

Jason's natural leadership started in Boy Scouts. As Assistant Patrol Leader, he runs meetings and organizes activities, as well as mentors the younger scouts. He earned Eagle Scout in his sophomore year. His project was building a bridge over a creek on a local park trail to help visitors cross safely.

This previous experience helped him smoothly transition in to a leadership role on the team in his first year. We were looking for a new student leader and Jason fit the bill. He is honest, responsible, mature, and enthusiastic: a good role model for other students on the team.

As a student leader, he manages team communications, which is important in keeping all 72 team members organized with all that FRC1511 does year-round. It includes sending out weekly team emails and posting on our forum and Wiki. He creates agendas, and runs team meetings as he is comfortable talking in front of large groups. He also developed the team's curriculum for our pre-build meetings in the fall, making sure there was a balance of team building activities, trainings, and lectures. He also creates our "lessons learned" surveys for team members to share their opinions about team improvements. This year's pre-build surveys summarized that Jason's curriculum was the most fun and organized yet!

Jason's organizational skills come in handy when keeping our work space clean and thus safe. He has organized team cleanup days to reorganize our storage spaces and our workshop. This helps maintain our great relationship with the school and teachers whose classrooms we are using.

As the student leader of our field subteam, he keeps safety in mind while building the full field for teams to use to test their new robots at Rally, our pre-ship "scrimmage." He works tirelessly to make sure the field is accurate for the practicing teams.

Last year, we signed up for a new event at the Monroe County Fair and we needed the full field for invited teams to compete with us for over 30,000 fair attendees to see. But we had torn apart the field after Rally! Jason was quick to organize the rebuild of the field right after Championships. He delegated tasks to students and mentors, motivating them to make the inaugural year of the 5-day event the best it could be. We were a hit, and this year the fair has expanded the size of our space, is giving us a school bus to paint for the demo derby (which Jason also wants to lead), and is getting sponsors to collect \$1,000 to start a FLL team! Jason was at the fair all day every day, making sure the event ran smoothly, and promoting FIRST and FLL. A woman he met started a 4H FLL team that competed in 2010!

Jason is involved and takes lead in many aspects of the team. He attends most of the community service activities the team participates in such as sorting medical supplies to be shipped to countries in need and walking for various causes. He also spreads FIRST at our many robot demonstrations such as the New York State Fair, Penfield 4<sup>th</sup> of July Parade, and professional soccer games. He leads packing our trailer for demonstrations and competition, making sure we have everything we need! He is part of the strategy subteam and hopes to be selected as robot driver this year. Last year (his first year), he scouted during competition. This data was provided to other teams to help them and our team successfully choose alliance partners. Jason's commitment and initiative has inspired other students to do the same, thus making 1511 a stronger student-run team.

Jason displayed Gracious Professionalism and knew its meaning before he joined the team, making him a perfect fit for FIRST. He said that being part of FRC1511 makes him more excited to come to school and his grades have improved because of FIRST. The impact FIRST and FRC1511 has had on Jason makes it clear that he will be a dedicated lifelong member. We know his natural drive and good nature will do him well in whatever course of study he pursues.

