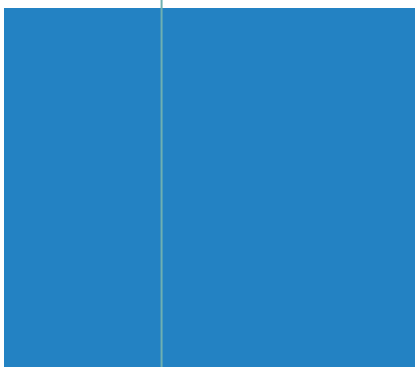
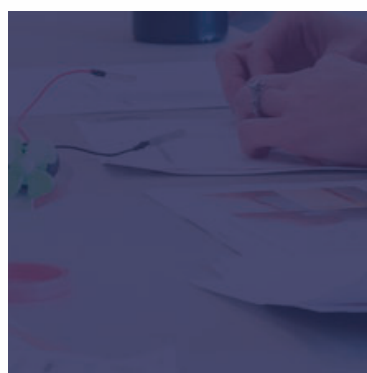


Tri-County **STEMersion 2024**

BERKELEY • CHARLESTON • DORCHESTER



ANNUAL REPORT
→

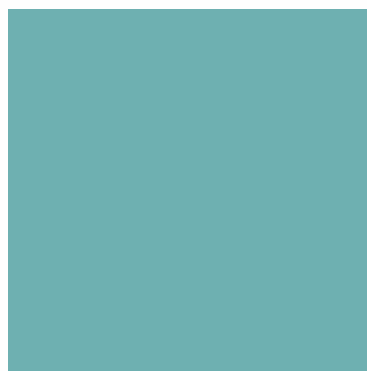




WHAT IS STEMersion?

Tri-County STEMersion is a unique immersive experience designed to help bridge the gap between education and workforce. Bringing local area educators together to learn first-hand the needs of established regional industry creates an opportunity to directly influence the labor pipeline of tomorrow.

Teachers will spend time outside of the classroom, on the manufacturing floor and in discussions that will aid in the creation of curriculum for implementation back into schools. The STEMersion experience creates an impactful and eye-opening opportunity to discover skill needs within our own community and develop resources to help influence the next generation. Educators will ultimately be able to guide students into a vast field of opportunity while meeting the needs of local industry.

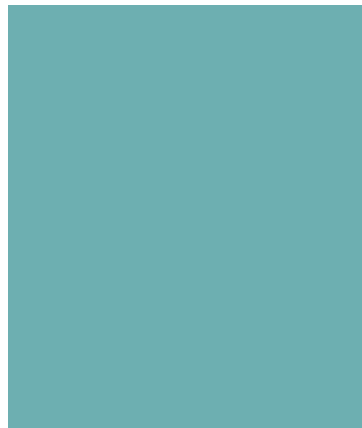


WHO ARE WE?

Founded in 2018 by the Dorchester Economic Development Corporation and the SC Department of Commerce, the STEMersion Planning Committee has evolved to include the united support of Berkeley, Charleston, and Dorchester Counties' Economic Development offices.

Having found continued success and tremendous growth, the STEMersion Planning Committee expanded in 2023 to include representation from each of the county's school districts.

After starting with as few as one dozen interested teachers, surviving a virtual Covid year, and testing a Student Camp version, Tri-County STEMersion has now successfully completed seven Institute years.



HOW IT WORKS

Applications to participate in the program become available online at the start of each calendar year. Priority is given to Title I applicants, followed by equal consideration for teachers from all three counties. Returning participants have the opportunity to serve as STEM Ambassadors, assisting with the program's operations.

During the STEMersion Institute, educators are divided into sessions tailored specifically for teachers and counselors. These sessions are enriched with company presentations, on-site tours, panel discussions, and hands-on activities, all designed to engage participants and inspire the development of STEM-based lesson plans.

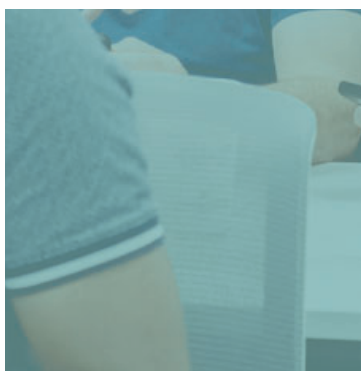
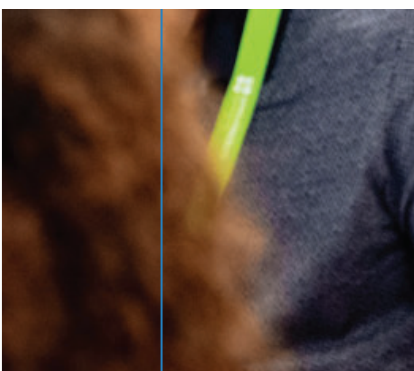
Each participant is required to create curriculum materials based on the industry presentations, addressing the STEM and soft skill needs of local schools. At the end of the week, final projects are presented and evaluated by a panel of education leaders and industry executives. These projects are then made available for implementation within the local school system.



