



# STEM Parent Consortium

Student Ambassadors Program

Support by

College of Southern Nevada (CSN)

University of Nevada Las Vegas (UNLV)

Clark County School District (CCSD)

## Membership Packet



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# STEM Parents Consortium



Parents Working Together to Closing Achievement Gaps in Science, Technology, Engineering & Mathematics

Dear Parent(s):

It is with great pleasure that we welcome you to the STEM Student Ambassadors Program.

Student achievement starts with their parents, who are their children's most valuable teacher.

The initiative in which you are about to enter into is an innovative concept that has reached 39 high schools, 14 middle schools and 31 elementary schools and over 1500 students. We included 5<sup>th</sup> graders to expand the interest in Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics. The STEM Student Ambassadors will become leaders on their school sites and have the opportunity to introduce innovative initiatives to their peers and the community at large; our missions to assist students enter college with majors in the STEM professions.

The STEM Student Ambassadors Program has numerous partners who have invested in the future of our youth in the wonderful world of STEM. As you join the STEM Program you to become our partner within the STEM Parent Consortium. We have introduced a magnificent outline of events and projects that will enhance student's abilities to promote the STEM disciplines as well as motivate other students to accept academic challenges and overcome them.

As a member of the STEM Parent Consortium, you will have the opportunity to meet other parents who share your values for student success, and are willing to work to open greater academic opportunities for all students. There is a commitment to becoming a member of the STEM Parent Consortium, and that is when possible volunteer for our many training sessions, as well as events and projects.

Parents are their children's most valuable teacher, one of many objectives through our program is to maximize the parent role in assuring their children achieve their fullest academic potential, and receive the instruction to become professional and productive leaders and citizens.

We welcome you as a STEM Parent Consortium Member to STEM Student Ambassadors Program. Please feel free to visit our web site at [www.STEMUSA.us](http://www.STEMUSA.us), or contact our office at (702) 648-0889.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Sherman Rutledge Jr." with a stylized flourish at the end.

Sherman Rutledge Jr.  
Executive Director  
STEM Student Ambassadors Program  
Strengthening America's Communities

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## 2008-2009 STEM Parent Consortium Volunteer Description

### Volunteer Opportunities

Every STEM Parent Consortium Member will have the opportunity to make an important contribution to the future of Las Vegas youth through the STEM Student Ambassador program and the annual STEM Student Conference.

Parents can register for specific events and activities built into the program, a volunteer training session will be offered for all adults interested in becoming a member, by joining the ranks of dedicated parents who care about the academic future of their children as well as all Las Vegas youth. The volunteer training is a mandatory training session.

### Purpose

The purpose of the STEM Parent Consortium volunteer program is to reassure all contact with students are done in way that it enhances each students abilities and interest. The STEM Ambassador training sessions and events are overseen by trained adults to assure the activities and initiatives are successfully introduced and become a memorable event in the lives of our STEM Ambassadors.

The STEM Parent Consortium was designed to create a powerful network of parents dedicated to closing student achievement gaps while introducing new and innovative opportunities for higher education through the Clark County School District, the University of Nevada Las Vegas, and the College of Southern Nevada.

### **Key Responsibilities:**

Every STEM Parent Consortium Volunteer will become responsible for their selected assignments prior and during the duration of the project, be it a one day project or a long term project. All assignment shall be authorized by a representing STEM staff member.

### **Qualifications:**

All volunteers shall strengthen their abilities that forward the mission and objectives of the STEM Student Ambassadors Program, its organizing personnel and agencies. The minimum qualifications are:

- Have a compassion for working with youth and teens.
- Can communicate extremely well with modern day teens and youth.
- Reliable and punctual at all events and projects.
- Poses a Nevada valid driving license and have reliable transportation.
- Work well with others in intense situations.
- Willing to take assignment and accept changes in volunteer schedule.
- The ability to organize and assist with support of specific projects.
- A willingness to dedicate the time and energy outside of training sessions to complete a given task.
- Have the ability to work directly with students and parents.

### **Training**

All volunteers shall complete a two-three hour training session with the agency training specialists. The training will prepare you to become equipped to guide participating youth into productive and rewarding experiences that promote their academic and social development.

The training will provide critical instructions on the purpose of the STEM Ambassadors Program, its mission and the short and long term objectives. Parents are at their best in providing support to their children when they are totally informed of the opportunities that exist in the programs their children engage in. The training will be exciting, rewarding, powerful, innovative and fun.

### **Length of the Volunteer Appointment**

The length of the volunteer appointment is one year from the time of enrolment. A parent volunteer can elect to volunteer for any event or project once they have completed the STEM parent volunteer training session.

### **Time Commitment**

The time commitment of volunteers is measured against the specific project of interest; most projects require a minimum of three (3) hours of volunteer time. Some events will be all day projects and volunteers are welcome to stay for duration of the day, or schedule to volunteer for block time schedules. All projects will have a time schedule for volunteers to select the best possible volunteer times that fit into their schedule.

### **Volunteer Rewards**

The rewards of being a volunteer are far reaching and personally rewarding, it is our belief that there are no better experiences than that of helping others. In addition, it is a valuable resource to build relationships with your children's friends and associates, having the ability

to speak to and help other children in their moments to enhance their academic, social, ethical and cognitive development are a powerful experience. You will find volunteer rewards to include the following, but not limited to:

- The satisfaction of making a personal contribution to the development and growth of youth and teens.
- Meet new friends and create new relationships for a common goal to Strengthen America's Communities.
- Receive the respect and gratitude of students, parents and the community served.
- Be recognized by elected officials and key leaders of your community.
- Enter into personal opportunities to enhance your personal growth interest.
- Any out-of-pocket expenses may be deductible from your income tax.



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## Parental Volunteer Likeness Release Form Videography, Photography, and Voice

The undersigned hereby irrevocably consents to and authorizes all STEM Student Ambassadors program Directors, Associated Directors, Coordinators, agents, partners, supporters, and assigned parties of the program to use my image, voice and/or likeness as follows: Strengthening America's Communities™ a Federal Non-Profit 501-(C) 3 organization, its Director Mr. Sherman Rutledge Jr., Sherman Rutledge Consulting, the University of Nevada Las Vegas (UNLV), Clark County School District (CCSD). shall have the right to photograph, publish, re-publish, adapt, exhibit, perform, reproduce, edit, modify, make derivative works, distribute, display or otherwise use or reuse the undersigned's image, voice and/or likeness in connection with any product or service in all markets, media or technology now known or hereafter developed.

The assigned parties of the STEM Ambassadors Program may exercise any of these rights itself, its agents or through any successors, transferees, licensees, distributors or other parties, commercial or nonprofit. The undersigned acknowledges their approval for this Release, which will be used to represent Sherman Rutledge Consulting/Sherman Rutledge Jr. in its promotional and advertising materials as described above.

**This release is for the following materials; my signature is my agreement to the terms listed above:**

**Please indicate your agreement to the foregoing by signing below.**

I \_\_\_\_\_ agree to the terms listed above and give my full permission to release my likeness as described above without reservations or liability associated with terms above that might arise for any reason.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone \_\_\_\_\_ Cell \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_