponsors.

The robot building is scheduled to start Saturday, Jan. 4, with completion in late February. Work sessions will be held after school at the Career Center, from 3:00 to 6:00 pm., Mondays-Fridays with some possible Saturday meetings.

The team will use creativity and ingenuity to build a robot that responds to remote commands and carries out tasks based on this year’s FIRST Robotic guidelines within an environment that encourages “gracious professionalism”. Teams start with a box of standard parts and rules and have six weeks to prepare a robot for competition.

Teams from across Michigan compete at scheduled regional and statewide competitions to see which robots can accomplish the tasks of the competition best. More details on timelines and meeting dates will be covered at the informational meeting.

More information about FIRST Robotics can be found online at [www.usfirst.org](http://www.usfirst.org).

###

*Photo with caption:*



*Photo Caption: Jackson Area Career Center's 2013 FIRST Robotics Team, the Jacktown Vectors, is looking for new recruits for the 2014 games. Find out more on Thursday, December 12, at the 6 p.m. informational meeting being held at the Career Center.*

CONTACTS:

William Farrant  
Computer Systems Technology  
Instructor  
Jackson Area Career Center  
(517) 990-6616  
[William.Farrant@jcisd.org](mailto:William.Farrant@jcisd.org)

Cindy Lyons  
Career Prep Coordinator  
Jackson Area Career Center  
(517) 768-5211  
[cindy.lyons@jcisd.org](mailto:cindy.lyons@jcisd.org)

John Riedeman  
Engineering /PLTW Instructor  
Jackson Area Career Center  
(517) 768-5177  
[John.Riedeman@jcisd.org](mailto:John.Riedeman@jcisd.org)