



## GCSC Thought Starters

# Student Selection

### Selecting Students

- Offer club membership to many students. Encourage all interested students to apply.
- Have interested students complete an online application. This may be done by having students write an essay describing why they're interested to join or participate in a simple interview. These "real-world" experiences help ensure student desire and commitment.
- Offer students the opportunity to make a leadership contribution by being a technical expert, coach to younger students, club reporter, etc. Consider students' willingness play a peer leadership role in the selection process.
- Set a strong expectation that selected students will make attendance a priority.
- Include students who do not own, or have home access to, the materials being used in the program.
- Create a diverse learning group. Bring together a mix of students to maximize their learning experience (gender, ethnicity and background, leadership skills, academic performance and potential, home environment, etc.)
- Involve teacher(s), school principal, and the school resource coordinator / counselor in the selection process.

### Once Students Are Selected

- Have students sign a contract committing to meeting dates and times. Use incentives to ensure students attend at least 80% of the time (culminating event attendance, stickers in their STEM passports, etc.)
- Confirm parents / families will support their students' participation.
- Confirm that each student has a safe and reliable way to get home from each meeting.
- Confirm that students are not over committed to other clubs, sports, and activities that may hinder their participation and / or program completion.



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