MEMORANDUM

DATE: June 1, 2017

TO: Local and Intermediate School District Superintendents
Public School Academy Directors

FROM: Sheila A. Alles, Chief Deputy Superintendent

Michigan Department of Education

SUBJECT: 2016-17 FIRST Robotics Grant Advancement Award and Final
Requirement

Congratulations to all 1,032 Michigan Department of Education (MDE) funded FIRST
Robotics teams on a great 2016-17 season! Over 140 teams competed in April at the
State Competition and 76 Michigan teams advance to compete in the World
Competition. Advancement awards will be paid out to districts in the June 30 State
Aid Management System (SAMS) payment in the amounts outlined below.

State advancement awards are as follows:
- FIRST Robotics Teams (FRC) - $3,000
- FIRST Tech Challenge (FTC) - $125
- FIRST Lego League (FLL) - $50

Super regional advancement awards are as follow:
- FTC - $250

World advancement awards are as follows:
- FRC - $1,500
- FTC - $500

A list of revised team awards can be found at www.techplan.org/rdi. As a reminder,
all districts receiving the advancement award agreed to provide a match of
25 percent.

Per the grant requirements all teams must provide the MDE with an electronic team roster. To support districts in meeting this requirement, the MDE has created the following data collection process, which will ensure consistent data collection.

1. Download and complete a *2016-17 FIRST Robotic Team Roster Spreadsheet-Template* found at www.techplan.org/rdi. This document is an Excel spreadsheet that include only four data fields: District Code, Team Number, Student UIC, and Student Grade Level. Include all district teams in one file.
2. Create an amendment within the districts 2017 FIRST Robotics Michigan Electronic Grants Plus System (MEGS+) application.
3. Upload and save the spreadsheet into the districts 2017 FIRST Robotics MEGS+ application under the attachment section.
4. Submit the 2017 FIRST Robotics MEGS+ application by **June 30, 2017**.

Once all districts have uploaded their rosters the data will be aggregated into a master file for data analysis. The data analysis will be conducted to examine the impact of the FIRST Robotics program in relation to student growth and achievement.

Please note, that this process will only be for this year. The Office of P-20 Data and Information Management staff are working with the Michigan Data Hub Project and the Center for Educational Performance and Information (CEPI) to automate the data collection and analysis process for future years.

For more information on the MDE 2016-17 FIRST Robotics Grant Program contact the Office of P-20 Data and Information Management, Education Technology Unit at (517) 241-3629 or visit our website at www.techplan.org/rdi.

cc: Michigan Education Alliance