

# Looking At The ISSUES

Stark  
Education  
Partnership  
inc.

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## STEM for Stark: State Recognizes Our Elementary Programs of Excellence

*Ohio must find effective ways to better align education systems to ensure sufficient intellectual, entrepreneurial and technical talent. One important investment involves the creation of K-8 STEM Programs of Excellence that will partner with higher education institutions and businesses. – Ohio Partnership for Continued Learning*

Stark County has a long history of collaboration between school districts, higher education and business. One such collaboration, based on an idea from W.R. Timken, Jr. over a decade ago, is Science and Math on the Move (SAMM). SAMM is a highly mobile common inventory of high tech science and math equipment that can be delivered to any of the county's high schools as needed. All 17 districts, five institutions of higher education, and the Timken, Hoover, Deuble, Silk, Herbert W. Hoover, Paul and Carol David and Stark Community Foundations continue to support the project. Organizations such as the Canton Joint Engineering Council (CJEC) have helped insure that equipment is current and relevant to the workplace.

Collaborations of this nature often draw the attention of others. This week was no different as the STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Math) subcommittee of the Ohio Partnership for Continued Learning (state P-16 Council) announced that Stark was the recipient of a grant under the K-8 STEM Program of Excellence established by the Ohio Legislature.

The grant furthers development of a core curriculum in math and science for grades 3-5 in all 69 elementary schools in Stark County. The second year of the grant will focus on grades K-2. In addition, there will be a new interdisciplinary program, Engineering is Elementary (EiE) developed by the Museum of Science in Boston, Massachusetts.

Stark County has also created a STEM Partnership that will help with teacher professional development and other grant components. This partnership involves the Stark County Educational Service Center, Stark-Portage Area Computer Consortium (SPARCC), and the five area colleges: Stark State College of Technology, Malone College, Mount Union College, Walsh University, and Kent State University, Stark Campus. Other partners will be the Stark Education Partnership, the Stark County P-16 Compact, the Canton Regional Chamber of Commerce, the Stark County Tech-Prep Consortium, and the Canton Joint Engineering Council (CJEC).

The Canton Local Schools under Superintendent Teresa Purses filed the grant proposal on behalf of all the partners.

## In The News



### Malone College to be Malone University

During its quarterly session, the Malone Board of Trustees voted unanimously to change the name of the institution from Malone College to Malone University. The college's leadership team will develop a timeline to implement the action. Go to <http://www.malone.edu/7837> for complete details.

Contact  
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