LEAD STEM

Designing the Future of STEM Learning Ecosystem Leadership Development

Why?
STEM Learning Ecosystem leadership requires a new kind of leader – a “wicked problem solver” – which requires a new kind of leadership development.

Who?
LEAD STEM is a program for National STEM Learning Ecosystem Community of Practice leaders and emerging leaders.

What?
LEAD STEM is a highly personalized, competency-based, outcomes-oriented, year-long leadership development opportunity developed with fellows and national experts to provide targeted growth opportunities.

How?
CoP leaders and emerging leaders endorsed by their local CoP can apply in May through identifying an ecosystem need they would like to develop the skills to address.

When?
LEAD STEM is a year long opportunity with a kick-off meeting in September of 2017, four annual convenings (two of which overlap with CoP meetings) and monthly web meetings.

LEAD STEM
LEAD STEM is a unique leadership development opportunity tailored for National STEM Learning Ecosystem leaders and emerging leaders that uses best practices and promising innovations from top leadership training to create a new generation of individuals who have vested interests in advancing STEM and its core principles throughout the US. This opportunity is an effort of the successful STEM Learning Ecosystem model where Communities of Practice engage in cross-systems collaboration and peer-to-peer learning among educators, the business community, out-of-school programs and STEM-rich opportunities.
LEAD STEM Design Principles

1. LEAD STEM values and promotes a national cohort of engaged competent STEM leaders and educators, local STEM champions, and is a national network of STEM advocates focused on outcomes for educators, learners, companies, and the economy
2. LEAD STEM values and ensures a focus on equity in STEM opportunity
3. LEAD STEM promotes a STEM learning ecosystem mindset
4. LEAD STEM cultivates leaders who add value to their STEM Learning Ecosystems and push their ecosystems to achieve new and bold successes

LEAD STEM Fellows

Fellows are highly motivated individuals already engaged in the STEM Learning Ecosystem Community of Practice as leaders and/or rising passionate about moving the needle in STEM learning and outcomes. This includes leaders looking for tailored and competency-based development experiences focused on key skills and core competencies, and are interested in becoming a part of a nationally renowned and respected cadre of thought leaders in the STEM field.

LEAD STEM Leadership Development

LEAD STEM supports STEM Learning Ecosystem Community of Practice fellows in cultivating an ecosystem mindset. To challenge the status quo, and further a new relevant paradigm. In addition to developing a core set of transferrable skills, leadership development will require persistence, critical thinking, and the ability to stretch beyond one’s own comfort zone to collaboratively seek outcomes-based solutions. LEAD STEM fellows are not hierarchical. They see the value in being collaborators and connectors, and seek to build coalitions of support to achieve common goals.

LEAD STEM Fellow Outcomes

1. Tailored leadership development plan
2. STEM Learning Ecosystem portfolio of resources, contacts, etc.
3. LEAD STEM Certification
4. Capstone project that addresses an ecosystem-specific need
5. Data, communications, and development support to market capstone project idea
6. Collaborative white paper on the impact of STEM ecosystems in STEM education problem that the cohort decides to be the overarching theme and unifier of their work together
7. Increased access and collaboration through engaging in a network of leaders in STEM across the country

LEAD STEM curriculum

LEAD STEM is dedicated to bringing the most cutting-edge and effective “wicked problem solvers” together to identify the needs identified by fellows. These “coaches” will be selected based on the needs cohort I fellows identify in their applications. Coaches, fellows, and staff will come together in September to kick-off the initial cohort and will model the engineering design process to develop personalized, relevant, and competency-based curriculum. This process will focus on ensuring real and measurable outcomes for Fellows, their local ecosystems, and for the national movement. The following is a framework that will be populated and is unique to the cohort with individualized plans for fellows based on specific leadership development needs.

For more information

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