

## **High School – Postsecondary Education**

### *Subcommittee report to Senate and House Committee on Education*

The issue of STEM attainment at the Postsecondary level is multi-layered and begins well before the student is admitted to their post-secondary institution. The Postsecondary Subcommittee of the LaSTEM Council agreed at its first meeting in October, 2017, that any substantive expansion to STEM attainment at the post-secondary level would need to include foundational intervention at the secondary level. The Post-Secondary Subcommittee thus identified present shortcomings that have impacted the growth of student majors and graduates in STEM fields. Currently, only 8% of students in the State are STEM eligible according to ACT's yearly summary report of the performance of Louisiana students, it is critical that any future initiatives in STEM attainment consider how to increase the pipeline of eligible students. Given this current status, the Post-Secondary Subcommittee identified opportunities throughout the secondary to post-secondary pipeline where deliberative collaboration and targeted resources could potentially impact student performance in STEM attainment. These were presented to the LaSTEM Council at the December, 2017 meeting. The Subcommittee then collaborated electronically to cull these opportunities into [10 SMART Objectives](#).

The Postsecondary Subcommittee identified 10 SMART Objectives addressing:

1. The identification of CIP codes to be considered under Louisiana's STEM designation,
2. Strengthening the secondary to postsecondary pipeline of students into STEM majors and careers,
3. Setting up an advocacy infrastructure to support and sustain statewide STEM initiatives,
4. Supplementing and incentivizing STEM activities for both teachers and students,
5. Ensuring STEM related policies are relevant and innovative,
6. Collaboration with LDOE to identify high quality STEM pipeline activities where students can receive high school credit or a diploma in recognition of these efforts,
7. Adjusting the high school core to include more STEM related courses and/or high quality activities,

8. Differentiating salary lines for secondary and post-secondary faculty who teach high level and high demand STEM curricula,
9. Creating experiential pathways/agreements with business and industry for secondary and postsecondary students with focus on those careers in 4 and 5 star rated jobs, expansion and incentivizing professional development programs in the STEM fields

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