IDENTIFYING AND MEASURING STEM SCHOOLS AND PROGRAMS

INDICATOR 1: Number of, and enrollment in, STEM-focused schools and programs in each district.

NEED AND CONTEXT

There is an urgent need to form consensus on what STEM schools and programs are, in order to measure and monitor their progress towards achieving desired outcomes. STEM schools and programs are rapidly emerging as the momentum to increase access to, and improve STEM education programs continues to grow. This project will take steps toward developing a mechanism to identify and describe STEM schools and programs, and will create a foundation for research that identifies the schools, programs, and their comprising components that are most effective.

DESIGN: Three iterative strands

1) RESEARCH AND RESOURCE REVIEW AND RECONCILIATION
   a. review research on STEM schools and programs
   b. review research on CTE, early college, and blended model schools/programs (e.g. health
   c. review existing measures and rubrics

2) ENGAGEMENT AND COLLABORATION WITH RESEARCHERS AND PRACTITIONERS
   a. finding common ground with researchers
   b. “groundtruthing” with district leaders, policymakers, and practitioners
   c. culminating workshop

3) COMMUNICATION AND DISSEMINATION
   a. web access to collected research and resources
   b. webinars

RESULTS AND PRODUCTS

1) Taxonomy that supports specific and systematic STEM school and program descriptions
2) Identification of STEM school and program “core components” and variation types.

3) Agreement in the field to use the taxonomy to describe STEM schools and programs, and a foundation for collaboration among researchers.
4) Recommendations for operationalizing the taxonomy into measures.

TIMELINE

- Research and Resource Review and Reconciliation
- Research Synthesis
- Resource Collection
- Reconciliation
- Engagement & Collaboration with Researchers and Practitioners
- Finding Common Ground
- Groundtruthing
- Workshop/Next Steps
- Communication & Dissemination
- Web-based Resources
- Webinars
- Monograph & Recommendations

Who should be part of the conversation to confirm a set of STEM school and program criteria?

Add a new suggestion or place a ✔️ on one already there.