



Will Thompson
2020-2021
Senior Profile

“I wouldn’t want to go to any other school than LEAF.” Will Thompson certainly does not want to be in a big school where he would be “1 in 3,000 and have to rub shoulders with 15 million students everyday. At LEAF, you get to know everyone.” LEAF is different from other schools. The teachers teach “useful stuff not just repeating the same curriculum every four years.” Instead of just giving us information,” they give us the whys and the hows. LEAF actually turns out actual people, not just factory drones.”

Humanities teacher, Chris Becker is “the coolest teacher we have had. He seems like an uncle. He has a really cool teaching style.” The Humanities classes Will has had at LEAF are “all kind of interesting. Chris

talks with us, we discuss the development of human society all the way up to the atomic era. We do projects instead of paper after paper.”

Will’s favorite class at LEAF was Robotics. This class was taught by Stem teacher, Sean Marden and founding director, Dakota Benedetto. “They came into the class with a tub of hex robotics and said “build”. We had to learn by doing it and we worked together to create a robot. At first, we barely had any clue how to make it move.”

Will’s dream job is to be a project manager for public transportation or work as an engineer to colonize Mars or the Moon. He would love to have an impact on transportation because public transportation is lacking. “When people have public transportation they have freedom to move and do whatever they want. Public transportation also can help prolong our natural resources.” Will’s interest in space colonization really comes down to the fact that “I just want to be in space and travel on a spaceship.” He has always had an interest in space and believes it is possible that people will travel to Mars in his lifetime.

His immediate plans after high school graduation is to move with some friends to Maine or as Will calls it “the Alaska of the North East.” He eventually wants to attend a university in Germany and study engineering.

His advice to incoming students is practical. “Listen to Dakota. Clean up the kitchen. Don’t put too much soap into the dishwasher. Don’t sit on thistles in the yard. Finally, always open the window when making tortillas at LEAF. Although the tortillas always come out good, we have never been able to get the flour not to smoke. We have a bad track record of having the fire department come.”