



Hello, friends and fans of the Fighting Calculators! The school year is approaching fast, and with it, the 2016 season. As such, our team is starting our annual training schedule with lessons for computer aided design, Java coding, project management, and more. With these lessons, new recruits can get started learning essential skills, and veterans can refresh their memories and learn new tricks that they will use in the build season and beyond. Computer aided design (or CAD for short), our longest running training lesson, recently got a revamp with a brand new curriculum updated for the new versions of SolidWorks™ that have been



released in the last few years. A few of our coding veterans have been graciously invited to an advanced Java training course hosted by our new sponsor Intertech. This will equip our coders with the tools necessary to tackle any challenge.



In addition to training, our team has been putting on a number of demonstrations to spread the word of FIRST and STEM education. We've done three demos at elementary schools, one at a middle school, and one at the Science Museum's Robots and Rockets summer camp. At these, team members would talk about who we are and what we do, and the students would get the chance to ask questions and drive the robot. At Oakdale Elementary, we took part in their Adventure Connection program. Adventure connection provides child care and enriching activities to students in kindergarten through sixth grade. Each child learned basic engineering and physics concepts through games and activities. Students got to make cornstarch "goop", build with Legos, learn about magnets, make marshmallow-toothpick structures, and play with snap circuits. We also demoed at the Washington and Ramsey County Fairs, telling parents about FIRST and FRC and letting kids drive the robot. We would love to see some sponsors at our Demos.

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Demonstrations	
5/14	Skyview Elementary
6/11 6/16	Science Meuseum
6/22	Skyview Adventure Connection
6/22	Skyview Middle
6/23	Oakdale Adventure Connection
7/7	4-H
7/19	Ramsey County Fair
8/7	3M
8/28-8/30	Woodbury Days