



## WANT TO BECOME PART OF THE PCS AFTER SCHOOL STEM ACADEMIES?

Mission: The purpose of the PCS STEM Academies is to increase student achievement by engaging students in innovative science, technology, engineering and math instruction.

Vision: The PCS STEM Academies will provide a continuous pathway of educational opportunities that create students who are globally competitive to accept the challenge of tomorrow's workforce.

The PCS STEM Academies will offer your child opportunities to conduct hands-on STEM investigations, explore certification/career options, improve teambuilding/leadership skills, learn about the engineering design process, and interact with community business partners!

To learn more about the PCS STEM Academies please visit [www.pcsb.org/STEM](http://www.pcsb.org/STEM)



## Who?

We are accepting 2<sup>nd</sup> through 12<sup>th</sup> grade students. We look for students who work hard, have an interest in STEM concepts and will participate for the full 26 weeks. We are selective: just 20 students will be admitted into each after school STEM Academy.

Due to increased demand to participate in this program, the enrollment process has changed for the 17-18 school year. The K-12 STEM Dept. is no longer offering automatic enrollment if your child was a STEM Academy student last year. During the 17-18 year, all students will get an equal chance at enrollment. Completed applications will be collected and divided into 2 piles (female and male). Through the use of random lottery, 10 females and 10 males (as close as possible) will be selected per STEM Academy. If more than 20 students apply, ALL students will be notified if they were selected or if they have been placed on a wait list.

## When?

This 26-week program will begin during the week of October 2<sup>nd</sup> and will continue until the last week of April 23<sup>rd</sup>. The Academy at your school's site will be held on Wednesdays from 4:10 pm to 5:10 pm.

The Academy will be held at your child's school site and transportation MUST be provided by the parent/guardian each week. You must wait in the car circle and your child will be escorted out by the STEM Academy teacher at 5:10. Please be in the car circle waiting to pick up your child on time.

## How?

Fill out the attached application (page 3) and submit the application to your child's classroom teacher who will then give it to Mrs. Giuffré (the STEM Academy teacher) no later than September 15, 2017. Please enter information for every area on the application, especially the email section, as this will be used as the main form of communication to receive STEM Academy updates and opportunities.

## What?

During this STEM Academy, students will conduct hands-on activities related to STEM concepts, explore careers in STEM fields, complete a STEM engineering design project and participate in an end-of-the-year STEM Expo on April 28, 2018 at USFSP.

We will have 3 different focused STEM options this year at Bay Point Middle.

## STEM Academy Options

Environmental STEM Academy will focus on the environmental issues we face across the United States and the world through problem based learning, design challenges, and experiments. There will also be two field trips to learn about the ways our city balances the needs of the people who live in the city with protecting the environment.

Future Cities STEM Academy will focus on the Future City competition which is a project-based learning competition where students in 6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup>, and 8<sup>th</sup> grades imagine, research, design, and build cities of the future. This year's challenge is "The Age Friendly City". Each team presents their solution via a project plan; a virtual city design (using SimCity), a 1500 word city essay; a scale model, and a presentation to the judges at the Regional Competition in January. Regional winners then represent their region at the National Finals in Washington, D.C. in February.

Robotics and Coding STEM Academy will focus on learning how to build and design with Lego NXT robotics, as well as how to program the robots using Mindstorms software. The students will have an opportunity to learn to code in Swift playgrounds, an app which can design an app or control a robot. We will have mini-challenges throughout the year, sharing results with other Robotics-focused STEM Academies.

## Attendance Requirements

Attendance is a critical component to the success of this program considering the amount of collaborative work among peers. Due to the overwhelming interest in the STEM Academies and the rigor of the planned activities, it is highly suggested that your child tries to attend every session. If your child misses more than 4 unexcused sessions (sick absences will be an exception), he/she will be removed from the Academy and replaced by one of the students on the wait list.

## Family Involvement

You will also receive an invitation to attend our annual FREE STEM Expo held on April 28, 2018 at USFSP. Last year we had more than 3000 people attend!

## Other Information:

If you have questions, please contact the STEM Academy teacher at your school Mrs. Giuffré at [giuffrej@pcsb.org](mailto:giuffrej@pcsb.org)

If you have any additional questions that your school's STEM Academy teacher cannot answer, please feel free to contact the K-12 STEM Specialist, Laura Spence at [Spencela@pcsb.org](mailto:Spencela@pcsb.org)

Date handed to student:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Deadline for return of completed application:

# Cost?

This PCS STEM Academy is offered **FREE OF CHARGE**.

\*KEEP PAGES 1-2 AND RETURN PAGE 3 TO YOUR CLASSROOM TEACHER WHO WILL HAND IT INTO THE SCHOOL'S STEM ACADEMY TEACHER.

### STEM Information

**Is your child a returning STEM Academy student from the 2016-2017 school year? YES or NO**

If yes, provide the following information:

Grade your child was in last year (2016-2017): \_\_\_\_\_

Name of school attended last year: \_\_\_\_\_

Name of STEM Academy teacher last year: \_\_\_\_\_

### GENERAL INFORMATION

STUDENT NAME (FIRST, LAST)

CLASSROOM TEACHER'S NAME

GRADE CURRENTLY ATTENDING

HOME: STREET ADDRESS

CITY, STATE, ZIP CODE

STUDENT'S GENDER

ETHNICITY (OPTIONAL)

BIRTH DATE (MM/DD/YYYY)

### PARENT/GUARDIAN INFORMATION

**PRIMARY** PARENT/CAREGIVER

**SECONDARY** PARENT/CAREGIVER

RELATIONSHIP TO STUDENT

RELATIONSHIP TO STUDENT

STREET ADDRESS  
CITY, STATE, ZIP CODE

STREET ADDRESS  
CITY, STATE, ZIP CODE

CELL NUMBER  
HOME NUMBER  
WORK PHONE

Cell:  
Home:  
Work:

CELL NUMBER  
HOME NUMBER  
WORK PHONE

Cell:  
Home:  
Work:

EMAIL ADDRESS  
\*Email addresses will be used to send STEM Academy newsletters and communicate upcoming STEM events.

EMAIL ADDRESS  
\*Email addresses will be used to send STEM Academy newsletters and communicate upcoming STEM events.

Please rank your choice for which STEM Academy your child is interested in joining. (1 being the top choice, etc.)

\_\_\_\_\_ Environmental STEM Academy

\_\_\_\_\_ Future Cities STEM Academy

\_\_\_\_\_ Robotics and Coding STEM Academy

I, \_\_\_\_\_, hereby give permission for \_\_\_\_\_ to participate in the STEM Academy program.  
Parent/Guardian - Print Student's Name - Print

Our STEM Academy teachers are passionate about your child; however, to honor their time (planning, teaching, family obligations) we ask that students are picked up **promptly** at the conclusion of each STEM Academy's session. After 4 late pick-ups, you will be notified that your child will be removed from the program and a new student from the wait list will fill his/her spot.

I acknowledge that I will be responsible for providing pick-up transportation each week for my child.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Parent/Guardian Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date