
Three Considerations for STEM Investments in Education Facilities



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Three things to think about when preparing to develop STEM programs and planning for the resultant facility adaptations that might be required.

Over the last decade STEM has been the topic of much discussion in education circles. STEM (science, technology, engineering and math) education promotes pertinent, science-related courses of study in the educational experience of students.

In American education there has been a tremendous redirection of attention to emphasize STEM courses. Consequently, governmental and philanthropic investments have been made to make STEM classes central in our education system. It follows that facility administrators and planners have sought funds to develop and bolster STEM programs at many private and public schools, and universities have invested millions of dollars in STEM-related facilities. There are some important considerations to keep in mind as educational institutions seek to expand services into the STEM markets with state-of-the-art facilities. Here are just three:

#1 – EVALUATE THE COSTS AND BENEFITS OF THE STEM INVESTMENT

As your institution plans to invest in STEM programs, consider the cost/benefit ratio for your particular setting.

#2 – REMEMBER THE IMPORTANCE OF A BALANCED CURRICULUM

STEM education isn't the only game in town. Recently, in his Washington Post column, Fareed Zakaria even called current trends to emphasize STEM courses "dangerous" (Zakaria, 2015).

#3 – STEM EDUCATION IS AN EVER-EVOLVING TREND

Courses in biology, chemistry, and physics will find a comfortable home within the STEM education classification; however, the evolution of technology and changes in the types of jobs in demand demonstrate that STEM is evolving and there is yet to be a comprehensive definition.

[Read Full Summary.](#)

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