



STEAM Varsity Letter Guidelines

Varsity Letters are a benchmark standard for individual student success at the High School level. In an effort to recognize that FIRST Robotics is a *Sport for the Mind* the Ballston Spa High School recognizes the efforts and accomplishments of FIRST Robotics Competition (FRC) Team 3044 with a Science Technology Engineering and Mathematics (STEAM) Varsity letter. The Ballston Spa Central School District is committed to creating a high standard for achievement for earning the Varsity Letter Award. Just as our sports teams have a formula for awarding a Varsity letter for specific sports, the STEAM Varsity letter may be awarded to members of FRC Team 3044, the Ballston Spa High School Robotics Team. An eligible member of the FRC Varsity Team is defined as a member who has participated in productive meeting time/community service, has attended and participated in two end of season Regional Tournaments (three-days) and traveled to and participated in any subsequent tournament that the team qualifies for following Regional Tournaments. Simply attending FRC meetings, attending but not participating in Regional Tournaments, and being “called up” from FTC to participate at a tournament, does not qualify the participant to receive a Varsity letter. However, if a circumstance arises, there are special exceptions which can be made by the Head Coach and approved by the Administration.

At the end of the school year, FRC Team 3044 members who complete their first year on the team and qualify for a Varsity letter will be awarded their letter and an FRC game pin to be worn on the letter. For subsequent years of successful participation, members will be awarded the current FRC game pin to be added to their letter. Each FRC game pin will signify an additional year of participation and recognition.

Example: Varsity STEAM B + 1 FRC game pin =1 yr. of participation on Team 3044
Varsity STEAM B + 2 FRC game pins =2 yrs. of participation on Team 3044
Varsity STEAM B + 3 FRC game pins =3 yrs. of participation on Team3044
Varsity STEAM B + 4 FRC game pins =4 yrs. of participation on Team 3044

Team members are reminded that the STEAM Varsity Letter is a recognition award determined by the Head Coach in conjunction with the Mentors and Administration. Team members who fail to attend regular meetings, who do not participate at competition or do not attend all required tournaments, may not receive a letter. In addition, violations of school district rules, unacceptable behavior on team trips and unacceptable academic performance, may cause a team member to be disqualified from the team and disqualified from earning a Varsity Letter.

Please consult the FRC Team 3044 Head Coach for further questions about Varsity letter requirements. Additional questions and information can be referred to the BSCSD Science Coordinator - only after the Head Coach has been contacted.