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WANT TO BECOME PART OF THE FREE 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, learn about the engineering design process, improve team building/leadership skills, explore STEM career pathways and interact with community business partners!

To learn more about the K-12 STEM Dept. initiatives and PCS STEM Academy program, please visit www.pcsb.org/STEM

Deadline to apply: Completed applications due no later than September 10, 2018.



Who?

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 FREE program offered by the K12 STEM Department, all students will get an equal chance at enrollment through the use of a lottery process. Completed applications will be collected and divided into two 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 for each focus area, 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 1st and will continue until the week of April 22nd. Each week, your child's STEM Academy will meet for 60 minutes after school.

The STEM Academy at Bay Point Middle will be held on Tuesdays from 4:20 – 5:20 pm.

The STEM Academy will be held at your child's school and transportation MUST be provided by the parent/guardian each week. Students will only be permitted to walk home if a parent/guardian is present. Students will not be allowed to walk home without an adult escorting them. If picking your child up by car, you must wait in the car circle and your child will be escorted out by the STEM Academy teacher at 5:20 pm. Please be on time and waiting in the car circle to pick up your child.

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 Academy program (run by the PCS K-12 STEM Dept.) and the rigor of the planned activities, it is highly suggested that your child tries to attend each 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. After the 3rd unexcused absence, the STEM Academy teacher will call you to provide an attendance reminder.

How?

Fill out the attached application (pages 3-4) 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 10, 2018. 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.

Cost?

The PCS K-12 STEM Department offers the STEM Academy program at your child's school, FREE of charge.

What?

During the FREE STEM Academy program, students will conduct hands-on activities related to STEM concepts, explore careers in STEM, create a class STEM Academy newsletter and complete a STEM engineering design project. All STEM engineering design projects will be displayed during the end-of-the-year STEM Expo on April 27, 2019 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, a project-based learning competition where students in 6th - 8th grades imagine, research, design, and build cities of the future. This year's challenge is "Powering Our Future". Teams are challenged to design a resilient power grid for their future city that can withstand and quickly recover from the impacts of a natural disaster. 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 EV3 robotics, as well as how to program the robots using Mindstorms or Open Roberta software. The students will have an opportunity to learn to code Sphero robots as well.

Family Involvement

Later in the year, you will also receive an invitation to attend our annual FREE STEM Expo held on April 27, 2019 at USFSP. Last year we had more than 3,400 people attend!

Additional STEM related events will be shared with you using the email provided on page 3 of this application.

Questions?

If you have questions, please contact the STEM Academy teacher at your school, Mrs. Giuffré at giuffrej@pcsb.org

If you have any additional questions that your school's STEM Academy teacher cannot answer, contact the PCS K-12 STEM Specialist, Laura Spence at Spencela@pcsb.org

Deadline to return completed application (pgs. 3-4):

No later than September 10, 2018

Parent Notification Status (accepted or wait list):

Week of September 10, 2018

*KEEP PAGES 1-2 AND RETURN PAGES 3-4 TO YOUR CLASSROOM TEACHER WHO WILL HAND IT IN TO THE SCHOOL'S STEM ACADEMY TEACHER.

STEM ACADEMY BACKGROUND

Did your child participate in the PCS STEM Academy program during the 2017-2018 school year? YES or NO

If yes, provide the following information:

Grade your child was in last year (2017-2018): _____

Name of school attended last year: _____

Name of STEM Academy teacher last year: _____

GENERAL STUDENT INFORMATION (Please print clearly.)

STUDENT NAME (FIRST, LAST)	
GRADE CURRENTLY ATTENDING	
HOME: STREET ADDRESS CITY, STATE, ZIP CODE	
STUDENT'S GENDER	
ETHNICITY (OPTIONAL)	
BIRTH DATE (MM/DD/YYYY)	
SHIRT SIZE	Circle one: YS YM YL AS AM AL AXL

PARENT/GUARDIAN INFORMATION

PRIMARY PARENT/CAREGIVER NAME		SECONDARY PARENT/CAREGIVER NAME	
RELATIONSHIP TO STUDENT		RELATIONSHIP TO STUDENT	
STREE ADDRESS CITY, STATE, ZIP CODE		STREET ADDRESS CITY, STATE, ZIP CODE	
PHONE NUMBERS	Cell: Home: Work:	PHONE NUMBERS	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 3 late pick-ups and/or unexcused absences, you will be contacted by the STEM Academy teacher who will provide a reminder that your child will be removed from the program following the 4th late pick-up/unexcused absence 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

**Model Release (for minors)
Photography/Video/Voice-over**



For photographs/videos/voice-over taken/recorded on: 2018 – 19 School Year
[Insert Date(s)]

Event description (if applicable): 2018 – 19 STEM Academy events

For consideration received, the sufficiency of which is hereby acknowledged, the undersigned hereby grants to Duke Energy Corporation ("Duke Energy"), its subsidiaries, affiliates and designees the absolute and irrevocable right and unrestricted permission to use and publish photographs/videos/voice-overs that Duke Energy or its designees take/record of me on the above date(s), or in which I may be included, for promotion, trade, advertising and any other purpose and in any manner and medium; to alter the same without restriction; and to copyright the same.

The undersigned hereby releases and discharges Duke Energy and its designees from any and all claims and demands arising out of or in connection with Duke Energy's use or publication of said photographs/videos/voice-overs.

Print minor's name _____

Consent by parent or guardian

I hereby represent and warrant that I am the parent or legal guardian of the **above named minor**, and as such individually and as parent or legal guardian of the above named minor, consent to the foregoing permission to use photographs/videos and the foregoing release.

Parent/guardian signature _____ Date _____

Print name _____