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History of the Consortium

The National Consortium of Secondary STEM Schools (NCSSS) was established in 1988 to provide a forum for specialized secondary schools focused on science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) disciplines to exchange information and program ideas.

Celebrating our 30th anniversary in 2018, the Consortium now includes approximately 80 member schools (high schools), many ‘ranked’ as the best in the country, along with 30 affiliate members (colleges, universities, and summer programs) located in 32 states, that share the goals of transforming mathematics, science, and technology education. The Consortium has expanded membership in 2016 to include international members and corporate members.

The NCSSS mission is to advance STEM education by providing professional development and networking opportunities for educators and learning experiences for students; to serve as a national resource for STEM schools and programs in partnership with educational, corporate, and international organizations; and to inform policymakers on STEM education.

Our vision is to serve as the resource for secondary STEM schools by supporting collaboration and knowledge sharing and providing professional development for teachers and administrators to positively impact student achievement in authentic STEM educational environments.

NCSSS, a 501c3 non-profit organization, holds programs and events to develop STEM talents for students, educators, and administrators. Our annual Professional Conference provides professional development opportunities to member and nonmember educators. Our annual Summer Student Research Conference draws participants from Consortium schools across the country, where students meet to share their research projects. Administrators gather every summer to share ideas with colleagues from across the U.S. at our annual Administrators Summit.

Consortium publications include a monthly newsletter and the STEM Edge magazine released quarterly. The true value of NCSSS is the incredible depth of teaching and educational leadership experience held among the member schools and affiliate organizations.

For more than a quarter century, Consortium members have worked with dedication and passion to provide resources to STEM educators and students. We invite STEM-focused schools, organizations, foundations, corporations, international organizations, and individuals to apply for Consortium membership. Membership criteria and our membership application may be found at the NCSSS.org.

This Membership Profile includes an overview of the Consortium. The diversity of structures within the Consortium is one of our greatest strengths. There is no one way to provide a world-class STEM education — programs offered must be developed to meet the needs of the community and stakeholders. Still, there are trends worth noting from the most recent member survey conducted two years previously.
Consortium Schools Deliver STEM to Students in a Variety of School Program Structures

**Student Population and School Size**

Consortium schools range in size as the largest serves a population of over 3,000 students and the smallest has just over 100 students. Approximately three-quarters of Consortium schools have 50% or greater female enrollment. Almost a third of Consortium schools have 25% or more students on free and reduced lunch.

**Consortium Students are High-Performing in SAT and ACT**

- Average student SAT Math score is 663.4 – US average is 514
- Average student SAT Verbal score is 639 – US average is 496
- Average student ACT score is 29 – US average is 21
Admission Rigor at Consortium Schools

Admission requirements for Consortium schools are highly selective. About half of Consortium schools admit less than 50% of their applicants; one-third of schools admit 25% or less of their applicants.

A majority of schools use a combination of middle school grades, teacher recommendations, entrance exams, and student essays to determine admission.

Scholarship Opportunities at Consortium Schools

Creating a challenging and creative learning venue, Consortium schools attract the highest performing and motivated students with significant scholarship awards. Member schools offer both merit- and needs-based packages. Awards range in amount from school to school. Most schools grant full and partial awards. The majority of awards are merit-based, attesting to the high ability of students.

Consortium Students Post-Secondary Path

Virtually all students move on to a four-year college career at their school of choice. Nearly 100% of Consortium schools send their students to four types of colleges/universities – Ivy League, highly competitive national universities/colleges, public universities, and private universities. 93% of Consortium members graduate students that attend Ivy League schools and 96% have graduates that attend highly competitive national colleges/universities.
ALABAMA
Alabama School of Fine Arts-Russell Math & Science Center
Alabama School of Math and Science

ARKANSAS
Arkansas School for Mathematics, Sciences and the Arts

GEORGIA
The Center for Advanced Studies in Science, Math, and Technology at Wheeler High School
Gwinnett School of Mathematics, Science, and Technology
Rockdale Magnet School for Science and Technology

ILLINOIS
Illinois Mathematics and Science Academy
Wheeling High School

KANSAS
Kansas Academy of Mathematics and Science

KENTUCKY
Craft Academy at Morehead University
Gatton Academy of Mathematics and Science in Kentucky

