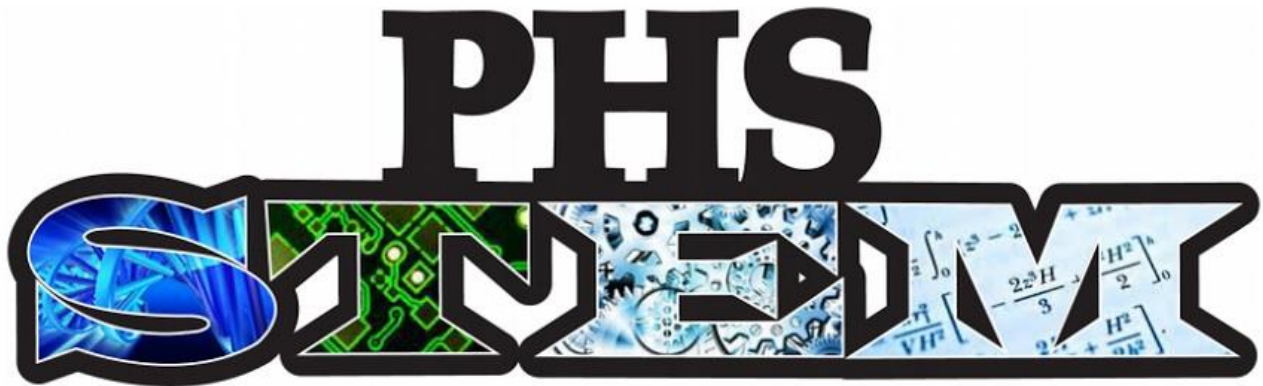


Press Release:

Piner High growing their STEM culture on campus



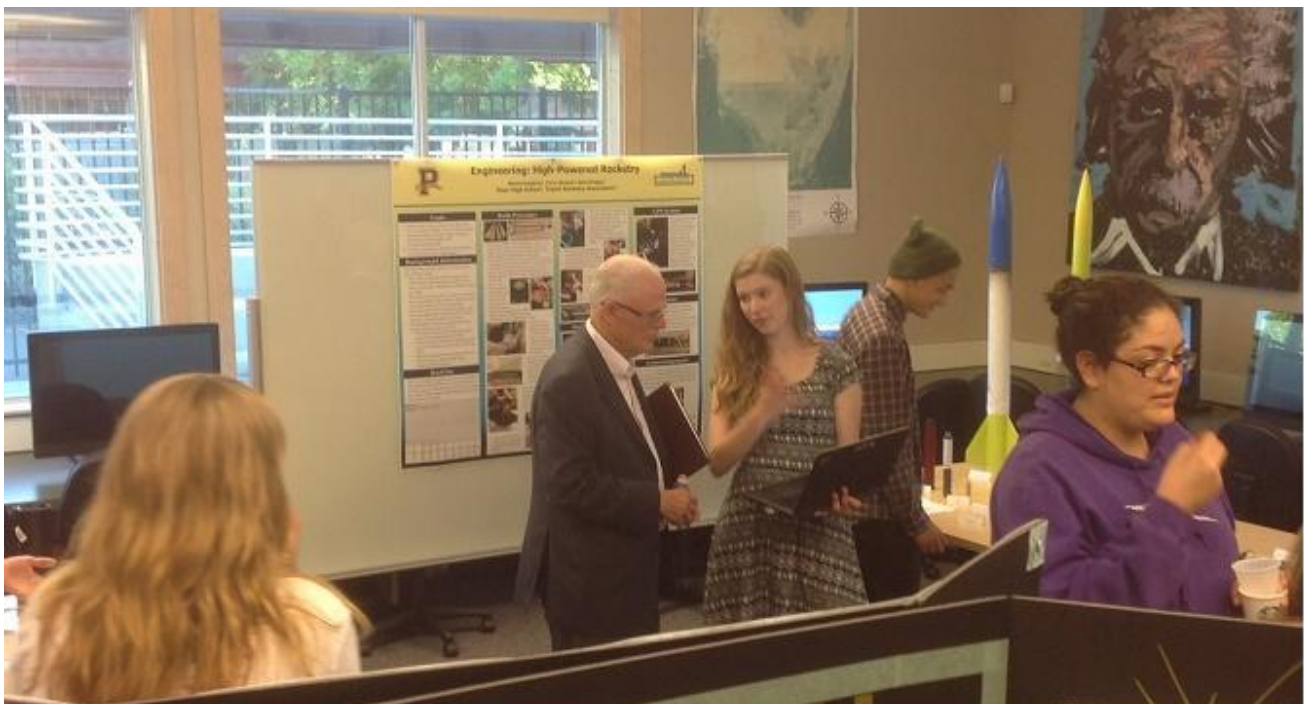
Piner High School recently awarded over 70 STEM certificates to students that met the extracurricular criteria for each of 3 levels of the STEM certificate program. 48 Level I awards were given to those students who participated in some sort of STEM outreach such as a Piner High STEM cafe, Colloquium at a local college or extracurricular activity that incorporated topics related to Science Technology Engineering or Math and did research and writing to support their learning. 18 students created informative boards (as well as a written document for their STEM portfolio) for the STEM showcase that highlighted the STEM concepts related to their internships from the Health or Geospatial Science internships or modeled a community based STEM education piece. They were challenged to defend their work during the public session of the showcase. Our capstone Level 3 certificates were awarded to 4 dedicated STEM minded students who completed an independent science or design project, made an official 4 ft poster for the showcase and presented to a selected STEM advisory panel. The projects included

- Design of an inexpensive water filter for household grey water by Brandon Zavala,
- Drafting & construction of a high power model rocket by Nicole Gregorio with mentor Tony Alcocer from Tripoli Rocketry Association
- Research into creating mutant proteins that can reduce Alzheimer's plaque with mentor Dr. Claire Peters-LiBeu from the Buck Institute of Aging
- Design and construction of an interactive display on the principles of magnetism for the Sonoma County Children's Discovery Museum

This will be a night to remember as students, parents, SSU faculty from School of Science & Technology and all PHS Science teachers demonstrated the effectiveness of a community based grassroots movement to create change in a public school. For further information or inquiries on how to join our STEMsational effort, please contact STEM coordinator Judy Barcelon @ jbarcelon@srcs.k12.ca.us



Piner High STEM showcase brimming with curious minds. In forefront, Health Science/Biotech student Christian Barnard discusses his Level 2 Internship with respect to the Science, Technology, Engineering and Math he was involved with during his job shadow at Kaiser Hospital.



STEM advisory Panelist: Dr. Dennis Mangan (retired NIH Scientist) discusses the design process of rocketry with Nicole Gregorio, recipient of STEM certificate Level 3 (highest achievement !) with her models on table to the right. (Location: Piner High STEM showcase in SPARQ Center on PHS campus)