Afterschool Builds Georgia’s STEM Workforce

STEM careers in Georgia are expected to grow 13% by 2027.  

Georgia students performing at or above the National Assessment of Education Proficiency in math and science (2015-2017):  35% of 4th graders  31% of 8th graders

INEQUITIES IN OPPORTUNITIES LEAD TO RACIAL ACHIEVEMENT GAPS IN GEORGIA

4th Grade Math  8th Grade Math

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Proficiency Percentages in Georgia Math Assessments in 2017

Historical inequities in educational opportunities, systemic barriers, and significantly fewer opportunities have resulted in unequal outcomes and continue to prevent a significant number of Georgians from reaching their full potential.

Impact of Afterschool

Afterschool and summer learning programs are helping close the opportunity gap - which often results in a skills gap - by offering additional time and opportunities for students to experience hands-on STEM learning.

Survey of 1600 youth from 160 programs

- 73% Students that have a more positive STEM identity (strongest indicator of pursuing a STEM career)

Afterschool program serving 25,000 youth

- 80% Students that reported the program was the most important source of support for pursuing a career
- 97% Students that said it taught them to set high goals and expectations of themselves

National program

- 70% Students that pursued post-secondary education and careers in STEM fields

Afterschool provides opportunities for:

- Enriching STEM activities such as computer science, coding, and robotics
- Critical foundational skills
- Communication skills
- Working collaboratively
- Fostering confidence
- Exposure to career pathways

Regular participation leads to:

- Significant gains in math achievement
- Positive results in reading achievement
- Increase in STEM knowledge and skills
- Higher chances of graduation
- Higher chances of pursuing a STEM career

For references, go to www.afterschoolga.org/afterschool-issues.