

Important Dates and Events

East Tennessee Middle School Science Bowl

February 5, 2011
For more info visit:
www.amse.org

Engineer's Week

February 21-26, 2011
For more info visit:
<http://www.eweek.org/Home.aspx>

FIRST Robotics Competition

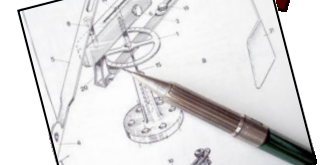
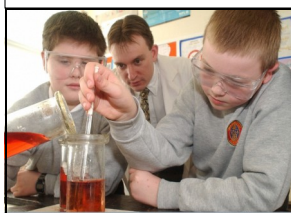
March 30—April 2, 2011
For more info visit:

Interested in becoming a Vols4STEM Point of Contact?

Contact Joe Carson at
jpcarson@tds.net.

Stories to Share or Ideas for Activities?

Send to Ahna A. Estes at
aestes@knoxvillechamber.com



Science, Technology, Engineering and Math Education

Vols4STEM Overview

In 2008, the Knoxville Chamber, Tennessee Society of Professional Engineers, Knox County Schools and the Great Schools Partnership launched an internet-based clearinghouse called Vols4STEM to connect educators with science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) professionals, and to share expertise with students on K-12 STEM programs, competitions and projects relating to their field. These include programs like Future Cities, MathCounts, Lego League, FIRST, Bridge-building, Engineer's Week, Science Fairs, JETS and Science Bowl.

This website (vols4stem.org) allows prospective volunteers to sign up and offer their help, provides information about ongoing and proposed STEM outreach activities, helps locate other professionals interested in participating in STEM programs, and provides contact information for area schools, clubs, churches, neighborhoods or other settings interested in hosting such activities.

Participating Partners

Current partners of Vols4STEM include the Knoxville Chapter of the Tennessee Society of Professional Engineers (TSPE), the Knoxville Chamber, Knox County Schools and the Great Schools Partnership, Oak Ridge Economic Partnership, American Society of Civil Engineers, Knoxville/Oak Ridge Innovation Valley.

Volunteers Needed NOW!

Many companies are stepping up and encouraging their employees and management to become involved in community activities. One way to fulfill this pledge is through involvement with Vols4STEM. Vols4STEM has received almost **150 requests** to date from teachers in Knox County and Oak Ridge for volunteers in their classrooms! Volunteers are needed for a variety of things; speakers, tutors, help in developing projects, and much more. To see what has been requested click [here](#). Vols4STEM is committed to matching STEM professionals with math, science and educators of other disciplines. This collaboration benefits our students, our schools and our community.

What will you do to help?

Khan Academy

33 Year-old Salman Khan creates online lessons in Math, Science and Finance. Khan who quit his job as a hedge fund manager began creating lessons for YouTube after he helped a cousin learn a math process. All of his lessons are free and can be found at the [Khan Academy](#) Website.

For more information go to <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1kly25zVbco&feature=youtu.be> for a news story about his program. A couple sample lessons are:
[Simple Equations](#)
[Dividing Decimal](#)

U.S. Ramps up Efforts to Improve STEM Education

A grant program that challenges students to design their own video games is one of several new initiatives announced by President Obama Sept. 16 as part of a broad expansion of his "[Educate to Innovate](#)" campaign, which aims to spur students' interest in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM). The [National STEM Video Game Challenge](#) competition, the first in a series of planned annual events, will be led by the Joan Ganz Cooney Center at Sesame Workshop and E-Line Media in partnership with sponsors Microsoft Corp., the AMD Foundation, and the Entertainment Software Association.

Article taken from eSchoolNews.com

Source: Posted By mstansbury On September 16, 2010 (5:26 pm) In [Business News](#), [Curriculum](#), [Featured on eSchool News](#), [Gaming](#), [Igniting and Sustaining STEM Education](#), [STEM](#), [Top News](#), [eClassroom News](#)

AMSE hosts East Tennessee Middle School Science Bowl

On February 5, 2011, the American Museum of Science and Energy will be hosting the East Tennessee Middle School Science Bowl at the Oak Ridge Campus of Roane State Community College.

East Tennessee Middle School Science Bowl is a fast-paced academic competition that offers a chance for teams of middle school students from East Tennessee to match their wits in math and science.

Teams comprise of four students, an alternate and a coach. The competition covers several disciplines including astronomy, biology, chemistry, earth science, general science, mathematics and physics.

The competition is open to any school in East Tennessee region. No school is too small. Current plans are to have a maximum of 12 teams for the 2011 competition. Registration deadline is January 22, 2011.

More information and registration is available at www.amse.org.

1st FIRST Robotics Competition Coming to Knoxville

[FIRST Robotics Competition](#) (FRC) combines the excitement of a sport with the rigors of science and technology. Teams and volunteers needed for the first regional event to be held at the Knoxville Convention Center March 30th - April 2, 2011. For more information contact LJ Robinson, Tennessee Regional Director at lrobinsoniii@aol.com. To volunteer click [here](#). First—"For Inspiration and Recognition of Science and Tech-

Educators of STEM

Skype in the Classroom— Here is an interesting article "[50 Awesome Ways to use SKYPE in the Classroom](#)"

Looking to Connect— Check out this blog for STEM educators; [StemEducation](#) at Blogspot.

GPS and GIS (we have KGIS in Knox County) Lesson Plans— Go to the [Science Spot](#).

Tutoring Site for Struggling Students— [Khan Academy](#)