



Vision

To create a collaborative system between PK-12, higher education, business and community to provide the necessary content knowledge and lifelong skills for each student in Virginia in order to build a STEM workforce that will sustain and improve the Virginia economy.

Mission

To connect and engage all STEM stakeholder groups in a collaborative process that will enhance the education of **every** student from pre-kindergarten to Career with a focus on STEM Educational practices that are: inclusive, integrative, authentic, and collaborative.

Core Beliefs

The Virginia STEM learning Network believes in and embraces the following tenets:

- ◆ We believe in innovative thinking and teaching that seeks to push the boundaries of current educational pedagogy
- ◆ We believe in risk taking, innovation and failure, as we learn from each other
- ◆ We believe celebrating and sharing each other's successes and failures makes each member stronger
- ◆ We believe **every** student can benefit from experiences that foster creativity, critical thinking, collaboration, and innovation
- ◆ We believe that learning should be fun and relevant
- ◆ We believe that honoring each stakeholders perspective is key to a successful network

Objectives

1. Increase diversity and achievement of students in STEM pipeline PK-20
2. Strengthen preparation of pre-service and in-service STEM educators and develop opportunities to create new STEM educators
3. Inform and educate Virginia constituents on the importance of STEM in continuing to grow our state and local economies
4. Leverage and create partnerships between Virginia's public and private sector to enhance STEM education teaching and learning systems.
5. Create systems of support and collaboration between regional and state network
6. Leverage existing STEM expertise to support systemic change throughout the state