





Design Tool 3.3: STEM School – Yes or No?

Directions for teachers: Do any of these qualify as good examples of a school STEM program or approach? When discussing this with colleagues, be ready to justify your thinking. The ten criteria for STEM projects (see Design Tool 3.1) can help you make decisions.

Does this school qualify as a STEM school?	YES 	NO 
School #1 offers a computer programming course and has recently added algebra and biology.		
School #2 offers Advanced Placement and International Baccalaureate Programs in science and in mathematics at the high school level.		
School #3 is transforming science classes into STEM classes and sending science teachers to programs that prepare them to teach STEM.		
School #4 adds an engineering course to a curriculum and offers honors courses in calculus, statistics, and biology.		
School #5 offers a STEM elective one day a week and an after-school STEM club during the fourth quarter.		
School #6 integrates student learning in all subjects through a schoolwide problem-based learning approach.		
School #7 already offers classes in math, science, and technology, so it simply declares itself a STEM school.		
School #8 involves all students in STEM. All science and math teachers implement at least one STEM project per quarter in their classes.		
School #9 offers a robotics elective for students and a career fair every year featuring STEM occupations.		
School #10 designates one teacher as a STEM teacher and offers STEM as an elective during the school day.		