Attracting Volunteers

Volunteer Roles

Engage directly with students as mentors and coaches. Build relationships, stimulates student learning, and provides coaching on STEM projects. Creates and nurtures opportunities to spark and support student interest in STEM learning and careers. Motivates students to learn more.

Places to Look for Volunteers

- School's community-outreach coordinator, principle, or counselor frequently have community contacts who can help.
- Local businesses often want to support schools and youth organizations in their community. Talk with local banks, insurance agents, and restaurants about their interest and even leads for other volunteers. *These businesses may also be willing to provide food, funds for small materials, or co-branded tee-shirts for students.*
- Consider asking current partners to be involved.
- Soon-to-be-retirees from area businesses, previous years' volunteers, parents.
- Local police departments are often interested to support STEM Bicycle Clubs, especially those departments with bicycle patrols.
- Service clubs and professional organizations such as NSBE, SHPE, NOBCCHE, WITI, WISE, and National Honor Societies.
- Previous years' students frequently want to return as student coaches and will benefit from the additional learning experience.

Recruiting Tips

- Be clear on your "ask". Clearly communicate volunteer tasks, expectations, and time-frames.
- Be flexible on your "ask". Can you break up the time slots and tasks? Can two volunteers team-up to ensure one of them is present at most-all sessions?
- Use a fun flyer / announcement or ad to be distributed during kick off nights, on social media, or community days. Use GCSC templates to communicate in fun, engaging ways or create one of your own.
- Share this one-pager with business partners; highlight the unique role they can play to inspire STEM and help develop their future workforce.

Also Consider

Will transportation or meeting times be a challenge for volunteers? What options do you have to reduce the challenge?
What are the specific traits you would like your volunteers to have?
Who is currently in your network?   In your school's / organization's network?

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