



## NUTS AND BOLTS

Mini-Issue: Women in Technology Workshop

### DATES:

December 3rd:

End of 2016

Preseason

October 17th:

CAGE Match Off-Season Competition

January 9th:

Official 2016 Season Kickoff

### NEW SEASON, NEW TEAM

With the upcoming 2016 season, the TechHOUNDS are already underway teaching and creating a new team. This year's preseason comes with a varied array of new training and team building activities.

As with every year, the team will partake in the annual Late-nighter, where all of our members comes together one evening of intense team building challenges, assorted games, and family-style dinner. This tradition is an integral part of the team, and every member is strongly encouraged to attend.

Along with the Latenighter, the TechHOUNDS have introduced a new type of training method; a mock FIRST Robotics Competition (FRC) game. The team leadership has come up with Triple Tennis Trouble, in order to simulate the actual build season by creating a VEX robotics sized game. Its intent is to preview the pressure of an actual FRC game, while allowing new members to learn how to use the tools and how to work with others. Be on the lookout for a later issue of the Nuts and Bolts for more information on the preseason game!

# PANELISTS



Susan  
Brooks

Congresswoman



Glenda  
Ritz

Supt. Of Public Instruction



Dorothy  
Gorman

CCO, PLTW



Lisa  
Laughner

Pres. & CEO, Go Electric  
Inc.



Praveena  
Theertham

Systems Engineer

# WOMEN IN TECHNOLOGY WONDER!

**September 26th, 2015.** After five months of intense planning, the TechHOUNDS launched the first ever *Women in Technology Workshop*, a day long event to encourage over 50 girls across central Indiana to pursue education and careers in STEM (science, technology, engineering, and math).

Women have long been underrepresented in technology fields, making up less than 20% of professional engineers and computer scientists. With this event, TechHOUNDS is striving to be part of the solution.

Using a curriculum designed independently by our team, the attending girls, ranging from ages of 12 to 15, had the opportunity to enhance important STEM skills through hands-on experiences. First, through a VEX-robotics team-building



competition, students worked in small groups to build and code a miniature robot. Additionally, in conjunction with an instructor from the 1150 Coding Academy, students were able to develop the mindset of a programmer through graphic coding. Finally, in a lesson taught entirely by current female engineering high students, the girls were able to gain basic CAD (computer-aided design) skills and even see our laser cutter in action!

At the conclusion of the program, the TechHOUNDS were honored to host six distinguished women from central Indiana for an interdisciplinary panel discussion. Through this collaboration between female politicians, industry leaders, and education experts, we brought attendees, parents, and the public at large an idea of exactly how women can successfully pursue STEM, and what efforts are currently being taken to increase female representation in these fields.