

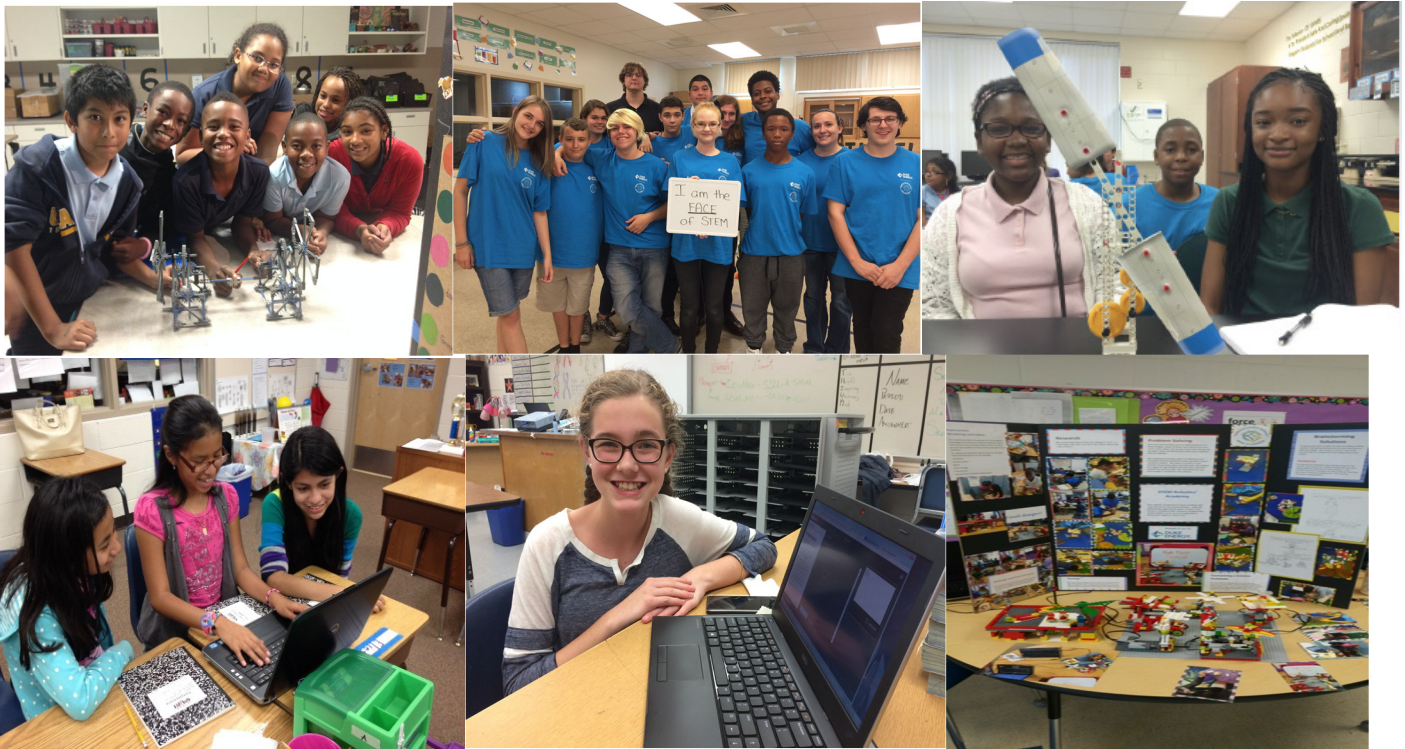
## WANT TO BECOME PART OF THE PCS AFTER SCHOOL STEM ACADEMIES?

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 and have an interest in STEM concepts. We are selective: just 20 students will be admitted into each after school STEM Academy.

If you were a STEM Academy student last year (2015-2016), you are automatically enrolled as a STEM Academy student for the upcoming 2016-2017 school year when you submit your completed application (pages 3-4).

- Primary STEM Academy = Grades 2<sup>nd</sup> – 3<sup>rd</sup>
- Intermediate STEM Academies = Grades 4<sup>th</sup> – 5<sup>th</sup>
- Middle Grades STEM Academies = Grades 6<sup>th</sup> – 8<sup>th</sup>
- High School STEM Academies = Grades 9<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup>

## When?

This 26-week program will begin during the week of October 3<sup>rd</sup> and will continue until the last week of April 24<sup>th</sup>. The Academy at your school's site will be held on Thursday's from 2:45 to 3:45.

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 Facilitator at 3:45. Please be in the car circle waiting to pick up your child on time.

## How?

Fill out the attached application and submit the application to your child's classroom teacher who will then give it to Mrs. Behrmann or Ms. Nolan (the STEM Academy Facilitators) no later than September 16<sup>th</sup>. 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.

After all applications have been submitted, returning STEM Academy students who hand in a completed application will be automatically enrolled. Remaining students will be drawn from a lottery process. Lottery students will be placed into a female and a male pile. Names will be drawn from each pile to ensure that there are approx. 10 females and 10 males in each 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.

**Date handed to student:**

**September 7th**

**Deadline for return of completed application:**

**September 16th**

## 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 29, 2017 at USFSP.

## 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

As a parent/guardian of a STEM Academy student, you will have opportunities to learn more about STEM in Pinellas County through participation in a STEM Academy Family Night. The STEM Family Night will focus on hands-on activities, learning more about the STEM movement in education, as well as explore certification/career pathways for your child in the content areas of STEM (more information to follow). You will also receive an invitation to attend our annual FREE STEM Expo held on April 29, 2017 at USFSP. Last year we had more than 3000 people attend!

## Other Information:

If you have questions, please contact the STEM Academy Facilitators at your school:  
Bridget Behrmann (4<sup>th</sup>) or Savannah Nolan (5<sup>th</sup>) at  
(813) 855-7316

If you have any additional questions that your school's STEM Academy Facilitator cannot answer, please feel free to contact the K-12 STEM Specialist, Laura Spence at [Spencela@pcsb.org](mailto:Spencela@pcsb.org) or at  
(727) 588-6338.

## 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 FACILITATOR.

