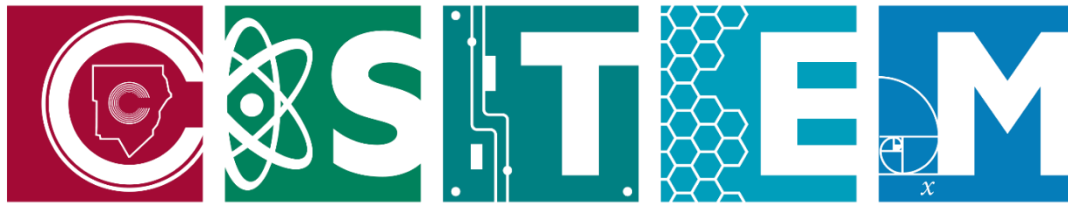


# COBB DISTINGUISHED EDUCATOR



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## Cobb STEM Distinguished Educator Awards Program

**2020-2021**

### Purpose

The Cobb STEM Distinguished Educator Awards Program is designed to recognize exceptional K-12 teachers in the Cobb County School District who have made a commitment to meaningfully implementing STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics) in their classroom. *Teachers may use their work for this award to upload as evidence into the TKES platform.*

### Guidelines

Teachers are given a choice of activities they may complete to earn points. Activities/artifacts are loaded into an electronic portfolio and then verified by the CCSD STEM & Innovation Department Committee.

### Timelines:

Submissions for any of the award levels are due **May 1, 2021**. Activities submitted for points must have been completed **within the last 18 months** prior to the due date. A committee reviews the portfolios over the summer, and awards are given once per year, in August the following school year.

### Upgrades:

Teachers who previously earned an award and wish to upgrade their award level within the five-year validity period may do so. Please add on to your original portfolio with a new section/folder labeled "Upgrade Documentation." *Ensure that your original portfolio of evidence is still viewable.* Submit the application linked on the following page.

### Eligibility:

Participants must be certified, K-12 teachers in the Cobb County School District. Award designations are valid for five school years, then renewal is optional.

## Submission:

### First-time and upgrade applicants

- Create an electronic portfolio that can be shared. A recommended method is using Office 365's OneNote notebook to organize your portfolio by categories (Professional Learning, Integration, etc.) and code numbers (PL-1, PL-2, etc.). You could also create a website or use OneDrive/Google Drive.
  - The use of folders (by categories) is requested if using Google Drive or something similar. When uploading files into folders, please be sure to include the code number of the artifact *in the file name* so that it is easily identifiable to the review committee.
  - **When submitting your link, be certain it is accessible by "ANYONE."** Do not "share" it with any specific person's name, because a committee TBD reviews the portfolios over the summer.

### Renewal applicants

- During the fifth year, you will be notified via email regarding renewal. **Renewal is optional**, but shows your commitment to staying current with STEM practices and involved in STEM initiatives in your classroom and school.
- Submit a narrative or portfolio describing how you are staying current in 3 of the 6 categories (see tables that follow). Provide 1 artifact for each chosen area's activity code. Each artifact should be accompanied with a short narrative on how you are staying current in that particular area.

### Application

Once your portfolio is complete (by May 1, 2021), [submit this brief application form](#) to indicate your application type.

## Award Levels

- **Bronze (350+ points):** Teacher will be recognized on the STEM website, receive a certificate, STEM Cobb t-shirt, and a Cobb STEM Distinguished Educator logo to use beneath their name/email signature.
- **Silver (550+ points):** Teacher will receive all benefits from Bronze level as well as a Cobb STEM lanyard and a Cobb STEM decal for their laptop.
- **Gold (750+ points):** Teacher will be receive all benefits from Silver level as well as their choice of a STEM Cobb lab coat or STEM Cobb tool belt (or comparable item).
- **Top Point Earner:** Teacher will be receive all benefits from Gold level as well as a Sphero robot (or similar STEM resource) and receive a trip to a GA educator conference of their choice.
- **Renewal:** Teachers who renew will receive a STEM tool or personalized name plate for their classroom (or comparable prize TBD depending on availability).

## Activity Categories

- To earn an award (first-time applicants only), a teacher must complete at least one activity from a minimum of 4 of the 6 categories that follow. *Any exceptions are noted.*
- **Each code listed in each category (see charts below) can only be counted once in a school year.**
- **Special consideration for 2020-2021: Think about how you can use the “propose your own” categories to receive points for new things you have done to support remote learning!**

## Professional Learning

Code	Criteria	Points	Evidence
PL-1	Attend a non-mandatory <b>local</b> math, science, CTAE, or STEM professional learning conference.	25	Copy of certificate of completion/proof of participation OR photos of you at the event.
PL-2	Participate in Cobb's STEM Innovation Academy (up to 4 days per year depending on type).	25 per day	Verified by STEM & Innovation Department.
PL-3	Attend a STEM-related presentation at a <b>state</b> , <b>regional</b> , or <b>national</b> professional learning conference.	25	Copy of certificate of completion/proof of participation OR photos of you at the event with identifying features in the background.
PL-4	Conduct a STEM-related presentation/workshop at a <b>district</b> , <b>regional</b> , <b>state</b> , or <b>national</b> conference.	50	Copy of conference program.
PL-5	Earn a math, science, or STEM endorsement from an accredited institution (this is typically earned by elementary teachers and is different from certification areas for grades 6-12).	350	Copy of teaching certificate showing endorsement.
PL-6	Complete the National Certificate for STEM Teaching program.	350	Copy of certificate.
PL-7	Earn an advanced degree in a STEM education related area.	350	Copy of diploma or teaching certificate with date of level change
PL-8	Propose your own PL activity to <a href="mailto:tania.pachuta@cobbk12.org">tania.pachuta@cobbk12.org</a> (this must be done PRIOR to application due date for advance approval).	TBD	TBD

