Greetings Colleague,

My name is Vonita Giddings; I am the Metro Richmond STEM Fair Director at the MathScience Innovation Center. The MRSF relies on professionals in the Richmond area to aid us in the selection of projects for our competition and advancement to other opportunities. As such, I would like to invite you to volunteer as a screener and/or judge for this year’s Metro Richmond STEM Fair (MRSF) which will be held at Hanover High School on March 24, 2018.

The Metro Richmond STEM Fair is an affiliated regional fair for the Intel International Science & Engineering Fair (Intel ISEF); this year we will be selecting 5 students to travel to Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania to compete in the Intel ISEF in May. We will also be sending approximately 20 high school students to compete at the Virginia State Science & Engineering Fair in April and will nominate about 30 middle school students to advance to the Broadcom MASTERS (Math, Applied Science, Technology, and Engineering for Rising Stars) National Competition.

**Screener description:** Approximately 600 students from the Richmond Region will submit research papers to the MRSF; each paper needs to be read and scored by at least two screeners with the appropriate area of expertise to determine which students will participate in the MRSF.

- Screening can be done virtually in the comfort of your home or workplace or onsite at the MathScience Innovation Center on February 3, 10, and 24;
- Additional screenings for papers that need further review will be held virtually the week of February 25 and onsite on March 3.
- Training for virtual screening will be provided at the MRSF on February 3; directions for virtual screening will also be provided via email.

**Judge description:** Approximately 275 papers will be accepted into the Metro Richmond STEM Fair. At least 200 judges are needed on the day of the fair to determine special award winners, the winners of each category, and the students who will advance to further competition.

- Judges arrive between 7:15 and 7:30 a.m. for breakfast and an orientation.
- The judges work in subject area teams to interview students from 9:00 am to 12:00 pm, complete the scoring of the projects, and then select the top projects for the category.
- You are free to leave as soon as your results are turned in, but we hope you will stay to enjoy lunch, participate in the STEM sessions, and attend the awards ceremony.

If you would like to participate in the MRSF as a screener and/or judge, please fill out the MRSF Volunteer Form. I will then assign you to a category for screening and/or judging based on your area of expertise. **Notifying me of your availability as soon as possible will afford me the opportunity to contact other potential screeners and judges to fill vacant spots.**

If you have colleagues who may be interested in screening or judging, please send me their contact information or share this correspondence with them.

If you work for a corporation or belong to an organization that might be interested in sponsoring the Fair please let me know. An information brochure for potential sponsors is attached.
Thank you in advance for your support of the Metro Richmond STEM Fair. I look forward to working with you this year!

Vonita L. Giddings
Science Educator
Metro Richmond STEM Fair Director
MathScience Innovation Center
2401 Hartman St.
Richmond VA 23223
804-343-6525 ext. 260