WHAT IS THE CALIFORNIA STEM LEARNING NETWORK?

The California STEM Learning Network (CSLNet) is a newly-formed nonprofit organization focused on advancing Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) teaching and learning in the State of California.

CSLNet's vision is that all students in California will graduate from high school with the STEM knowledge and skills required for success in postsecondary education, work and their daily lives.

Established in July 2010, CSLNet addresses California's need for a statewide network to connect and build upon the state's STEM assets. By aligning and focusing STEM efforts in the state around a common agenda, CSLNet will have a statewide impact.

CSLNet brings together leaders and stakeholders in formal education (i.e. schools, colleges and universities), informal education (i.e. science museums, libraries, media, etc.), business, policy, science and technology, research and philanthropy. Through this cross-sector collaboration, CSLNet aims to innovate, scale and sustain effective STEM teaching and learning in and out of school for all students.

CSLNet is partnering with other statewide STEM networks proliferating within the national landscape. By incorporating research and lessons learned in California and elsewhere, CSLNet will accelerate student outcomes in STEM learning and achievement.

WHAT ARE CSLNET'S GOALS?

CSLNet aims to address California's workforce needs and better prepare our state's students to contribute to a vibrant California economy by:

- Increasing interest and competencies among all K-14 California students in STEM disciplines (with an emphasis on critical thinking, innovation, and use of information technologies).

- Ensuring all California students are college and career ready, without the need for remediation upon graduation from high school, with a greater number of students pursuing STEM-related degrees and careers.

- Building a network that connects existing assets and develops new capacity to innovate, scale and sustain effective STEM teaching and learning.

WHAT ARE CSLNET'S CORE BELIEFS?

Students from all backgrounds can be successful in STEM disciplines and careers if they have access to high quality, evidence-based teaching and learning opportunities. The following core values guide our work:

- STEM literacy is attainable and necessary for all California students.

- STEM is a platform for developing and applying college-ready and 21st century skills relevant to students in their everyday lives.

- A well designed network of STEM champions will discover, scale and sustain innovative, evidence-based models of STEM teaching and learning.

- Constituents in the network will work together in a collaborative manner to continuously improve a dynamic and coherent statewide system of STEM education.

HOW WILL CSLNET IMPROVE STEM OUT-COMES IN CALIFORNIA?

Regional Alliances throughout the state will build local partnerships that engage students, teachers and community partners to address local needs in STEM education. CSLNet will connect these Regional Alliances together to share best practices, scale what works, and track regional progress in closing the STEM achievement gap.

Statewide gaps in our education system also need to be addressed in order for all California students to have access to high quality STEM teaching and learning.

Through **Statewide Initiatives**, CSLNet will work with partners around the state to overcome systematic challenges along the K-14 educational continuum.

Current priorities for Statewide Initiatives include the following:

- Increasing the time spent on high-quality STEM teaching and learning in the school day.

- Strengthening post-secondary STEM teacher pathways and professional development.

- Exposing students to high-quality STEM programming in out-of-school time and developing the STEM skills of the out-of-school workforce.

- Enhancing the suite of alternative learning opportunities available, with an emphasis on virtual learning.

HOW CAN I LEARN MORE & GET INVOLVED?

California STEM Learning Network can be reached at:

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"Our nation's success depends on strengthening America's role as the world's engine of discovery and innovation… And that leadership tomorrow depends on how we educate our students today -- especially in science, technology, engineering and math. We know how important this is for our health. It's important for our security. It's important for our environment. And we know how important it is for our economy."

President Barack Obama
September 16, 2010

Fostering Success In STEM education