Alex is an enigma. He is thoughtful, asks many insightful questions and he is kind to everyone he meets. He is quiet and reserved, but he is always leading and teaching others in his own way, which is part of what makes him a major contributor to 1511. His passion about 1511 and FIRST is rooted in his core. He is a FIRST legacy student, coming up from FLL. His older brother was on 1511 so he became a junior member, welcoming veterans home from Honor Flight, attending FLR and Ruckus, baking cookies for the team and helping with our International Potluck dinner. Alex still remains involved in FLL and FTC. He volunteers at the Penfield FLL and FTC qualifiers, spending many weekend hours setting up and tearing down the events. When it comes to the robot, Alex is all in, being an integral part of the design, build and programming. He logged 242 Build Season hours in his first year, the most of any new student! He has currently logged 185 hours, the most of any student this year. He creates professional-level Inventor CAD drawings that get sent to our main sponsor, L3HARRIS, for manufacturing. He looks for new ways to enhance his skills, such as attending our Friday night Advanced CAD classes. He is proficient in all shop machinery and tools (lathe, mill, bandsaw, drill press) making many parts himself. His precision is notable, making sure that the mill is lined up to a thousandth of an inch. Last year, he prototyped hatch mechanisms and made a majority of the drive base parts, even the bumpers. This year he is co-leading the Hang Subteam. He has been part of the Programming subteam the last 2 years and knows multiple languages like C++, Python and ROBOTC. At our robot repair sessions, he helps make our older robots better for demos, like upgrading 2017’s shooter to eliminate jamming and improve agitation. Alex is also a core member of the Strategy subteam. He excels at analyzing the game rules and understanding all of their intricacies. He was the first to get a 100% on 1511’s game manual test, less than 24 hours after the test was released, and a full 2 days before anyone else. At competition last year he was on our Pick List team as a Super Scouter, where he was an expert on the other robots at competitions. He scouted during all qualification matches at each of our events, helping our team make Finalists at the Montreal Regional last year! Due to his hard work ethic and strategic knowledge, he was selected to be a member of our Secondary Drive Team this year. In this high-pressure role, he is engaged in driver training and is prepared to represent the team on the field. His secret talent is teaching. He mentors 1511 students in Inventor CAD and repairing the robot, as well as assisting them in scouting. He is welcoming to all new students, answering their questions, teaching them about GP, and sets an example by also being a Gracious Professional. Outside of the shop, Alex participates in numerous 1511 robot demonstrations, promoting FIRST to thousands in attendance: L3HARRIS, Rochester Maker Faire and Imagine RIT. He helped promote FIRST to our school as a referee at the Robot Cage Match where PHS teachers and administrators competed with our robots to help spread FIRST in our school. He lends a helping hand at many community events: water station at the Marathon, Leukemia and Lymphoma Society walk, and collecting food donations for the Penfield Food Shelf and Ronald McDonald House. He volunteers at 1511’s major events: Rah Cha Cha Ruckus offseason, Week 0 Scrimmage and Trivia Night, our newest community fundraiser. He does all of this while maintaining a 3.7 GPA and taking multiple AP and Honors courses. Alex credits FIRST for helping him discover his passion for STEM and directing his career path as either a mechanical or software engineer. He plans to stay involved with FIRST after he graduates by volunteering and eventually mentoring FRC. We credit Alex’s commitment and initiative for making 1511 a stronger student-led team!