For Immediate Release

Littleton Robotics' Three *FIRST* Lego League Teams Advance to State Championship After Winning Awards at Qualifier Competition in Upton

(Littleton, MA) November 26, 2018 – Littleton Robotics' three *FIRST* Lego League (FLL) teams for ages 11-14 competed on November 17 at the Upton Qualifier held at Blackstone Valley Regional Technical High School. The competition included game matches played by Lego robots and three presentations to judges about each team's robot design strategy, teamwork values, and their solution to a problem posed by long-term space flight based on the FLL season theme INTO ORBIT. Based on results from the Upton Qualifier, all three Littleton-based teams have been invited to participate in the FLL State Championship on December 15, 2018 at WPI.

At the end of the Upton Qualifier, the teams were awarded:

- Gracious Professionalism Award (Mechanism Madness)
- Programming Award (Littleton Levers)
- Champions Award for best all-around performance in robot, project, and core values (Powerful Pulleys)

In addition, the teams ranked 2nd, 4th, and 5th overall at the event and Powerful Pulleys won the elimination tournament while Mechanism Madness was a semi-finalist and Littleton Levers was a quarter-finalist.

"We are all so incredibly proud of our FLL teams and how hard they've worked all season," said Deanna Clark, Lead FLL Coach for Littleton Robotics. "Many of these students had never participated in FLL before, and they really came together intheir teams to accomplish everything they needed to. They've learned so much about engineering design, prototyping, and programming, as well as communication, leadership, teamwork, and community involvement."

Student members of Littleton Robotics' *FIRST* Robotics Competition team (ages 13-18) served as coaches and mentors for the FLL teams, guiding FLL students through the process of designing and programming their robots, conducting research, and working together.

Littleton Robotics introduced their FLL program to Littleton in 2017. The team also runs a summer program designed to teach 6th-8th grade students about FLL and how the competition works. When the season officially opened at the beginning of August, the students were ready to start planning, prototyping, and programming for the full season.

The state competition will be held on December 15 at Harrington Auditorium and the WPI Sports & Recreation Center (SARC) at WPI. In addition, Littleton Robotics will host their own FLL Qualifier event for other local FLL teams on December 1 at the Boxboro Regency. All events are free and open to the public.

For more information on the FLL teams or the *FIRST* Robotics Competition team Mechanical Advantage (for ages 13-18), please contact info@littletonrobotics.org or visit the Littleton Robotics website at www.littletonrobotics.org. Follow all of the FLL and FRC seasons on social media on Facebook (Mechanical Advantage), Twitter (@FRC6328), or Instagram (@FRC6328).

About *FIRST*®

Accomplished inventor Dean Kamen founded *FIRST*® (For Inspiration and Recognition of Science and Technology) in 1989 to inspire an appreciation of science and technology in young people. Based in Manchester, N.H., *FIRST* designs accessible, innovative programs to build self-confidence, knowledge, and life skills while motivating young people to pursue opportunities in science, technology, and engineering. With support from over 200 of the Fortune 500 companies and more than $25 million in college scholarships, the not-for-profit organization hosts the *FIRST*® Robotics Competition for students in Grades 9-12; *FIRST*®Tech Challenge for Grades 7-12; *FIRST*® LEGO® League for Grades 4-8; and *FIRST*® LEGO® League Jr. for Grades K-4. *Gracious Professionalism*® is a way of doing things that encourages high-quality work, emphasizes the value of others, and respects individuals and the community. To learn more about *FIRST*, go to www.firstinspires.org.