STEM FOR ALL STUDENTS

DC STEM Network
Our Challenge is an Opportunity.

Despite the District of Columbia’s innovative and transformational education initiatives, students are underperforming in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM). Student proficiency in math and science is hovering at around 50%, suggesting that too many students lack access to high-quality STEM learning experiences. In a STEM city such as DC, we have several opportunities to address these challenges.

> Expanding Access
All students should have the opportunity to engage in STEM learning opportunities regardless of where they reside.

> Improving Quality
STEM learning opportunities should ignite curiosity, encourage problem-solving, and inspire students to explore the world around them.

> Coordinating Efforts
Collaboration across sectors will improve STEM outcomes for students, educators, and schools.

“If you’re scientifically literate the world looks very different to you, and that understanding empowers you.”
- Neil deGrasse Tyson
The DC STEM Network is a collaboration between the DC Office of the State Superintendent of Education (OSSE) and the Carnegie Academy for Science Education (CASE). The DC STEM Network develops, promotes, and sustains pathways to STEM success in DC. By connecting students with STEM learning opportunities from an early age, the Network will help young people build confidence, awareness, and excitement around the possibilities that surround them.

The DC STEM Network is led collectively by representatives of the local Pre-K-12 and higher education system, community organizations, employers and STEM institutions. Together, these individuals and organizations form working groups dedicated to improving STEM experiences for all learners both inside and outside of the classroom.

**Components of the Network**

- **Working Groups**: 7 groups comprised of cross-sector partners and facilitated by two co-anchors
- **Leadership Team**: Co-anchors from each working group plus backbone members
- **Advisory Council**: Local and national thought leaders in STEM
- **Backbone**: Members of OSSE and CASE

**Built for Success**
- Community-driven
- Expertise-rich
- Forward-thinking
- Solutions-focused
- Nationally connected

**Current Strategies**

- Evaluate the current STEM landscape in DC
- Establish common measures for high-quality STEM learning experiences
- Host an informative, interactive website
- Recognize and encourage best practices
Mentors and volunteers increase students’ knowledge, awareness of STEM careers, and engagement in STEM opportunities. Time commitment varies, but the average is between 2-10 hours per month. To get involved, check out the following:

Join STEMLink:
STEMLink is a matching tool available on our website that connects STEM experts with educators. Sign up today to get matched to an educator who is looking for a STEM professional like you!

Sample Individual Opportunities:
1. Engage a class in an activity around your area of expertise
2. Mentor a student who is working on a STEM Fair project
3. Judge at the DC STEM Fair

Sample Organizational Opportunity:
Provide 100 hours to the DC STEM Network!
- Example: Provide 10 mentors for 10 hours each

GIVE TIME

Donating your time allows the DC STEM Network to amplify the benefits of student and educator programs across the District. The following three pages detail a few ways to get involved.

“Your mentorship to my daughter has been invaluable. She has blossomed and grown tenfold since working with you. As a parent, I can see how you have helped her focus her STEM career goals.”
- William, DC Parent
We need high quality PD to strengthen the knowledge base and pedagogy, especially for people going into teaching as a second career. There are so many skills that teachers need to know to be on the pulse of the changing needs of their students. - Theresa, STEM Teacher Leader

STEM experts are in high demand in the District!

Work with the DC STEM Network to provide learning opportunities, such as professional development (PD) to educators, internship opportunities for students at your work site, or educational programs in school or during out-of-school time.

Join a Working Group

It’s great for us to come together and talk about what we’re passionate about, to create common language, and to get everyone on the same page. - Lauren, Co-Anchor, STEM Schools

STEM Network Working Groups

Working groups carry out the projects of the Network and are updated on an annual basis to best fit the needs of the District.

For an updated list of working groups or to get involved, please visit dcstemnetwork.org or email info@dcstemnetwork.org.

Time commitment: 5-10 hours per month.

Provide STEM Learning Opportunities

DC STEM Network Working Groups

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Sample Organizational Opportunity:

Provide IOO hours to the DC STEM Network!

- Example: Provide 2 people for 10 months to a working group

Sample Individual Opportunities:

1. Provide at least 8 hours of professional development to school teachers, out-of-school time educators, or education leaders
2. Provide IOO internship hours to DC students
3. Provide IOO hours of hands-on learning experiences at a STEM event or expo, at a school, at an out-of-school time program, or at your worksite.

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**Give In-Kind Services:**

Giving in-kind services allows the Network to focus resources on direct programming needs. With low time commitment, this option is a great way to contribute to the Network.

Community partners offer students and schools wonderful opportunities to see life beyond the classroom. By engaging with community partners, schools are able to offer students chances for experiential learning; mentorship; college and career readiness; and to see the methods and practices of STEM as they are carried out in the real world. - Sydney, STEM Ambassador

**In-Kind Donation Needs:**

1. Event space for meetings
2. Materials for STEM experiments
3. Lunch for community events

**Sample Organizational Opportunity:**

Host an event!

- Example: Host the DC STEM Fair in the spring
Join the DC STEM Network Funders Circles

Your financial gift to the DC STEM Network will be used to support programming which improves the STEM opportunities for all DC learners. You have the option to indicate a specific project or program. Donations are managed through the Carnegie Institution for Science which is a 501(c)3 organization. All donations are tax deductible.

**TITANIUM**
$100,000+
Logo on DC STEM Network website and select publications, 10 tickets to annual VIP reception

**PLATINUM**
$50,000 - $99,999
Logo on DC STEM Network website, 5 tickets to annual VIP reception

**GOLD**
$25,000 - $49,999
Logo on DC STEM Network website, 3 tickets to annual VIP reception

**SILVER**
$10,000 - $24,999
Logo on DC STEM Network website, 2 tickets to annual VIP reception

**COPPER**
$2,500 - $9,999
Logo on DC STEM Network website, 1 ticket to annual VIP reception

**BRONZE**
$500 - $2,499
Company or Institution name on DC STEM Network website
EVENT SPONSORSHIP

STEM Summit
1. Event space ($30,000 or in-kind)
2. Welcome reception sponsor ($10,000 or in-kind)
3. Lunch sponsor ($10,000 or in-kind)
4. Technology sponsor ($8,000 or in-kind)
5. Breakfast sponsor ($7,000 or in-kind)
6. Coffee break sponsor ($3,000 or in-kind)
7. Keynote sponsor ($2,000)
8. Breakout session sponsor ($500)

DC STEM Fair
1. Event space ($30,000 or in-kind)
2. Lunch sponsor ($10,000 or in-kind)

CONTACT

Partner with us!
To partner with the DC STEM Network, please contact info@dcstemnetwork.org or visit dcstemnetwork.org for more information.

“When people with the same goals and vision work together, the outcomes are so much more than any one person or organization could accomplish alone.”

- Dr. Julie Edmonds, DC STEM Network
DC STEM Network unites community partners to help inspire and prepare all DC youth to succeed, lead and innovate in STEM fields and beyond.