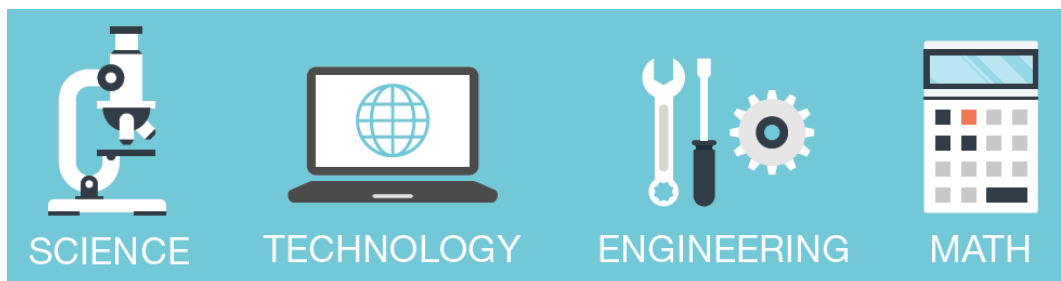




## What Parents Should Know About the Careers of the Future!

As early as elementary and middle school, today's youth are faced with big choices about which career pathways to pursue in order to achieve certain skill sets. Choosing to study STEM (science, technology, engineering, and math) subjects will ensure students keep their career options open. STEM skills are essential for careers of the future!



**STEM** helps kids understand how the world works and careers in **STEM** are rewarding, challenging, well paid and varied. Jobs include everything from crime scene investigation and volcanos to medicine, weather and even video games!



### PARENTS AND STEM

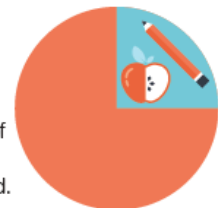
Parents encourage their children to participate in sports, even though those children won't necessarily be professional athletes. In the same manner, you can support your children's interest in math or science, which exposes them to a variety of learning opportunities.



To help your child get a STEM-rich education, add after-school and summer activities that focus on STEM learning. Look for programs that will teach your child something new – zoology, robotics, environmental fieldtrips, forensics – that she wouldn't get in school, to branch out and learn new skills and have new experiences like building a robot or doing outdoor experiments.

### STEM AFTER SCHOOL

Children spend less than a **quarter** of their waking hours in school; and in the U.S., elementary schools devote an average of **2.3 hours per week** to science, a decline of **43 minutes** since 1994. After school hours and summers are times for kids to get ahead.



Children often don't realize how much STEM is a part of their lives. Time spent outside of school can be a valuable way for them to learn about STEM careers and how they can solve problems. Afterschool programs get youth excited about STEM: they offer fun, engaging activities that build knowledge and the opportunities to talk to people with STEM jobs, find mentors and experience hands-on learning with **Pittsburgh employers**.

Parents are the most influential persons helping their children decide which career to pursue.



Source: *STEM Perceptions: Student & Parent Study By Harris Interactive*; commissioned by Microsoft (2011)



## STEM JOBS ARE IN DEMAND

During the next decade, the United States demand for scientists and engineers is expected to increase at 4x the rate for all other occupations. Due to gaps in skill, knowledge and interest in the sciences, currently 75,000 Pennsylvania jobs remain unfilled.

**75,000**  
**STEM job openings**

*Source: Pennsylvania Department of Labor and Industry (2012)*

[Grab your reader's attention with a great quote from the document or use this space to emphasize a key point. To place this text box anywhere on the page, just drag it.]

## STEM jobs pay between **26% and 40% more**

than jobs in other fields. STEM jobs do not all require graduate or even college degrees. Less than half of entry-level STEM jobs require a bachelor's degree.

*Source: Pennsylvania Department of Labor and Industry*



STEM jobs do not all require graduate or even college degrees.

**Less than half** of entry-level STEM jobs require bachelor's degree.



*Source: Pennsylvania Department of Labor and Industry*

Carbon Schuylkill Luzerne (CSL) Ecosystem:

The CSL Ecosystem was founded in 2016 and provides regional STEM efforts.



**Our Mission:** To be a catalyst for building a strong collaborative effort among educational institutions, businesses and community members that will result in a successful workforce through intentional STEM initiatives.

**Our Vision:** All students will possess the needed STEM skills to be competitive for the 21<sup>st</sup> Century jobs in Northeastern PA.