

THE [MULTI-STATE STEM NETWORK] PRIMER

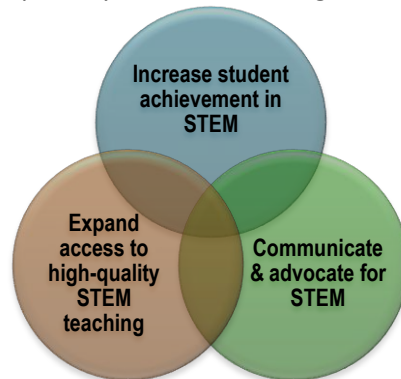
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NETWORK OVERVIEW

In January 2012, 11 state-level STEM Networks (*including Arizona, California, Idaho, New Mexico, New York, North Carolina, Ohio, Oregon, Tennessee, Texas and Washington*) officially joined together with Battelle and other key partners to create the [multi-state STEM network – *insert final name once determined* (The Network)] to design, launch and sustain STEM policies, practices and partnerships. The Network is anchored in and informed by STEM innovations and best practices emerging from state partners. The mission of the Network is to connect state networks and partners to accelerate the growth of policies, practices and partnerships needed to expand the numbers of STEM teachers, increase student achievement and grow tomorrow's innovators.

The Network, fully driven by state partners, is guided by the belief that individual states have the greatest power to effect transformative change in education, particularly in STEM. The most innovative approaches are created and implemented locally in classrooms, schools and programs. A connected set of state networks and partners can work together more efficiently to identify, test, validate, share and advance promising and innovative STEM teaching and learning.

The Network promotes three primary and interlocked goals:



Each goal is supported by a suite of corresponding strategies. To attain these goals, the day-to-day focus of the Network is threefold:

1. Building a technology platform that forges new state-to-state and partner-to-partner connections, enables the sharing of helpful STEM tools like the DIY STEM Community Guide and the STEM Quality Framework, and fuels the development of new STEM tools.
2. Collecting, researching and analyzing state-developed STEM tools that are collected (more than 150 state tools have already been shared) to identify quality benchmarks that guide the development of new and improved tools.
3. Supporting state partners with their STEM communications and advocacy work based on the experiences of those states that have previously pursued successful initiatives.

WHY JOIN THE NETWORK

The Network has high expectations and high hopes for each state partner that seeks official membership. And the benefits of membership are vast. To name a few, states:

- Are connected immediately to other like-minded states, partners, large-scale projects, and funding opportunities aligned to their goals.
- Have a hand in setting a collective national STEM agenda aimed at helping state partners reach local, regional and state STEM goals and fueling state action for education reform.
- Are afforded opportunities to lead and drive Network initiatives as they emerge.
- Receive immediate access to innovative approaches to capturing, disseminating and scaling STEM practices, policies and partnerships.
- Benefit from a national platform to showcase high-quality, promising and innovative STEM teaching and learning practices, policies and partnerships.

As part of its operating philosophy, the Network will:

- Apply resources to secure different results, not support the status quo.
- Develop a set of benchmarks and tools that ensure quality.
- Incubate and support large scale multi-partner projects.
- Leverage state partner resources and advice with those of other like-minded investors.
- Be completely transparent about where and how resources are applied.

TYPES OF NETWORK MEMBERSHIP

Network membership includes two categories: Partners and Participants. There are four types of partners including:

1. Core State Partner,
2. Affiliate State Partner,
3. Emerging State Partner and
4. Investor Partners.

Core, Affiliate and Emerging State Partners are categories specific to state-level STEM networks that seek Network membership. Investor Partners are private sector entities that wish to support the work of the Network.

Participants include K-12 and postsecondary education stakeholders, business and civic entities, foundations (those that are not Investor Partners) and others that share the same STEM goals and desire to join forces to advance those goals.

For additional information about the Network, please visit [insert web address, once launched]