

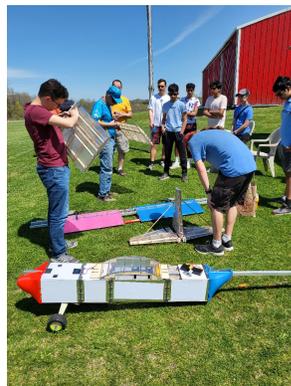
The Fauquier Aero Recreation Modelers (FARM) # 1654 and the Northern Virginia Radio Control (NVRC) #636 Club are helping the Thomas Jefferson High School Unmanned Aerial Vehicle (TJUAV) Team get their aircraft flying.

The Thomas Jefferson High School (TJ) for Science and Technology is a Virginia state-chartered magnet school in Fairfax County, Virginia. TJ uses a STEM-focused curriculum that culminates with a technical lab project for seniors. The TJUAV Team is a group of curious and driven high-school students learning about the development and operation of unmanned aerial systems through experience and discovery. The UAV club is a student-led, student focused activity that has been working to design, build and test a very unique model aircraft over the past year.

The club specializes in flying autonomous, self-built aircraft, and they are currently scheduled to participate in the 2022 AUVSI SUAS Competition. This year's build aircraft is designed to learn about the various aspects of programming and aerospace engineering. The students have been developing a plane to meet the 2022 mock search-and-rescue mission requirements.



They started with very basic foam board construction and improved their design through adoption of advanced 3-D printed construction, unique structure and aerodynamics and improved aircraft control features.



Coordinated by Don Szczur, FARM and NVRC members have been working with the students in the final stages of their contest project's construction/assembly to ultimately achieve a successful first flight by Don on Saturday, 16 April 2022.