110 TOTAL PARTICIPANTS
in 2024



15
Ambassadors

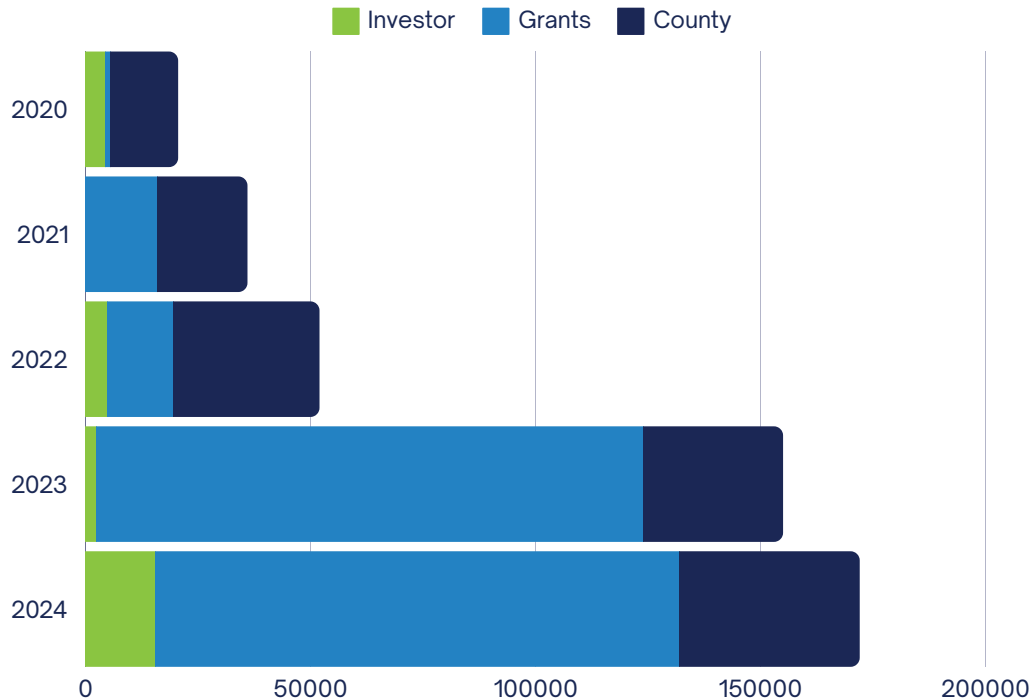


180+
Lesson Plans
Developed



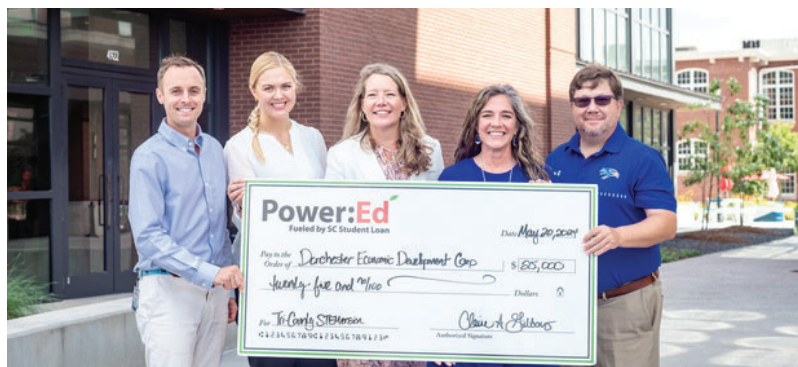
FINANCIAL SUMMARY

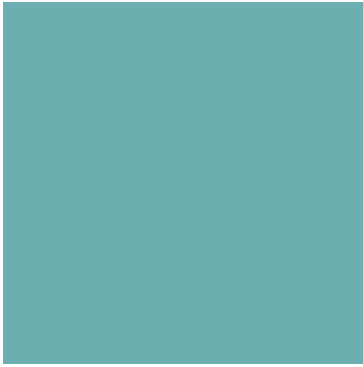
In addition to commitments made by each county's economic development office, STEMersion operates largely due to grant funding and private investors.



↑ 10 NEW FUNDING SOURCES

Including 4 new grants and 6 new business investors for the 2024 Institute year.





MEASURING PROGRESS

Annually, participants are expected to complete an evaluation to gauge their knowledge of STEM skills and local career opportunities. The assessment is administered both prior to and at the conclusion of their elected sessions.

110

Participants, creating the largest Institute class to date

15

Participants returning as Ambassadors

180

Lesson plans developed based on tours

25

Capstone projects created and judged for awards

4.0

out of 5 stars rated the Industry Business Panel as the highest panel discussion

4.49

out of 5 stars given to the Be Pro Be Proud SC Truck, as the highest rated breakout session

3.87

out of 5 stars, given to the Clemson Graduate Center as highest scored educational tour

4.37

out of 5 stars given to Bosch & W International, highest rated tour sites

18

Educators received 3 graduate credit hours from the College of Charleston

58%

of participants confidently increased their knowledge of local industry

91%

confidence level in implementing STEM into the class as rated by participants

99%

of participants would return to the STEMersion Institute again

REPORT CARD

HERE'S WHAT PARTICIPANTS HAD TO SAY ABOUT THEIR EXPERIENCE THIS YEAR



“I can take this knowledge back to my students to help them be successful in starting their careers.”

