

Provo City School District is pleased to announce the first eSchool STEM Fair opportunity. As you know science, technology, engineering, and technology skills are expectations of twenty-first century citizens and employees. STEM is not just a body of knowledge, but it is an evidence-based process of understanding the world.

STEM Fairs involve students in the practice of science and engineering, requiring them to apply those skills to a topic of interest to them. *Doing* science and engineering is the key to understanding it, and inquiry based instruction is very effective.

Participating in a STEM Fair helps develop critical thinking, problem solving skills, initiative, self-direction, productivity, and accountability. Also, the interviewing/judging of the Fair gives students a place to highlight their communication and collaboration skills. (These soft skills are extremely important to individuals that need to share information and help make tough decisions.) Many eSchool students are also in a great position to take advantage of their online environment by researching useful and reliable information on their project of choice.

The eSchool STEM Fair will be held February 12, 2019. Participating students may present their projects in person at the Grandview Learning Center in Provo or through video conference on the same day. All students in grades K-8 are invited to participate, however, only grades 5-8 will be judged.

#### **Information and Timeline**

- December 8- Guidelines, rules, registration applications and permissions, exemplars, and pacing guides will be available on the PCSD eSchool website
- January 8- eSchool's STEM Fair Coordinator, Mark Nance, will conduct a livestream informational session for all interested students
- January 25- Registration and permissions are due
- February 12- eSchool STEM Fair
- February 22- PCSD STEM Fair for qualifying projects (Students must present in person in Provo).

Our STEM Fair will follow the same guidelines as the District and Central Utah STEM Fair. Students that qualify to move on to the next levels of competition will compete for prizes, awards, scholarships, and they will have experience that will distinguish them for college applications and scholarships.

Please mark your calendars and more information will be available on December 8!