## Integration

Code	Criteria	Points	Evidence
I-1	Create an integrated STEM or PBL lesson that can be shared with other teachers across the district.	25	Submit your plan to the STEM & Innovation Department for feedback/review.
I-2	Implement the (above) lesson and create a video showing implementation that can also be shared with other teachers.	50	Submit your video.
I-3	Provide evidence of differentiated student STEM tasks/products that meet the needs of a variety of learners (English language learners, advanced learners, students with disabilities, etc.)	25	Student work samples/photos showing differentiated products.

I-4	Create an integrated <b>STEAM</b> lesson which meaningfully implements <a href="#">fine arts standards</a> (dance, music, theatre, or visual).	25	Submit your lesson plan.
I-5	Propose your own Integration activity to <a href="mailto:tania.pachuta@cobbk12.org">tania.pachuta@cobbk12.org</a> (this must be done PRIOR to application due date for advance approval).	TBD	TBD

### Business/Community Partnerships

	Criteria	Points	Evidence
BC-1	Conduct a STEM activity with a business/community/post-secondary partner.	25	Submit photos or videos of activity and provide a brief description.
BC-2	Collaborate with a business partner to develop an authentic, real-world lesson for students based upon the role of that business in the community.	25	Submit lesson plan and name/email of business partner.
BC-3	Seeks out and establishes a partnership within the community.	25	Submit documentation of partnership.
BC-4	Participate in a teacher externship program with a local STEM business/industry.	25-50 depending on length	Submit documentation of participation.
BC-5	Propose your own Partnership activity to <a href="mailto:tania.pachuta@cobbk12.org">tania.pachuta@cobbk12.org</a> (this must be done PRIOR to application due date for advance approval).	TBD	TBD

### Student Participation

Code	Criteria	Points	Evidence
SP-1	Sponsor a STEM-related club/team at your school (ex: robotics, Science Olympiad, etc.).	100	Submit documentation of club meetings (agendas, photos of members, etc.).
SP-2	Take your sponsored team to a regional competition.	25	Submit documentation of participation in regional event.
SP-3	Organize and run a STEM-related fair at your school.	75	Submit documentation of event.
SP-4	Create/sponsor a STEM club targeting underrepresented groups in STEM fields. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ex: <a href="#">Girls Who Code</a></li> </ul>	50	Submit documentation of club meetings (agendas, photos of members, etc.).
SP-5	Engage class in a semester or year-long citizen science project or PBL activity.	50	Submit documentation of project.
SP-6	Involve your class in a STEM-related experience such as GA STEM Day or Hour of Code.	25	Submit documentation such as registration and photos of event.
SP-7	Propose your own Student Participation activity to <a href="mailto:tania.pachuta@cobbk12.org">tania.pachuta@cobbk12.org</a> (this must be done PRIOR to application due date for advance approval).	TBD	TBD

## Leadership

Code	Criteria	Points	Evidence
L-1	Provide outreach to teachers <i>within</i> your school seeking to increase STEM expertise.	25	Submit documentation of correspondence and contact information of mentee.
L-2	Provide outreach to teachers from <i>other</i> schools seeking to increase STEM expertise.	25	Submit documentation of correspondence and contact information of mentee(s).
L-3	Submit a proposal to Cobb Tank 2020 (Application due 11-4-20) See: <a href="http://cobbtank.com/">http://cobbtank.com/</a>	25	Verified by STEM & Innovation Department.
L-4	Write a blog post or article for potential posting on the <a href="#">CCSD STEM Website</a> .	50	Submit blog post/article draft to <a href="mailto:tania.pachuta@cobbk12.org">tania.pachuta@cobbk12.org</a>
L-5	Volunteer at a CCSD STEM & Innovation Department Event (Cobb Tank, Science Olympiad, Drone Competition, STEMapalooza, etc.)	50	Photos of you at event with description of your volunteer role.
L-6	Propose your own leadership activity to <a href="mailto:tania.pachuta@cobbk12.org">tania.pachuta@cobbk12.org</a> (this must be done PRIOR to application due date for advance approval).	TBD	TBD

## Technology Integration

Code	Criteria	Points	Evidence
TI-1	Demonstrates effective use of technology in the classroom where students are <i>producers/creators of STEM digital content</i> (Examples: student-created video, app, portfolio, etc.)	25	Samples of students' electronic work from <i>throughout the year</i> .
TI-2	Create and maintain a classroom blog where students post and/or respond to on a regular basis throughout the year.	50	Link to blog submitted at end of school year showing yearlong/ongoing participation by students.
TI-3	Integrate technology effectively when delivering STEM lessons.	25	Photos/videos of you using technology during lesson with thorough description. Must provide at least 3 examples.
TI-4	Propose your own Technology Integration activity to <a href="mailto:tania.pachuta@cobbk12.org">tania.pachuta@cobbk12.org</a> (this must be done PRIOR to application due date for advance approval).	TBD	TBD