



8161 Mechanicsville Turnpike
Suite I
Mechanicsville, VA 23111

(804) 572-8454 contactus@firstchesapeake.org
www.firstchesapeake.org

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CONTACT:

Scott Turnbull, Executive Director
sturnbull@firstchesapeake.org
804.215.2218

Alex Bryant, Programs Director
abryant@firstchesapeake.org
804.370.4128

FIRST Tech Challenge Mechanicsville VA Qualifier 1 Event– 28 Middle and High School Robotics Teams to Compete at Atlee High School

Mechanicsville, Virginia. December 3, 2022...More than 300 of the best and brightest middle and high school students in the District of Columbia, Maryland, and Virginia will meet at Atlee High School to test their teamwork and ingenuity at the *FIRST* Tech Challenge Mechanicsville VA Qualifier 1 Event. This event, on December 3rd, is free and open to the public.

WHAT: [FIRST Tech Challenge Mechanicsville VA Qualifier 1](#)

WHEN: Saturday, December 3, 2022, 7:00am-5:00pm

WHERE: Atlee High School- 9414 Atlee Station Rd. Mechanicsville, VA 23116

WHO: The best and brightest middle and high school students from the District of Columbia, Maryland, and Virginia pit their robots against the [POWER PLAY Challenge](#) Presented by Raytheon Technologies for a spot at the *FIRST* Chesapeake *FIRST* Tech Challenge Championship Sponsored by Capital One.

The robots are coming! Winners will earn a chance to compete at the *FIRST* Chesapeake *FIRST* Tech Challenge Championship Sponsored by Capital One in Severn, MD on February 11th. This year's challenge, POWERPLAY, uses a playing field where teams strategize, form alliances, and demonstrate gracious professionalism while moving cones and assembling them onto stationary and spring-mounted junctions. Team robots are required to work autonomously, as well as with drivers, to score points using teamwork and *coopertition*. Families and the general public are invited to come out and cheer on their favorite team and learn more about *FIRST* programs. The event is free and open to the public.

Major sponsors for the season include Booz Allen Hamilton, Qualcomm, U.S. Dept of Energy- EERE, Dominion Energy, and Leidos. For sponsor details, visit www.firstchesapeake.org/about/sponsors.

About FIRST® Chesapeake

VirginiaFIRST dba FIRST Chesapeake administers the [FIRST Tech Challenge Program](#) and the [FIRST Robotics Competition Program](#) for the District of Columbia, Maryland, and Virginia. Each year, *FIRST* Chesapeake directly impacts over 8,000

middle and high school students through robotics workshops and competitions. Over 50,000 individuals attend 20+ *FIRST* Chesapeake robotics competitions and workshops from November through April each year. To learn more about *FIRST* Chesapeake, go to www.firstchesapeake.org. Follow Us on [Twitter](#) and [Facebook](#)

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-3. *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

###