**Devil’s Advocate Q/A cheat sheet**

**QUESTION:** Have you thought about if someone who is economically disadvantaged from another town might want to join the team?

**RESPONSE:**

*The Team will provide Fundraising opportunities in the event that a student or the taxpayers of another town are experiencing financial hardship.*

**QUESTION:** So will there be a “scholarship”?

**RESPONSE:**

*Although we do not have a structure currently in place, there is the possibility of a locally sponsored “scholarship”. By this we mean that we may find a business who would be interested in awarding x amount of financial support a year to students from their community to be allocated as the need arises. This is only a hope at this time but we are actively looking in to it.*

**QUESTION:** Since this is such a strong proposal for charging a membership fee for Hudson that this would be a good case for charging a membership fee to any participant in FIRST in Litchfield? Also current participants in FIRST don’t directly incur any of this cost themselves, that it’s really the taxpayers who defray a majority of the cost and so each family member only pays a small amount of what is actually used?

**RESPONSE:**

*The famous author John Green says that “Public education does not exist for the benefit of the Students or their parents. It exists for the benefit of the Social Order.*

*We have discovered as a species that it is useful to have an educated population. You do not need to be a student or have a child who is a student to benefit from public education. Every second of your life, you benefit from public education.*

***So let me explain why I like to pay taxes for schools, even though I don’t personally have a kid in school: it is because I don’t like living in a country with a bunch of stupid people.”***

*FIRST Robotics is not just any taxpayer funded school activity. We are a group of talent students gaining real world experience and training in a fun, encouraging, and educational environment.*

***To fund first robotics is to actively support the education and the future of our community.***

*FIRST does not just affect its members, it spreads awareness of the STEM fields and encourages the community to pursue the most important carriers for the betterment of both New Hampshire and The United States of America.*

*The National Science Foundation says that “in the 21st century, scientific and technological innovations have become increasingly important as we face the benefits and challenges of both globalization and a knowledge-based economy. To succeed in this new information-based and highly technological society, students need to develop their capabilities in STEM to levels much beyond what was considered acceptable in the past.”*

*STEM Fields are the driving force in our nation’s economy and are the key to our nation’s Global Competiveness.*