

# SPARK Academy



COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER

NOVEMBER 22, 2024

*Happy Thanksgiving*

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## CASH CALENDAR SALES LEADER BOARD

So far, these are our Top Student Sellers! Way to go!!!

**1<sup>st</sup> Place: Piper (62 tickets sold) (1<sup>st</sup> Year)**

**2<sup>nd</sup> Place: Jack B. (33 tickets sold) (1<sup>st</sup> Year)**

**3<sup>rd</sup> Place: Kyle L. (15 tickets sold) (4<sup>th</sup> Year)**

Please continue to sell cash raffle tickets to your family and friends as we head into the holiday season! Just \$10 each, every Monday through Friday in January gives them a chance to win \$25, \$50, or \$100 cash or a GoPro camera.

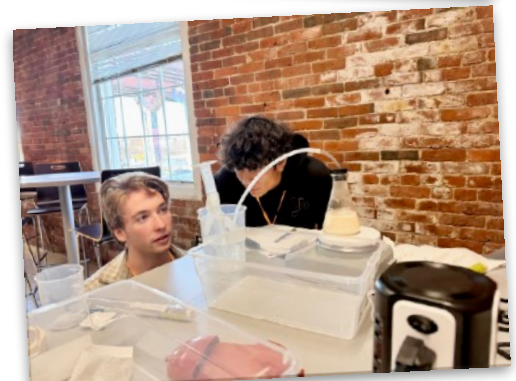
Everyone who sells 15 tickets gets a free 20 oz. customized Spark YETI tumbler and there are also prizes for the top sellers! (Three students, one staff member, one Board member.) So far we are only at about 10% participation in this fundraiser. We know that our Spark family can do better! Remember to turn in your completed slips and money as you go.

## BRINGING BACK THE TRADES

We were very glad to participate in the NH Bringing Back the Trades with Mike Rowe event last week at NHTI. Sparky the Boston Dynamics dog was there along with his Spark student handlers Connor M., Nate K., Ki'yel B., and Kyle L. Once again, these Fourth-Years did a terrific job demonstrating the robotic dog, interacting with attendees, and representing Spark Academy. We also had a mixed group of Third- and Fourth-Year students attend the event in order to see what's out there for career options and to do some networking.

## YEARBOOK ORDERS

Only 19 out of 96 students have pre-ordered their yearbooks so far. Remember, if you order by Christmas break you are getting them AT COST. After that, the price will go up! Payment may be made by cash, check, or credit card (via PayPal.) These are hardcover books that feature ALL Spark students and provide a snapshot of the year. We highly encourage everyone to get one.



## FAMILY ENGAGEMENT

Thank you to everyone who came to the Family Movie Night last night! It was great to see you all and we hope you had as much fun as we did. We hope to see you again at December's Family Engagement Event: Holiday Bingo on 12/19! Don't forget to bring a wrapped gift worth \$20. RSVP: <https://forms.gle/t2SjWpvLXsM8g34A9>

## ROBOTICS TEAM NEWS

All seven Spark Robotics teams competed in Pinkerton Academy's VRC event last Saturday, and all but one made it to the Round of 16 semi-finals. Two Spark teams faced off against each other for Tournament Champion: Team B and Team C. Third-Year team B and their alliance partner ended up with the win. Great job! We are very proud of all of you. In December, a select number of Spark teams will be participating in WPI's The Wave signature event and then all teams will be headed to Pemibaker to compete on 12/14.

## BIO TREK NEWS

This week our BioTrek team visited ARMI and UNH Manchester. What follows is a brief description of the experience in their words. "At ARMI today, we conducted a small lab and presented a hypothetical cure for Hashimoto's disease that we designed as part of a group project. This activity allowed us to apply scientific knowledge creatively while exploring potential approaches to treating autoimmune disorders. Later at UNH, we shifted our focus to cell culture and gained a deeper understanding of the processes involved in decellularization and recellularization. These discussions highlighted their importance in tissue engineering and regenerative medicine, offering practical insights into how these techniques are applied in real-world research and therapies. Overall, the day provided a well-rounded experience, combining hands-on work with opportunities to expand our theoretical knowledge." We are really excited for our students to have this accessible opportunity to learn about tissue engineering and organ manufacturing.

## RAISE RIGHT GIFT CARD GIVEAWAY!

Just a reminder that Spark Academy is signed up to earn money with Raise Right, an online gift card supplier. They are running a promotion until 12/13 where you can win a \$1000 gift card if you install and use their online shopping browser extension. Details here: [https://www.raiseright.com/m/earnings-extension-giveaway?utm\\_source=lterable&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_campaign=campaign\\_BeXIncentive\\_Giveaway\\_Participant\\_11/12/24&utm\\_id=11663061](https://www.raiseright.com/m/earnings-extension-giveaway?utm_source=lterable&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=campaign_BeXIncentive_Giveaway_Participant_11/12/24&utm_id=11663061)

If you are not yet using the Raise Right app to buy your gift cards, please sign up to support Spark! Our code is **HN12R4LC6LLD**. Just install the app (or just go to their website), create a user account, and input our code as the entity to support. It's easy to use and they run specials all the time. If you like to buy gift cards, this is a great way to support your school with very little effort on your part. Thank you in advance!



## SPARK 101

Our free, public charter school opened in 2019 with just 23 First-Year students. Four years later, nine of them walked in Manchester Community College's graduation ceremony after earning certificates in Robotics and Mechatronics and Associate Degrees in Advanced Manufacturing while they were still in high school. Today we have 96 students enrolled at Spark Academy.



## AMAZON WISHLIST

A huge thank you to everyone who has purchased food items for our students and other school needs via the Amazon wish list. We sincerely appreciate it. [https://www.amazon.com/hz/wishlist/ls/1O53RBICC56D3?ref=wl\\_share](https://www.amazon.com/hz/wishlist/ls/1O53RBICC56D3?ref=wl_share)

## MARK YOUR CALENDAR

**Wed. 11/27-Fri. 11/29**

**Tuesday 12/3**

**Tuesday 12/10**

**Friday 12/13**

**Wednesday 12/18**

**Thursday 12/19**

**Thanksgiving Break**

**Information Night 5:30**

**Parent Support Committee 6:00**

**Progress Reports (NOTE! This is a change of date.)**

**Board Meeting 5:30**

**Holiday Bingo Night 5:30**



## NEXT WEEK

There will be no newsletter next week. On behalf of all of us here at Spark Academy, have a wonderful Thanksgiving break! See you in December.

## TUTTLE THOUGHTS

At Spark Academy we really focus on introducing students to the world of advanced manufacturing while helping them understand how they learn and how to develop into the person that they want to be. We want to create hope and opportunities for all to learn and grow, by helping them find their voice.

We continue to have many different experiences for students to practice using their voice and to understand what voice really means. Voice is not just the things you say and how loudly you say them. It is your body language, your actions and the ability to have a true conversation. Everybody has a voice, it is how you use it that makes the difference. It is not always about being heard, but instead about listening.

Great leaders have the ability to do all of this and that is why they are successful in their life and in being the person they want to be. Help me continue to support our students in finding their voice in a world that really does not listen.

Have a great weekend.

