

**BERNARDS TOWNSHIP PUBLIC SCHOOLS
MOUNT PROSPECT SCHOOL
111 HANSOM ROAD
BASKING RIDGE, NEW JERSEY 07920
908-470-1600**

Joanne Hozeny
Principal

Michael Pepitone
Assistant Principal

February 15, 2019

Dear Parents,

I am excited to share with you that on **April 26, 2019**, we will be hosting our second MPS STEM DAY (during school hours). Similar in style to our well known International Day, we will seek parent volunteers to “host a classroom” in which you would demonstrate, model and lead a STEM related/MAKERSPACE activity relevant to K-5 students. We are looking for parents to facilitate a STEM challenge activity in which a class would work to solve.

Our goal is to heighten student interest and knowledge in the areas of Science, Technology, Engineering and Math. The more students know about these fields, the more apt they are ready to become involved in them. Students should walk away with an understanding that these activities teach teamwork, cooperation and communication. Adults should be open to supporting the idea that even though a group might have made a mistake or started out with a wrong idea, they can make adjustments and can still solve the challenge.

Demonstrations and activities should be hands-on. We are looking for you to bring in your expertise from the different STEM fields. But you don't need to be a scientist. If you have a love of creating hands-on activities with your kids at home, this could be your calling. Pair up with a friend. We are open to all ideas. At this time, I do not have a budget for additional materials needed. However, students can carry many school related items with them (scissors, glue sticks, pencils, etc). We need volunteers willing to work with the younger grades (K-2) and intermediate (3-5).

Proposed Procedures:

- Students would rotate to three or four classrooms as a class throughout the day. Each period will consist of **a 45 minute block**. Adult facilitators should plan on presenting four times (four different classes will visit)
- **First 10 minutes:** Parent volunteer(s) would provide students with a demonstration or a model of a STEM related experiment or activity; parents would explain the activity that would be accomplished.
- **Next 25 minutes:** Students would then be offered a chance to complete a STEM challenge or experiment under adult guidance. Group activities (small groups of 4-6) would be preferred. Student groups would work together to accomplish the task.
- **Last 10 minutes** of the activity - the adult facilitator will have a brief discussion time after the challenge activity discussing what went right and what things could have improved. This will give the students time to process how they worked together and their results.

Some possible ideas:

1. Design and fly a kite, Create model skyscrapers, Float activities, Water bottle rockets, Straw Towers to the Moon, Build a Bridge, Little Bits, Scratch Coding, Lego/Kinex creations, robotics, simple circuits, crazy chemistry, mystery science, minecraft creations, build a rollercoaster, forensic science and science experiments.

Please return this form to Ms. Hozeny by February 29, 2019. Email any questions to Ms. Hozeny at jhozeny@bernardsboe.com

STEM DAY PROJECT BASED PROPOSAL SHEET

Parent Name: _____

Parent E-mail _____

Student Name: _____

Teacher: _____

Area of Interest (circle one):

S-Science

T-Technology

E-Engineering

M-Mathematics

Grade Level Preferred:

K-2

3-5

K-5

No Preference

Idea Proposal: _____

Materials Used: _____

Technology Needed (if applicable):

Please note the following:

1. *Please no food based materials due to food allergy guidelines.*
2. *Resources are limited and will be provided on a first come/first serve basis. If we are unable to provide equipment, would you be able to provide your own? Yes/No?*
3. *Any special considerations/needs for your presentation should be noted in your idea proposal.*
4. *Please contact Ms. Hozeny prior to submission if you have any questions.*

Please return this form to Ms. Hozeny by February 29, 2019. Email any questions to Ms. Hozeny at jhozeny@bernardsboe.com