



Hello and welcome to the Virginia Children's Engineering Council!

I am absolutely thrilled to serve as President of VCEC — an organization that believes every child deserves the chance to dream big, explore boldly, and build a brighter future through S.T.E.A.M. education!

Since its beginning, VCEC has been committed to opening doors for students, teachers, and educators across Virginia, helping them discover the incredible S.T.E.A.M. world all around us. We believe in the power of hands-on, minds-on learning that sparks creativity, builds confidence, and shows every child — no matter their age, race, or social status — that they belong in S.T.E.A.M.

Through powerful professional development, we've helped countless teachers transform their classrooms into places where students think like engineers, solve real-world problems, and shine by using their unique strengths and talents. By weaving the engineering design process into everyday learning, we not only strengthen student success on Virginia's Standards of Learning — we inspire students to see themselves as creators, thinkers, and leaders.

At VCEC, our focus is clear:

- Helping Pre-K through 8th Grade teachers guide students in applying their math, science, and engineering skills to tackle real challenges using technology.
- Encouraging students to get hands-on with tools and materials to design, create, and innovate.
- Building student confidence as they explore, experiment, and lead through the exciting world of technology.

The future is bright — and it starts with the opportunities we create today. Together, we are building a movement where every child can step boldly into **S.T.E.A.M.** with curiosity, confidence, and the skills to make a difference.

Thank you for being part of this amazing journey. Let's continue to lift up all learners, celebrate creativity, and ignite the passions that will shape tomorrow's world!

Let's get to work — and let's make it unforgettable!

With excitement,

Michele Thompson

President, Virginia Children's Engineering Council

Empowering Every Student to Build, Think, and Lead.

