

North Carolina Science, Mathematics, and Technology Education Center

Launched in 2002, the North Carolina Science, Mathematics, and Technology Education Center is a nonprofit advocacy organization working to improve preK-12 performance in science, mathematics, and technology (SMT) throughout our state. Our mission is to provide all children in North Carolina with the SMT knowledge and skills to have successful careers, be good citizens, and advance the economy of the state.

Goals

The SMT Education Center's overarching goal is to help North Carolina achieve its vision of having the best public schools in the nation by 2010. To do that, the Center will focus on the following goals:

- To articulate a vision for SMT education in North Carolina, to broaden awareness of the need for a scientifically literate workforce, and to solicit support for high-quality programs of instruction.
- To work with government, industry, the education community, and parents to promote continuously improving levels of performance in the sciences by all preK-12 children and to advocate for equitable and adequate resources for all preK-12 children.

- To mobilize expertise and leverage resources to reach all preK-12 children in North Carolina's 117 school systems, to foster comprehensive programs of SMT instruction by providing tools and technical assistance to educators.
- To work with organizations to research, develop, and disseminate information on preK-12 SMT education to policymakers and the media to improve decision-making and to identify gaps that need to be addressed.

Role of the NCSMT Education Center

To accomplish its mission and goals, the SMT Education Center will serve in multiple roles.

- Advocate for research-based instruction and improved teaching and learning.
- Broker for educational initiatives and resources.
- Catalyst for innovation and change.
- Provider of strategic technical assistance programs that advance SMT education.
- Facilitator of existing networks and groups.
- Communicator about SMT education to legislators, the media, and the community at large.



Think Science

Programs

TEACHER LINK

Working with Duke University's Teachers and Scientists Collaborating program, the NCSMT Education Center is enlisting scientists in the community to serve as mentors for K-8 science teachers as they implement inquiry-based learning in their classrooms.

NORTH CAROLINA INFRASTRUCTURE FOR SCIENCE EDUCATION (NCISE)

A statewide program designed to help local school systems implement a research-based model for hands-on, inquiry-based teaching. A partnership among the NC Department of Public Instruction, the University of North Carolina, the NC Mathematics and Science Education Network, the NC Business Committee for Education, The American Physical Society, and several corporations.

RECOGNITION PROGRAM

We will be recognizing schools that do an outstanding job of teaching and challenging students in science, mathematics, and technology. Currently in development.

RESOURCE INVENTORY

A comprehensive database of programs and resources in North Carolina that support science, mathematics, and technology education. It will be an important resource for parents, teachers, and program directors. Currently in development.

Leadership

President and CEO: Samuel H. Houston Jr., Ed.D.

A 30-member board of directors including NC leaders in education, business, and government oversees the center.

Web Site

www.ncsmt.org