



[Central Coast STEM Education Collaborative](#)

CCSTEM News, September 18, 2012

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CCSTEM Powers Up!

In this issue:

- Welcome Members and Friends - Join the CCSTEM Team
- CCSTEM-North Governing Board Election
- CCSTEM Education Forum October 12th at UCSB
- CCSTEM Website Operations
- Gearing up for CCSTEM Newsletters
- Community STEM Education Mini-Grants
- Volunteer STEM Education Outreach and Help Wanted
- Upcoming CCSTEM Meetings and Local Events

Welcome New CCSTEM Members and Friends

Over the past couple months a number of new folks have registered as CCSTEM members and/or signed up to receive CCSTEM newsletters. This is OUTSTANDING! We eagerly encourage and welcome new members to our CCSTEM team and look forward to working with them and having their active involvement.

If you are not yet a registered CCSTEM member, we heartily recommend that you do so, as your talent, experience, wisdom and support are highly desired and in great demand. You CAN make a very positive and powerful difference in improving STEM education for Central Coast children.

Individual and group membership in CCSTEM is **FREE!**

Membership Benefits:

- > Connection to STEM networks on Central Coast
- > CCSTEM newsletter and operations updates
- > Opportunity to apply for CCSTEM mini-grants
- > Voting for CCSTEM board members
- > A voice in supporting and guiding CCSTEM operations

To become a CCSTEM member click here [CCSTEM Membership Registration](#).

CCSTEM-North Governing Board Election

CCSTEM-North (the San Luis Obispo County area versus the CCSTEM-South Santa Barbara area), is now in the process of holding its first election of Governing Board members. The voting period is **September 19-28. You must be a registered CCSTEM member, by September 26th, to vote.** Registered members will receive notification of an electronic ballot and instructions within a couple days of registering. Election results should be announced by September 30th.

If you wish to participate in the election, please become a registered member by starting here [CCSTEM Membership Registration](#). As always, also watch the [CCSTEM](#) website for any additional information.

The next (first) meeting of the new CCSTEM Governing Board will be **Wednesday, October 3rd, 5-7 PM, at the San Luis Obispo County Office of Education.**

CCSTEM Forum, October 12th, UCSB

The second annual CCSTEM Education Forum, "**Building Bridges in STEM**", will be held at the University of California Santa Barbara (UCSB) on **Friday, October 12, 2012, 9 AM to 4 PM**. This is a very important and powerful event NOT TO BE MISSED!

Several hundred participants will be attending from San Luis Obispo and Santa Barbara Counties. It will be a wonderful atmosphere of networking, fascinating and informative presentations, and learning how we can all work together to have a powerful "collective impact" in supporting Central Coast children. During the forum there will be public STEM education outreach activities on a large patio area with schools and community organizations from around the Central Coast exhibiting their in-school and out-of-school projects and programs.

Please consider attending, as we wish to see a strong showing from both the San Luis Obispo and Santa Barbara areas. Your participation is key to making this event an outstanding display of community support for STEM education for Central Coast children.

The CCSTEM Forum is **FREE**, but **registration is required**. See the [CCSTEM](#) website for details. Register by email by **October 5th** to [Tara Schonhoff](mailto:Tara.Schonhoff@ucsb.edu), UCSB's Gevirtz School tara@education.ucsb.edu. For complete Forum program details click [HERE](#).

CCSTEM.org Website Operations

Please check out the new [CCSTEM](#) website as it is quickly becoming more powerful by the day. CCSTEM Webmaster **Jamie Foster** has greatly enhanced the home page with up-to-date information and announcements. **John Keller** has been busy getting the on-line CCSTEM Forum operational. **Rita**

Delkeskamp has been concentrating on Facebook and Twitter operations. And, **Walt Reil** has been developing the **Resources** section of hundreds of links to STEM education support for the public, students, parents and educators.

If you are aware of useful STEM education related web links and resources for the Central Coast area that are not in the Resources sections, please notify [Walt Reil](#).

Please utilize the [CCSTEM Event Calendar](#) to be aware of upcoming CCSTEM and community STEM events. If you have STEM education-related events that CCSTEM members or the public should know about that are not on the CCSTEM Event Calendar, please submit event information to [Events Coordinator](#).

For your ideas or comments on CCSTEM website operations, please use the [CCSTEM Contacts](#) page.

CCSTEM Newsletter

Julie Reil is developing plans to begin periodic CCSTEM newsletters. This takes considerable work collecting information from Paso Robles to Santa Barbara to offer informative and useful articles and information for use by CCSTEM members, students, parents and educators.

One area of Julie's focused interest is establishing CCSTEM communications with all K-12 schools and PTA's to foster a dialogue of support for the schools, keeping them informed of CCSTEM operations as well as having PTA's submit their school STEM education events to CCSTEM for increased community attention and support.

If you have STEM education related information that you would like to share via our newsletter, please contact Julie at [Newsletter Coordinator](#). Please provide all necessary event details (who, what, when, where, cost, contact info, etc.).

CCSTEM Community Mini-Grants

Educators and community organizations needing funding assistance with in-school or out-of-school STEM education activities or events are welcome to take advantage of CCSTEM's mini-grant program. Grants are offered from \$500 to \$2,000. This program is in its beginning stage with minimal funding, so availability of grant money is very limited at the present time; first come, first served. For details see [CCSTEM Community STEM Education Grants](#) on the CCSTEM website under **Resources / Public Resources**.

Volunteer Community STEM Education Outreach

A new page, [Local Outreach](#), was recently added to the **Public Resources** section. We are looking for your support in volunteering and/or suggesting people, businesses and organizations on the Central Coast who would be interested in offering their support in giving presentations, being mentors for students or classes, tutoring students, or any other kind of STEM education outreach support for our communities; similar to a CCSTEM "speakers bureau", but on steroids. The new page would list volunteers, their areas of interest and expertise, and their contact info.

The intent is to develop a central location of volunteer information that schools or organizations can tap into to request volunteer support with STEM related projects, activities and events.

If interested, please contact [Walt Reil](#).

Help Wanted

Here are two excellent opportunities for community volunteers:

1. A Lompoc Valley Middle School teacher who is looking for volunteer mentor support for her student's engineering projects.
2. [Endeavour Institute Regional Balloon Fest](#) December 8, 2012, Allan Hancock College. Enthusiastic adult and college student mentors and judges are needed to support this event, as well as a championship Balloon Fest event at Tobin James Winery in Paso Robles on April 20, 2013. Teachers and teams of 3 to 6 students will be launching helium-filled, tethered weather balloons with student-designed instrumentation to measure characteristics of our atmosphere, or to test alternative engineering designs. These are exciting all-day events for students, educators and mentors involved in balloon flight, data analysis, student presentations, awards and celebration. For details contact Endeavour Institute Director [Steve Kliewer](#).

Upcoming CCSTEM Meetings & Local Events

September 19-28 - CCSTEM member voting for CCSTEM-North Governing Board

September 26 - last day for CCSTEM registration for voting

October 12 - [CCSTEM Forum](#) at UCSB

For other upcoming meetings and events, see the [CCSTEM Event Calendar](#).

