

Goals and Proceedings Information

Indiana STEM Education Conference Goals

The goal of the annual Indiana STEM Education Conference is to support K-12 STEM education in Indiana by sharing effective practices in STEM teaching and learning. The conference is an opportunity for STEM teachers, researchers, and organizations to present instructional strategies, lessons/activities, curricular materials, policies, research, and other resources. Each annual meeting is informed by a timely theme and is organized around four strands: STEM Instructional Strategies; STEM Curriculum, Activities, and Resources; STEM Career Exposure; and STEM Education Research.

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Preface and Acknowledgments

Welcome to the eighth-annual Indiana STEM Education Conference, hosted by the Center for Advancing the Teaching and Learning of STEM (CATALYST, <https://www.education.purdue.edu/catalyst/>) at Purdue University. The theme for the 2023 conference is *Advancing STEM with Students*. This year's Indiana STEM Education Conference provides opportunities to learn about effective STEM education strategies, curriculum, and resources to engage students in integrated STEM learning opportunities and address the recently released Indiana Academic Standards for Science and Computer Science (2022).

The 2023 conference features 68 presentations, 29 sponsors, and 17 research posters or briefs for approximately 560 participants. Resources from presentations and sponsors are posted on a Google Site for the conference: <https://sites.google.com/view/instemed2023resources/home>. This allows participants to view the resources multiple times after the conference ends.

The keynote speaker for the conference is Sharita Ware. Mrs. Ware is the 2022 Indiana Teacher of the Year. She teaches Engineering and Technology Education to students at East Tipp Middle School, where she challenges them with real-world, problem-based design scenarios that will help them contribute to global technology. Prior to teaching, she worked in engineering and marketing. Mrs. Ware discussed her experience as an educator and her thoughts about encouraging students in STEM.

Sponsors are important for the success of the conference. The Level 4 sponsors for the Indiana STEM Education Conference include: 1st Maker Space, Ampify, CATALYST, Comcast, GEMS @Purdue, Get More Math, and LEGO Education. Level 3 sponsors include: Keep Indiana Learning STEM Synergy, NearSpace Education, Purdue University Department of Forestry and Natural Resources, Rose-Hulman, STEM Education Works, Tallo, and TinkRworks. Level 2 sponsors include: AP-TIP/University of Notre Dame, Carolina Biological Supply Company, FIRST Indiana Robotics, and GER²I - Gifted Education Research & Resource Institute. Level 1 sponsors include: Activate Learning / Open SciEd, E-Blox, Five Star Technology Solutions, Indiana STEM Cadre, Moss Technical Training Solutions, Purdue University College of Education, Purdue University Department of Nutrition Science, Purdue University Summer College for High School Students, STEM Teach Indiana, and Texas Instruments.

This is the third year of published proceedings for the Indiana STEM Education Conference. The 17 research posters or briefs are published through Purdue e-Pubs (<https://docs.lib.purdue.edu/instemed>).

Thank you to all the attendees for making time to grow as a professional through this conference. In addition, we thank Purdue Conferences, Pamela Walker-Stokes, Nicholas Bonora and their colleagues for organizing the conference details.

See you in 2024!