

# Integrating STEM and Instructional Technology in ECSES Classrooms

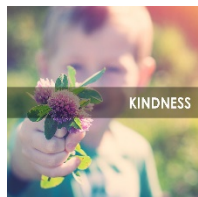
## An Unusual Year: Yet Already So Much to Celebrate! 2020-2021

In a year when, at first glance, the IU13 Keys to Our Culture may have appeared impossible to maintain, leaning into the Keys provided many of us with the foundation and framework to push forward. With the Keys to Our Culture as our backbone, the ECSES Instructional Technology Team is pleased to celebrate progress and successes in integrating STEM and Instructional Technology into our ECSES classrooms during this unprecedented year.



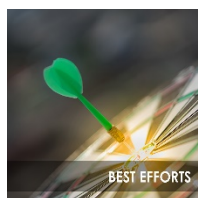
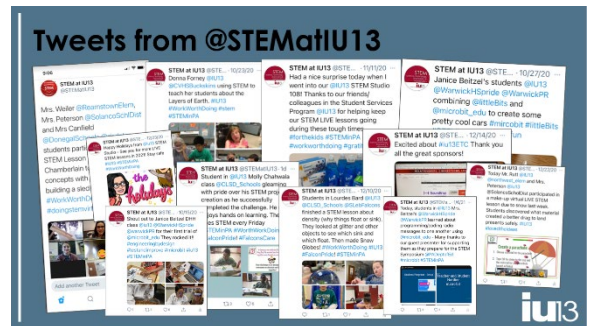
### Grant Submissions

In our efforts to serve as responsible stewards of funds, we continue to look for and consider grant opportunities. Through grants awarded by the CCRES and the Lancaster-Lebanon Education Foundation, we are grateful to work towards our mission to provide learners with technology opportunities similar to their peers in the regular education classroom.



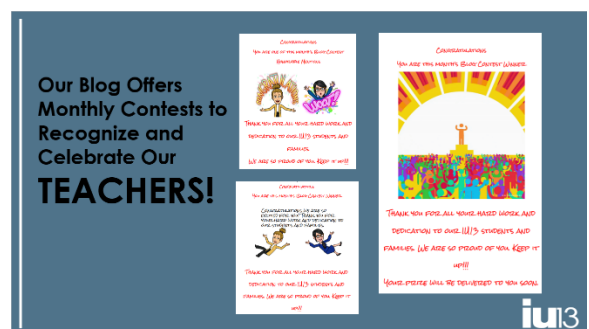
### Twitter and Teachers Spreading Smiles

This year, Twitter is serving as a vehicle to capture and celebrate all the wonderful experiences gained through STEM learning in the classroom and virtually. Highlighting the teachers who are exceeding expectations in their dedication to students and STEM can be seen in each smile. This provides a wonderful opportunity for us to show our appreciation for everything they do!



### Blog

In our best efforts to manage the influx of information for STEM and Instructional Technology, the continuation of the ECSES Instructional Technology News Blog is key in providing meaningful updates, tutorials, and opportunities to all subscribing members. Additionally, monthly contests on the blog allow special education consultants and program designers to nominate teachers for their best efforts, and to be recognized by leadership and their peers for work well done. Of those nominated, two randomly selected teachers receive prizes, and everyone mentioned receives a paper "honorable mention."





## Providing Support

These are tricky times for education professionals. Navigating the obstacles alone is no way to go. In an effort to respond and support teachers, the ECSES Instructional Technology Team instituted

ECSES-IT@iu13.org. This simple contact method created a “service center” to help teachers as quickly as possible by allowing them to access any member of the team for assistance. The team continues to support by providing virtual professional development and offering one-on-one support sessions as needed to best support our teachers.

**Supports through...**

- New ECSES-IT@iu13.org email to meet the high demand!
- Internal Professional Development
- Virtual Conference Contributions
- Individual Support Sessions for Teachers



## Google Classroom

In a time where physical distance is encouraged, the ECSES Instructional Technology Team kicked off its Google ECSES-STEM Classroom. Currently, 80+ teachers have accessed this tool. Here the team shares

differentiated lessons, journals, and start-and-stop lessons for teachers to immediately re-post to their own Google Classroom, or make a copy and further tailor the lesson to meet the needs of their students. This also provides the chance to collaborate with teachers who request a personalized STEM lesson on a current topic of focus.

**ECSES STEM Google Classroom**

- 5 Google Classrooms
- 80+ Teachers
- Ready to repost STEM Lessons
- Differentiated by Ability Level

**Monthly STEM Lessons**

**Teacher-requested STEM lessons!**

*Giovanna Chamberlain*  
Oct 28, 2020

Thank you G. Piccolino, for your 'Newton's 1st Law of Motion' lesson request via the STEM Google form! You will find your Newsgod/Google Slide STEM Lesson mash-up ready to go under the High School, Middle School, and Upper Elementary 'request'.

© Enjoy exploring Newton's 1st Law of motion using cars with your student!



## STEM Competitions & Opportunities

Through STEM learning in our special education classrooms, we encourage our students to believe that they, too, can be the innovators of tomorrow. This year IU13 set out to increase special education

representation in STEM competitions and challenges on a local, state, and global level. These arenas include diverse players such as regular education students and teachers, community members, judges of various backgrounds, leaders of organizations, and IU13 special education students. We are working to promote and work with the state to develop even greater opportunities for our students. This has truly been a year of innovation for all in so many ways. As we continued to pivot this year, STEM Studio 108 was created as a way to continue our work from previous years and provide STEM lessons to our students and virtual students from a distance and safely. Teachers signed up to participate and for a chance to secure needed materials for their class, including their virtual students, through the “STEM Pantry.”

**Growing Special Education Participation in STEM Competitions**

Teacher/Program	2019-2020 STEM Competitions	2020-2021 STEM Competitions	2021 STEM Competitions	2021 STEM Competitions	2021 STEM Competitions
Andrea Hill	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Andrea Hill	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Andrea Hill	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Andrea Hill	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Andrea Hill	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Andrea Hill	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Andrea Hill	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Andrea Hill	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Andrea Hill	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Andrea Hill	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓

2019-2020 1 Participating Class

2020-2021 5+ Participating Classes

**Thank you for your continued support of our efforts in delivering STEM education to IU13 special education students!**

### Contact Information

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Watch this video to learn more!