Counselor, Berkeley High

“It was fantastic! I love the tours in the industries.”

Teacher, Woodland High

“There are so many opportunities available to students that I didn't even know existed. Teachers need to be exposed to these opportunities to bring it back to our youth. If educators don't know, the youth won't know either. It's a great way to provide more opportunities for them and lead to a lower unemployment rate and a higher success rate.”

Teacher, William Reeves Elementary

“The tours and information was needed and enlightening. Having the opportunity to connect with different industries was wonderful.”

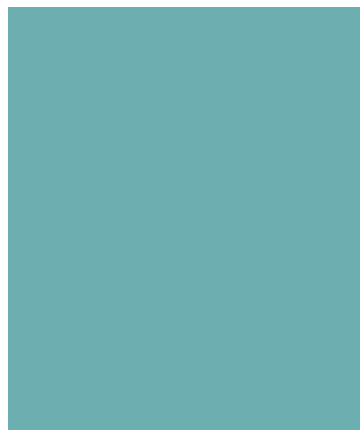
Teacher, Low Country Acceleration Academy

AWARDS

Participants were divided into groups and competed at producing a capstone project based on the stem- and soft-skill needs presented throughout the week by local industries. Judges rated all projects on display in a tradeshow-like finale and presented awards based on 4 categories:

Sustainability
Innovation

Industry Solution
Best Overall



THANK YOU

To our 2024 Investors and Grantmakers who made the STEMersion Institute possible.



BOSCH



V O L V O



THORNE



SOUTH CAROLINA PORTS



SCFutureMakers

Special thanks to



for offering 3 hours of graduate professional credit to interested participants, a NEW offering for the STEMersion Institute!

WHO PARTICIPATED

SITE HOSTS

Bosch
Clemson Innovation Campus

- Dominion Energy Center
- Warren Lasch Conservation Center
- Zucker Family Graduate Center

Harbor Entrepreneur Center
Nexans High Voltage
SC Ports Authority
Scout Boats
Summerville Medical Center
Trident Medical
W. International

PRESENTERS

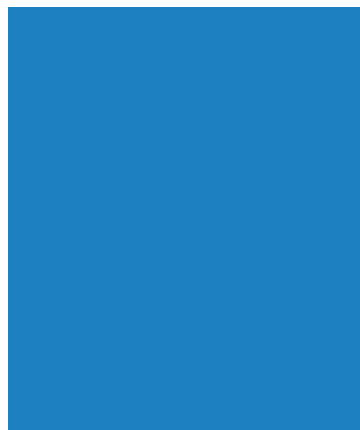
AI Nautics
Be Pr Be Proud SC
Branham Group
Dorchester Two Educational Foundation
Heirloom Cloud
MoonDog Animation
SC Competes
SC Quantum
The NextIT Girl
Trio Marketing

PANELISTS

Berkeley County
Bosch
Dorchester County Economic Dev.
GCM
Heirloom Cloud
Knight's companies
Mercedes
Microsoft
SC Competes
Scientific Research Corp
STEM Centers
Sustain SC
Town of Summerville
U.S. Rep Mace
Volvo

JUDGES

Briteline Extrusions
ECPI University
Knight's Companies



SCHOOLS

Alston Middle
Ashley Ridge High School
Berkeley Elementary School
Berkeley High School
Berkeley Middle School
Boulder Bluff Elementary
Buist Academy for Advanced Studies
Burke High and Military Magnet Academy
Cane Bay Middle School
College Park Middle
Cross High School
Dorchester County Career
& Technology Center
East Cooper Center
for Advanced Studies
Eugene Sires Elementary School
Fishburne Educational Center
Fort Dorchester High School
Goose Creek Elementary
Goose Creek High School
Gregg Middle School
Hanahan Middle School
James Simons Montessori (K-8)
Low Country Acceleration Academy
Lucy Beckham High School
North Charleston High School
Oakbrook Elementary School
Oakbrook Middle School
Philip Simmons High

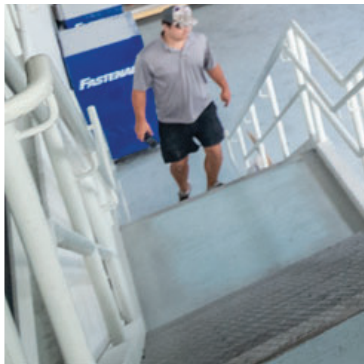
RB Stall High School
River Oaks Middle School
Sangaree Middle School
Sedgefield Middle School
St. John's Christian Academy
St. Stephen Middle
Summerville High School
Timberland High School
Wando High School
West Ashley Center
for Advanced Studies
West Ashley High School
Whitesville Elementary
William Reeves Elementary
Woodland High School

SCHOOL DISTRICTS

Berkeley County
Charleston County
Dorchester District Two
Dorchester District Four

68 TEACHERS &
COUNSELORS

who participated in the
2024 STEMersion Institute
represented Title I Schools.



www.TriCountySTEMersion.com

@TriCountySTEM