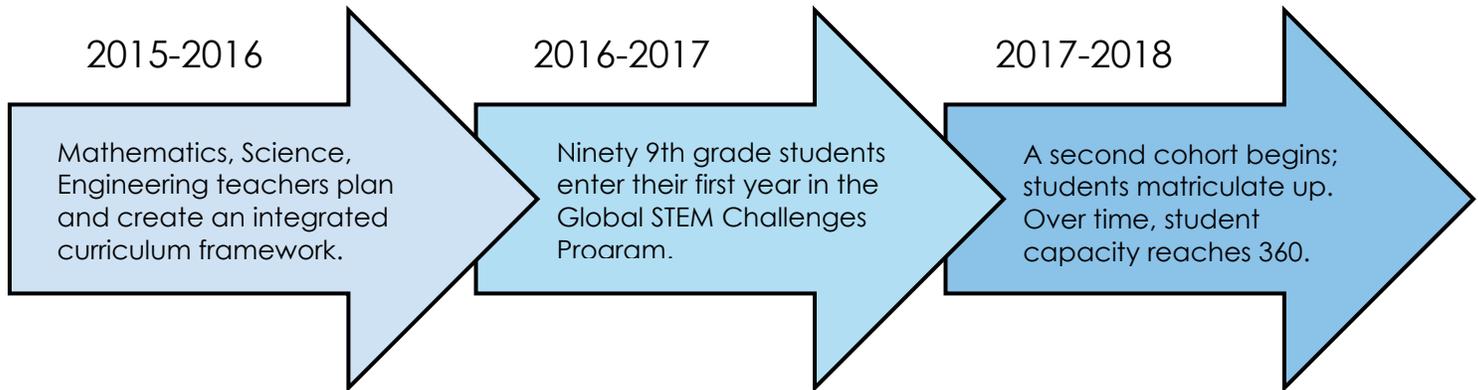


Fairfax County Public Schools
Global STEM Challenges Program

Based at Edison High School in Fairfax County Public Schools, the Global STEM Challenges Program will be a STEM-focused, interdisciplinary three year program concentrating on authentic global problems. This dynamic and integrated program will exemplify the model for preparing high school students to succeed in both college and careers with the primary goals of:

- Providing student-centered learning based on demonstrated understanding
- Aligning real-world connections to community workforce needs and college and career preparation
- Utilizing varying roles for educators to allow for best practice instruction.

Global STEM Challenges Program Timeline



Program Innovations:

- Students will complete 10 Mathematics/Science/Engineering/Computer Science credits instead of 9 in the three-year time period.
- Problem-based learning environment that directly correlates to current global challenges.
- Integrated classroom model where students spend half of the school day in an interdisciplinary class with the instruction of three teachers working together utilizing the Global STEM Challenges curriculum framework.
- Real world connections emphasized via internships, mentorships, and site-based learning opportunities with business partners.

As participants in this program, students will be ready for college and/or career ready as creative and critical thinkers, collaborators, and effective communicators with in-demand industry skills and potentially even certifications.

Proposed Waiver Requests

- Provide flexibility in teacher endorsement:
 - Reciprocity between CTE and science for 4th year science credit
 - Teachers with specific science content endorsement could teach integrated course
- Computer Science credit integrated into sequence of integrated courses
- Coding/Computer Science can count towards the world language requirement for graduation.
- Allow students enrolled in Technology and Engineering Education courses to receive credit for work based experience
- Provide alternative end of year assessments
- Create waiver to allow some modifications to current curriculum