

STEM FAIR



Information Meeting

What is the STEM Fair?

The STEM Fair is a fun event sponsored by the PTSA that celebrates:

- **Science**
- **Technology**
- **Engineering**
- **Math**

This is an opportunity for **all McAuliffe students** to showcase their STEM-related interests!

... what neat idea will *you* come up with?!



When is the STEM Fair?



Date: December 6th

Time: 5:30 – 8:00 PM

Location: McAuliffe Commons

[Register online](#) by November 29th!



How does it work?

1.) Decide which type of exhibit you'd like to do.

- **Track 1** – Research
- **Track 2** – Experiment
- **Track 3** – Invention

2.) Find the information you need for your project. This might mean researching your topic, thinking up a scientific question for an experiment, or tinkering with an invention idea.

3.) Document your progress! Using words, photos, drawings, and other methods, record what you've discovered.

4.) Show it off! Put it all together on a 36" x 48" tri-fold display board and display your findings at the STEM Fair... we can't wait to see it!



Track 1 - Research

- Have you ever wondered why the sky is blue?
- Or why food smells bad when it spoils?
- What about solar panels– how do they work?
- Where does fog come from?
- How does our immune system keep us healthy?

... anything you can *wonder* about, you can research!



Share your findings with a model, images, or drawings and written information. Just make sure everything fits on your tri-fold display board and in the space immediately in front of it!

*Do you collect rocks? Love coding or math puzzles? **You could also make a display about your special interest!**

Track 2 - Experiment

Calling all scientists! How will *you* apply the **Scientific Method**?

1. Ask a question
2. Do background research
3. Construct a hypothesis
4. Experiment to test your hypothesis
5. Analyze the data from your experiment + draw conclusions
6. Communicate the results!



Which ball will reach the ground faster: a tennis ball, or a basketball?

Track 3 - Invention



What will you make?

- The ultimate backscratcher?
 - Dog treat dispenser?
 - Milk carton guitar?
 - Candy un-wrapper-er?
- ... the possibilities are ***endless!***



Make something tangible (that takes up physical space) **OR** something digital (like a videogame or a 3D design). Just make sure you also document the process on your tri-fold presentation board!

Volunteer Judges

Who are the judges? We have a wonderful panel of volunteer judges from our community who hail from a rich diversity of STEM-related backgrounds—neuroscience, virtual reality, nuclear energy, artificial intelligence, and more!

What do they do? Students will have the opportunity to present their projects to an assigned judge during the first hour of the STEM Fair.

Judges will then offer comments and highlight areas each student's project really shined!

Are there prizes? All participating students will receive a qualitative score card from their judge, a certificate, and participation prize. A sampling of student projects will also be selected for display at McAuliffe for the month of December!



Resource Hours & Questions

Need some extra time to work on your project or brainstorm ideas?

Join parent volunteers in the library for resource hours– we can help!

Days and times will be announced soon... stay tuned 😊

Questions? Email STEMFair@mcauliffeptsa.org

Find more information on the [McAuliffe PTSA website](#)



What to Expect

December 6th, 2023 – McAuliffe PTSA STEM Fair

5:15 – 5:30 PM

Setup

Students arrive to set up their projects at assigned stations

**(1) parent or family member may assist each child with setup*

5:30 – 6:30 PM

Presentations

Students present projects to their assigned judge and have an opportunity to preview others' presentations!

Parents and family members are invited to wait in a designated space outside the Commons, where they will find a delicious bake sale hosted by McAuliffe 5th graders!

6:45 – 8:00 PM

STEM Fair open to all

Enjoy awesome student projects and learn something new!