



Student: Natalie

Grade Level: 10

Season: 2023 - Charged Up

Explain how the student embodies the philosophies of Gracious Professionalism and Coopertition through the *FIRST* Core Values: Discovery, Innovation, Impact, Inclusion, Teamwork and Fun. Please provide examples.

Natalie is an active leader within our team and the *FIRST* community. In her first year on FRC, she grew our team from a business perspective and continues to trailblaze into her second year. She initiated an innovative strategic marketing plan and expanded the team data collection and documentation system, leading her teammates on how to apply this information. Through social media, Natalie steps up to assist other teams; whether it be answering questions, giving advice, or reviewing materials, she connects with *FIRST* community members internationally. She engaged with a team from Turkey, advising them on how to run and host outreach and off-season events as well as acquire sponsors. Additionally, she assisted a student in Germany on how to set up an FRC team.

How has the student increased the awareness of *FIRST*? Describe the student's interests and/or plans to continue to engage with *FIRST* beyond high school. Please provide examples.

Coming from the FTC program, Natalie is passionate about expanding our feeder pathway and the impact of *FIRST*. She continues to mentor her previous team, ensuring students have access to STEM. She reached out to teachers across our district to discuss how to start an FLL team. At shop tours and through email, she engaged with parents and students alike to cultivate interest for FLL and FTC teams. At other community events, she speaks with attendees about *FIRST*. After finding out our schools are getting remodeled, Natalie advocated for our team at a board meeting, ensuring that *FIRST* is sustained throughout Worthington. Upon graduating high school, Natalie plans to continue to mentor *FIRST* teams near the university she attends, volunteer at *FIRST* events, and judge for competitions.

Describe the student's technical expertise, using specific examples in the areas of programming, electronics, design, fabrication, making, illustrating how these skills have contributed to the team's success. Please provide examples.

Natalie's technical expertise spans from scouting to data collection and analysis. One of our team's alumni who now volunteers at *FIRST* events guided her through the process of scouting, such as how to analyze robot capabilities and strategies. Through her active participation, Natalie has now become our team's scouting lead, scouting over 90 teams, and coordinating all of our members at competitions to deliver accurate and timely information to our drive team. She also advanced our team's data collection system, consolidating participant and alumni information, and developing team statistics. She uses data collected about events attended from team members, reach stats, and other measurable results to determine the effectiveness of events and modify them accordingly to improve events.

How does the student's individual contribution to the team benefit the team as a whole in the areas of fundraising, outreach, entrepreneurship, and creativity? Please provide examples.

Natalie brings outstanding energy to our team. With her passion for the *FIRST* program, she increased our team's presence with the Impact Award, involving the entire team throughout the process. She plans outreach events, such as STEM presentations for elementary school students, and connects with administrators throughout our district to start feeder teams, increasing our team's sustainability. Additionally, she helped run a booth with FC Bank at Worthington Market Day, an event with 100,000 attendees, to promote our team, recruiting a new mentor. Additionally, after seeing DHL's CLO speak about how they use robots within their facilities, she reached out to him, following up with a cold call to establish a partnership with them.



Explain the student's leadership to their fellow team members. How do they motivate others? What is their leadership style? Please provide examples.

Natalie is a leader with initiative and tact. She inspires others by putting ideas into action and including all members throughout the process. While training rookies this season, Natalie led students through the fundamentals of developing and giving presentations. She also broadened their understanding of fundraising by teaching them how to research companies, practicing mock cold calls with them, and reviewing how to write a formal sponsorship letter. She recognizes students for their efforts and encourages them to pursue their interests and develop their strengths. With other *FIRST* teams, she reviews business plans, provides insight on fundraising initiatives, and uses her knowledge from leading the charge on developing the Impact Award sector to contribute valuable feedback.