FIRST LEGO League in [school's name]

This document was written by XXX as a proposal for how to start and sustain FLL teams in XXX Elementary school for the 15-16 school year and on.

1. Forming the teams

Send out the application forms for FIRST (For Inspiration and Recognition of Science and Technology) Lego League (FLL) to all the students grades 1-3 in the school newsletter and via class emails. The application includes the student's name, grade, summary of why they are interested in being on a team, and parent availability. We recommend notifying parents that if they commit to being a parent volunteer, their son/daughter automatically gets a spot on a team.

Have an informational meeting for all kids that are interested, parents invited. This would be held as soon as possible in the school year. Parents and students would get the chance to see what FLL is and turn in their applications if they want to commit to being on a team. Have interested families give the school's coach their email address.

The school's coach would then process the applications in a pre-appointed time frame. He/she would create the teams based on parent availability, student availability, grade level, etc. The max size for FLL is 10 kids. Each team also needs 2 parents committed to coach the team. A [your FRC/FTC team] mentor would be assigned to each team as needed. I recommend that you don't have more than one team at your school for the school's rookie year, and then never more than two teams at a time.

2. The FLL season

This can be condensed or expanded depending on school needs, although this schedule provides the students with plenty of time to get comfortable enough with the material to make the projects truly their own and learn the most possible. We suggest meeting 1-2 times a week.

Suggested dates		*Main Goals*
ASAP	*Pre-season*	Introductory parent/student meeting
Sept. 14-18	*Week 1*	Introductions Icebreaker What is FLL? FIRST intro video Get acquainted with LEGO kits Start researching project
Sept. 21-25	*Week 2*	Team building/Core values Students brainstorm season calendar Build mission models Decide on project topic
Sept. 27-Oct. 2	*Week 3*	Brainstorm robot strategies Start researching project topic
Oct. 5-9	*Week 4*	Build robot base Continue researching project topic
Oct. 12-Nov. 13	*Weeks 5-9*	Work time for robot and project
Nov. 16-20	*Week 10*	Finish programs and project presentation
Nov. 23-27	*Week 11*	Practice robot rounds Practice presentations Practice core values challenges Final touches
Nov. 30-Dec. 4	*Week 12*	Practice competition (parents invited)
December 5 or 12		Official FLL Competition
December 14-18	*Week 13*	Celebration

3. Funding

A budget is outlined below for the season assuming your school starts one team. You will note that the total cost/team goes down considerably after your school's first year. This is because you only need to buy the LEGOs once, and they can be used year after year. Each student would be expected to contribute some amount of money to the team. I suggest $50, which would mean that eventually the program would be self-funded, but that amount can be adjusted.

Bonus funds from future years can be put toward starting new teams, starting another FLL team, or expanding your school's MakerSpace.

<u>Expenditures</u>

$225	Registration fee
$500	*EV3 Robot set**
$75	Field setup kit
$100	Shipping and Handling
$70	*Robot game table**
$50-100	Competition entry fee
$100	Students' t-shirts
$1120-1170	**Total Cost/new team**
$530-600	**Total Cost/next year's team**

** Items wouldn't need to be bought again each year.*

The price for each student to participate is up to the school. I made up calculations above according to a $50 registration fee, which is a good starting amount.

4. Sustainability

FLL can be sustained at XXX school with the continued support of the PTO, Local FRC and FTC teams, parents, and teachers.

The PTO would sponsor the teams by allowing them to meet at XXX and fund startup costs.

Each team would have at least one FIRST Robotics Competition (FRC) or FIRST Tech Challenge (FTC) mentor assigned to them to help guide discussions and provide advice.

Parent support is also necessary for Jr. FLL to be sustainable at XXX school. Two parents would be needed to coach each team. Coaching the team could include, but would not be limited to, leading team meetings, leading discussions about the research project, helping the team stay on task, bringing snacks, and sending out team emails.

5. Additional Resources

For more information about FIRST, visit www.firstinspires.org
For more information about FLL, visit http://www.firstinspires.org/robotics/fll
What is FLL? FIRST intro video: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ydLJKFi0vHA