STEM Club 2020-2021

- **Target Audience:** PK-12 STEM Educators
- **Time:** 3:30 – 5:30 pm
- **Registration Fee:** FREE (thanks to a special grant from the Central MA STEM Network)
- **PDPs/CEUs:** 2/0.2 per day (Note: all PDP’s will be distributed at the end of the series)

**Description:** Like never before, we are faced with multiple challenges, we are grappling with issues on COVID, racism, and trying to incorporate new instructional strategies, all while teaching the subjects we love. The STEM Club is a community of STEM educators who share ideas about multiple aspects of STEM education and support each other through these challenges. It’s a year like no other. Let’s join together to make it the best it can be – for ourselves, for our students and for our communities.

**What should I expect?**

**3:30 - 3:45 pm**
This is an unstructured open discussion time where participants can chat and catch up with each other. Feel free to bring a drink and/or snack and relax with us before we start the activity.

**3:45 - 5:30 pm**
Participate in a structured STEM activity during which time you will...
- be presented with a STEM challenge/activity
- work in collaborative teams to solve a component of the STEM challenge/activity
- discuss modifications for the classroom setting *(i.e. in-person, hybrid or remote)*
- discuss modifications to make the activity more equitable and inclusive for your students
- take away new lesson ideas and teaching strategies

**Note:** Please prepare a box or bin of a variety of recycled and/or craft materials, scissors and tape for each STEM Activity Session for some hands-on fun!

**Meeting Dates:** (Click below each date to register in advance or on the day of the event)

**Wed. Nov. 18 – STEM Activity**
**Guest Presenter:** Vanessa Haerle, STEM Teacher from Sutton Middle School
*Participate in a design thinking activity and discuss creative ways to engage students in hands-on experiences remotely including the distribution of at-home STEM kits*
*Registration for this session has closed*
Thurs. Jan. 14 - STEM Activity
Guest Presenter: Juliette Spitaels, WPI Teacher Preparation Student
Participate in an ‘Escape Room’ designed for Algebra 1 math students to practice a variety of skills. Learn how and why it was created and then discuss and share ideas of how it could be modified to work with any subject or grade level.
Register NOW for this session

Thurs. Feb. 11 - Special Topic
Guest Presenter: Kathy Chen, Executive Director of Professional Development
Incorporating Equity with Design Thinking for an Inclusive Classroom
Registration will open mid-January

Thurs. March 11 - STEM Activity
Guest Presenter: Kristy Ditrano, Middle School Math Teacher from Queens, NY
Participate in activities that use STEM integration to spark student interest and understanding of math concepts. Discuss modifications for various grades and integration of science concepts.
Registration will open mid-February

Thurs. April 15 – Special Topic
Guest Presenter and Topic TBA
Registration will open mid-March

Thurs. May 13 - STEM Activity
Guest Presenter and Topic TBA
Registration will open mid-April

Additional topics and information will be added as the dates get closer.

Please contact Donna Taylor with any questions or if you are interested in presenting a STEM Activity.