



## Benefits to Sponsoring a Robotics Program

Today's economy is a global market. Our students need to have the skills to compete not only across town, but around the world. Investments by schools in technology-based avenues are key to the student's future. Technology has exploded in all areas of the job market. Robotics, communications, transportation, everywhere you look a computer is involved. Terms like: GPS, Twitter, iPhone, App, etc. are everyday words we use. These terms did not exist ten, fifteen years ago. Advancements in technology have changed our way of life forever.

Locally in the State of Kentucky, take a field trip to UPS' Worldport Hub in Louisville. Everything in that hub is technology based. Machines utilize: light sensors; touch sensors, magnetic ink, and thermal printers, GPS. Vehicles use petroleum based fuels, bio-fuels, and batteries. I could go on and on. Every aspect of that facility is managed through computers, through technology. What once was simply delivering a letter, is now a hi-tech process that comprises technology based improvements that impact global markets through transportation, banking, retail, on-line buying, travel, and so on. Technology has changed the delivery business and so has it changed the way we purchase goods and services.

A local machine shop once comprised of machines and tools employees used by hand to make metal parts. Today that same machine shop makes the same parts using half million-dollar machines. Employees are paid high wages and good benefits. These employees need at least a high school education. In order to run these expensive machines, an employee needs to have advanced math and computer programming skills.

These are just two examples of how investing in a robotics program will help your students. Computer based, technology based investments in the classroom are investments in the future of our students and communities.