LOUISIANA
Benjamin Franklin High School
Louisiana School for Math, Science, & the Arts

MAINE
Maine School of Science and Mathematics

MARYLAND
Baltimore Polytechnic Institute
Charles Herbert Flowers High School
DuVal High School
Eleanor Roosevelt Science and Technology Center
The Ingenuity Project

Massachusetts Academy of Mathematics & Science at Worcester Polytechnic Institute
Nipmuc Regional High School
Uxbridge High School

MICHIGAN
Battle Creek Area Mathematics & Science Center
Berrien County Math & Science Center
Kalamazoo Area Mathematics & Science Center
Lakeshore High School Math/Science Center

MISSISSIPPI
Mississippi School for Mathematics & Science

MISSOURI
Rockhurst High School
St. Teresa’s Academy

NEW JERSEY
Academy of Allied Health & Science- Monmouth County Vocational School
Bergen County Academies
Biotechnology High School
Diana C. Lobosco STEM Academy
High Technology High School
Jose Marti STEM Academy
Marine Academy of Technology and Environmental Science (OCVTS)
Math and Science Magnet Program at Morris Hills
The Academy for Mathematics, Science and Engineering

NEW YORK
The Bronx High School of Science
Brooklyn Technical High School
High School for Math, Science and Engineering at The City College

NORTH CAROLINA
North Carolina School of Science & Mathematics

OHIO
Hathaway Brown School
Ottawa Hills Junior/Senior High School

OKLAHOMA
Oklahoma School of Science and Mathematics at Ardmore Regional Center

PENNSYLVANIA
Downington STEM Academy

SOUTH CAROLINA
South Carolina Governor’s School for Science & Mathematics
Spring Valley High School

TEXAS
Academy for Careers in Engineering and Science
Academy for Science & Health Professions Conroe ISD
Academy of Science & Technology Conroe ISD
Dallas Independent School District
John Jay Science & Engineering Academy
Liberal Arts and Science Academy of Austin at LBJ HS (LASA)
School of Science and Engineering
Texas Academy of Math and Science
The Science Academy of South Texas

UTAH
SUCCESS Academy at Dixie State University - DSU
SUCCESS Academy at Southern Utah University - SUU

VERMONT
Essex High School

WASHINGTON
Carnas Academy of Math and Science
Raisbeck Aviation High School
ASSOCIATE MEMBERS

ALABAMA
Alabama School of Cyber Technology and Engineering

CALIFORNIA
Western Center Academy

FLORIDA
Holy Trinity Episcopal Academy

GEORGIA
North Gwinnett High School

KANSAS
Bishop Miege High School
Blue Valley CAPS

MARYLAND
Anne Arundel County Public Schools- Central Middle School
Anne Arundel County Public Schools- Lindale Middle School
Anne Arundel County Public Schools- Old Mill Middle South

MASSACHUSETTS
Saint Paul Diocesan Junior/Senior High School
St. John's Prep

MINNESOTA
Shattuck-St. Mary’s School
AFFILIATE MEMBERS

CALIFORNIA
Challenge Success
College Bridge
Minerva University

FLORIDA
Florida Institute of Technology
University of Miami
University of Tampa

GEORGIA
Savannah College of Art and Design

ILLINOIS
Center for Talent Development at Northwestern University
Illinois Institute of Technology
Society of Actuaries
Southern Illinois of University

INDIANA
Purdue University

KANSAS
Kansas State University

MASSACHUSETTS
Massachusetts Institute of Technology
Olin College of Engineering
Smith College

MISSOURI
Brown Family Foundation
Rockhurst University
Saint Louis University
St. Louis College of Pharmacy
Washington University in St. Louis

NEVADA
Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers (IEEE)

NEW YORK
Columbia University
Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute
Stony Brook University
Syracuse University

OHIO
Case Western Reserve University

VIRGINIA
Randolph College

UNITED KINGDOM
St. John’s College
INTERNATIONAL MEMBERS

Kamnoetvidya Science Academy

National School of Physics and Math (FizMat)

Philippine Science High School Main Campus