



2020-2021

Energizing Student Potential

Putting Energy into STEM in the Classroom

Program Guidelines and Application

*Applications must be received by
October 19, 2020*

Apply today: <https://app.wizehive.com/apps/ESPDCMD2020>



For Questions:
Contact The NEED Project at 800-857-5029 or
mspruill@need.org

Pepco and the Exelon Foundation, in partnership with the National Energy Education Development (NEED) Project and Montgomery County Public Schools, launched Energizing Student Potential (ESP), a STEM-focused energy program for grades 4 - 8 in Montgomery County Public Schools in December 2017. Now in its fourth year, this program brings together standards-based curriculum for use by library media specialists and teachers in both the library and classroom setting.

Energizing Student Potential is a collaborative educational initiative designed to empower students to explore opportunities in STEM fields and help them discover their own path to innovation through a variety of classroom subjects. ESP is designed to help educators bring energy into the school and to provide all the tools and resources necessary for students and educators to learn together, explore energy together, and teach their local communities about energy. The program begins with an energizing workshop in January and culminates with the school submitting a video or presentation that highlights student energy activities throughout the year. Projects are reviewed for awards.

Participation in ESP provides schools the following opportunities:

- Three days of Professional Development for library media specialists and classroom teachers (stipends provided).
- The opportunity to apply for up to \$400 to supplement your ESP program with field trips, supplies, anything needed
- District standards aligned curriculum and up to \$1500 of hands-on kits
- An Energizing Student Potential Energy Fair Kit to host an Energy Fair and Carnival at your school and a \$150 cash grant for supplies
- A free half-day Educational Energy Audit for students to learn about their school building with energy professionals
- Returning schools receive replenishment materials for their kits and the opportunity to apply for grants and receive educational energy audits and more
- Connections to STEM professionals to help students see all the possibilities of STEM and Energy Careers

Students and educators engage in science, technology, engineering and mathematics activities in library and classroom activities while learning fundamental principles of energy use and conservation. Students learn best when engaged in inquiry learning, and the activities and explorations included in the program allow them to think, explore, share, and develop a profound respect for energy and the world around them.

We know that teaching others helps us learn as well, and the Kids Teaching Kids philosophy woven throughout The NEED Project curriculum helps keep students of all learning styles engaged and excited to learn. The lessons and projects in this program are designed to allow students to teach their peers as well as their local community.

We hope you will join us for this exciting opportunity.

Applications are due on or before October 19, 2020.

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What is expected of schools participating in Energizing Student Potential?

1. The library media specialist and classroom teachers participate in three workshops hosted throughout the year. A team from the school can participate. This workshop is designed and delivered by The NEED Project and breakfast, lunch, parking, and substitute reimbursement are provided. Attendance and full participation is expected for acceptance to the program. Please remember to secure release time when submitting your application. The three training days will be selected based on school calendars to maximize participation.
2. Work with students, faculty, parents and community members to plan and implement an energy focused STEM project in your community.
3. Incorporate the program's energy-focused curriculum and related activities into your 4th-8th grade science and technology programs between September and June.
4. Host an Energy Fair at your school for the local community. This Energy Fair will include an Energy Carnival and hands-on energy lessons for your school community. Schools will be provided an Energy Fair Kit that will include all needed resources for the Energy Fair and a \$150 mini-grant for supplies.
5. Work with NEED to plan for the educational energy audit experience for a select team of students. NEED's Certified Energy Manager will work with a group of students to survey the school building and make recommendations for increasing energy conservation in the school.
6. Communicate with the ESP team about how things are going in your program. Respond to emails, take quick surveys about progress, and share your successes.
7. Share about your program via your school and community communication networks and social media. For example, PTA newsletter, community newsletter, Facebook, Instagram, Twitter.
8. Pull photos, student work and other exciting elements together in a presentation and/or video about your programs and its results. Submit the presentation or video for review by **June 1, 2021**.
9. Complete educator and student evaluations and submit to NEED no later than **June 1, 2021**.

Who should apply for the Energizing Student Potential program?

- MCPS library media specialists and classroom teachers serving students from 4th – 8th grade. Library media specialists and classroom teachers may choose to partner on the program.
- Schools interested in starting, enhancing or expanding afterschool programs or clubs and CERT programming.

Energizing Student Potential - Application for Participation

Applications are due on or before October 19.

To apply online: <https://app.wizehive.com/apps/ESPDCMD2020>

Please be sure to submit all application components and respond to all questions:

1. School Information:

1. School
2. Name of Person Completing Application (library media specialist)
3. Title
4. Address
5. City, State, Zip
6. Phone
7. Email
8. % of free lunch

2. Principal of the School

1. Name
2. Email
3. Phone

3. Additional Information

1. Grades taught at this school
2. Number of students attending this school
3. Number of students participating in your proposed program

4. Please provide responses to the following questions:

1. Why should your school be selected participate in the program?
2. What grade level(s) will you include in the program?
3. How do you plan to implement the program at your school? Please explain.
4. What do you believe the program will add to your students' academic and leadership development?
5. How will the program help you overcome any challenges your school is currently facing?

5. Endorsements and Acceptance of Program Expectations

NEED evaluations have shown that the most successful schools have support at the administrative level. Does the school have the active support of the principal/vice principal/curriculum specialist to provide the administrative support needed for the project? Check any/all that have indicated support for your school to participate in the project:

_____ Principal/Assistant Principal
_____ District and/or school curriculum specialist (library, science, technology, etc.)

Signature _____

By signing above, you certify that, if selected, your school has the administrative approval and support to fully participate in Energizing Student Potential and accepts the expectations of the program.