



Renee Becker-Blau &lt;rbeckerblau@indianafirst.org&gt;

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## IndianaFIRST: 2017 St. Joseph District Event - Parking, Food, Hotels, Volunteer, VIP, Etc.

1 message

Renee Becker-Blau &lt;rbeckerblau@indianafirst.org&gt;

Tue, Feb 7, 2017 at 1:44 PM

To: Renee Becker-Blau &lt;rbeckerblau@indianafirst.org&gt;, Liz Smith &lt;lsmith@indianafirst.org&gt;

Hello Main & Alternate Contacts of FRC Teams attending the St. Joseph District Event,

Congratulations on getting the season started! We're planning lots of experiences for the St. Joseph District Event and we'd like to ask and share some information with you:

The St. Joseph District Event will take place **March 10th - 12th, 2017** at:

**Penn High School,  
56100 N Bittersweet Rd,  
Mishawaka, IN 46545**

**March 10th** is a load-in day, **March 11th** is the first full-day of competition, & **March 12th** is the second full-day of competition.

The IndianaFIRST event page for the St. Joseph District can be found here: <http://www.indianafirst.org/2017-st-joseph-event>

The [2017 St. Joseph District Public Event Schedule](#) can be found on the [IndianaFIRST 2017 St. Joseph Event Page](#) (please note that the schedule is subject to change).

Updates to the event pages will continue to be made as the event approaches!

**Please see below for important event details:**

- **Parking**
- **Food**
- **Hotel Recommendations**
- **Sign up to Volunteer**
- **VIP Nominations | Two per Team**
- **Museum Media**
- **Run for Robots 5k**
- **IndianaFIRST Media Team**
- **#MakeltLoud**

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### **Parking:**

Bus & Trailer parking will be on the South East side of the building by the Practice Fields.

Teams will load-in by entering the school grounds at 55949 BITTERSWEET RD, MISHAWAKA, IN 46545 on the North West side of the building. Drive across the north of the building to the North East side. Turn right and drive South to unload at the EAST Entrance.

Bittersweet Road starting at the North West Corner of the building and drive South, to the South West Corner of the High School.

WE ARE UNABLE TO PARK ON THE SOUTH WEST & WEST Side of the building on Saturday due to SAT Testing.

Parking is on the NORTH WEST side of the building, we will need to use overflow parking which is to the NORTH and WEST of the high school. See the [2017 St. Joseph Event Page](#) for a picture with these details.

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## **Food:**

Teams are welcome to bring food into the venue, we expect to have access to an auxiliary gym teams to eat lunch.

Concessions will be available. More information about potential food vendors will be sent out to teams closer to the event. Grills are not allowed.

Please follow school rules, no tobacco, alcohol, drugs, etc on the school campus, wear shoes and shirts at all times.

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## **Hotel Recommendations:**

Working with the St. Joseph Planning Committee, Visit South Bend Mishawaka has put together a site for teams, volunteers & families to make hotel reservations for the upcoming event. Please book hotels early as many teams are traveling from quite a distance away and will need to stay overnight.

Visit the 2017 St. Joseph District Event page for more details: [Hotel Recommendations](#)

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## **Sign Up to Volunteer:**

Interested in volunteering? Sign up as a volunteer in the Volunteer Information Management System (VIMS)!

- [https://my.usfirst.org/FIRSTPortal/Login/VIMS\\_Login.aspx](https://my.usfirst.org/FIRSTPortal/Login/VIMS_Login.aspx)

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## **2017 St. Joseph VIP Event & Student Ambassadors:**

The 2017 St. Joseph VIP Event will be taking place in the morning of Saturday, March 11th. **Reservations for the event are required.**

We would like to encourage you, representing the team attending the event, to suggest VIPs that are connected to your team:

1. You may submit 1-2 names as VIPs with mailing address, company or organization, e-mail, and phone (more details below);
2. We will add those names to our VIP list, and send out an e-invite;
3. **VIPs must RSVP by the date on the invite to confirm their attendance at the event.**

Please provide us with these names so we can pass along the invitations and collect the responses. Managing this process for teams gives us the ability to track who has been invited and who we expect to attend.

FIRST likes to recognize VIPs as those persons or firms that make it possible for your team to exist and to attend our events. This can be somebody who donates significant time, money, materials, or other support to your team. Here are examples of potential VIPs, and this list is not exhaustive:

- The key contact at a company that is a major financial sponsor or that donates facilities or significant amounts of material;
- A school principal or superintendent, if that person strongly supports your program;
- An engineer or other person that provides significant mentoring and assistance;
- A local government leader who has provided significant assistance and support;
- Somebody who passes the “but for” test; but for this person, your team would not exist.

If you have one or two people you think should be invited, please send Renee Becker-Blau ([rbeckerblau@indianafirst.org](mailto:rbeckerblau@indianafirst.org)) this information by Wednesday, February 15th, 2017. Please send the information as follows:

Name (and salutation, such as Mr., Ms., Mrs., Dr., etc.);

Professional/business title and name of organization, if applicable;

E-mail address;

Mailing address;

Phone number.

Teams who are outside of Indiana or some distance from the St. Joseph District, are encouraged to submit names for your potential VIPs. Even if you think they wouldn't be able to attend the event, **the invitation can be sent as a courtesy or a small token of appreciation for what they do.**

If you have any questions please reach out to Renee Becker-Blau, Executive Director of IndianaFIRST at [rbeckerblau@indianafirst.org](mailto:rbeckerblau@indianafirst.org).

**We'll be recruiting student ambassadors as the event approaches.**

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## **Museum Media**

In celebrating 20 seasons with FIRST the host school wants to share the journey of teams throughout the years. We are creating a collage for the competition this year - a museum of sorts. The collages will remember the past 20 seasons of FRC games.

Please have a team member share with us pictures - tagged with your team number and the corresponding year - of your team, the robot, the robot playing the game, etc. We're focusing on the past 20 seasons of gameplay - 1998 and forward. So pictures including the game's logo, the robot playing the game, the game pieces, the field, and game-related imagery will take precedence.

Upload your pictures to our facebook group:

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/sjdistrict> (PUBLIC EVENT)

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## **Run for Robots 5k**

Saturday morning we are hosting a Fundraiser 5K in tandem with the competition - we invite families, teams, and locals to participate.

Dress up like a robot and run/walk the 5K! Sign-up and share the event: <https://penrobotics.runforphil.org>

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## **IndianaFIRST Media Team:**

Mentors, please share this information with your students:

Are you interested in supporting the event as a member of the 2017 IndianaFIRST Media team?

We're looking for students who have experience in photography, interviewing, graphic design, video editing, and social media! Students will have the opportunity to volunteer during the event to take and edit photo and video and other media for use in our district.

If you're interested in volunteering as a member of the media team, please fill out this form: [2017 IndianaFIRST Media Team](#).

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## **#MAKEITLOUD:**

The hashtag for the event is #INMIS

Follow IndianaFIRST on [Twitter](#) & [Facebook](#).

Invite the general public to attend the event and RSVP by sharing our PUBLIC [St. Joseph District Event Eventbrite page](#). (Please note this is not the RSVP for the VIP Event!).

Thank you,

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