

**DHEDF Rural STEM Initiative – Overview of WEX Foundation
DHEDF Rural STEM Initiative Collaborating Organization
As of 1 July 2023**

To: DHEDF National Rural STEM Initiative Participating Schools

From: Wayne I. Fagan, DHEDF Chair

Date: 1 July 2023

Subject: Summary of info received from WEX Foundation and posted to DHEDF Rural STEM Initiative Private Pages for Participating Schools

Resources designed for use in Grades: K-12

Team:

Introduction:

The information contained in this memo was assembled from a review of the WEX Foundation website and information graciously provided to us on behalf of [WEX Foundation](#) by:

Samuel W. Ximenes

Founder and Board Chair, Architect
WEX Foundation

Mission Statement

The WEX Foundation (WEX) was established to promote, encourage and support the convergence of technology and education as applied to new visions for human space exploration and its long-term implications for the educational development of the nation's next generation of scientists, engineers, mathematicians and technologists, beginning with K-12 education. Its focus is to promote space STEM education for K-12 curriculum development; improving STEM teaching and student comprehension in school districts and areas where students have been traditionally under-served and under-represented in institutions of higher education; to prepare and encourage low-income, first-generation college-bound students and students with disabilities to pursue higher education and careers in human space exploration.

The goal is to foster an education path for historically under-represented constituents into the aerospace community through development of project-based curriculum and activity plans using the latest information available in space science and space exploration goals to inform students about STEM careers in aerospace. WEX objectives include providing all

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student diversities, with special emphasis on female and Hispanic students in low-income school districts, with the latest information on the universe, manned and unmanned space exploration, and advances in space technology, to understand the concepts surrounding spaceflight, space vehicles, launch systems, space operations, and space missions as well as the history of astronomy and the study of the Earth, the Sun, the Moon, the Solar System, and the terrestrial and outer planets.

The foundation will serve diverse populations in fulfilling its purposes, and participate in activities reasonably necessary to carry out such purposes.

Overview of WEX Foundation Resources/Programing

1) In person programing

The WEX Foundation programing is outstanding, however, currently, most of the programing is designed for in person programing. For an overview of that programing we invite you to visit the [WEX Foundation](#) website.

2) Virtual programing

The WEX Foundation has advised me as follows:

“ I think the best virtual resource we can provide for hands-on project-based learning are our NWAY series of “STEM Space at Home” videos. These videos are targeted for **6th grade through Middle School** for at home space projects students can create with simple materials found around the house. They are easily accessible via our web site, (seven in total).”

Visit: <https://wexfoundation.org/nway/stem-at-home/>

3) Additional sources of information about WEX Foundation

- a) Search for WEX Foundation in the DHEDF General Search engine at <https://dhedf.org/search?f=2&q=wex+foundation&Search=>
- b) Search for WEX Foundation in the Private Pages of the DHEDF Rural STEM Initiative Discussion Group at <https://dhedf.org/forum/all/latest?category=23>
- c) Join Samuel W. Ximenes as he discusses the Architecture for New Worlds. This presentation was given to Delta Elementary School in Bay

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Minette, AL as a part of the DHEDF & UTSA Rural STEM Initiative.
View at: <https://dhedf.org/videos/item/architecture-for-new-worlds>

- d) Visit WEX Foundation Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/wexfoundation>
- e) Visit WEX Foundation Twitter page at <https://twitter.com/wexfoundation>
- f) Search videos posted to WEX Foundation You Tube Channel -
<https://www.youtube.com/@wexfoundation1551>
- g) **If you have any additional questions concerning WEX Foundation you may submit your question to WEX Foundation online at <https://wexfoundation.org/contact/> or contact me, my contact details are set out below.**

We are grateful to Sam Ximenes and the WEX Foundation team for their commitment to STEM Education in general, the great resources they make available to the public, and their collaboration with the DHEDF Rural STEM Initiative. As DHEDF becomes aware of additional resources from the WEX Foundation this document will be supplemented from time to time.

Caveat: From time to time, as in this case, DHEDF will share opportunities with you or make recommendations to you. It is totally up to you whether you wish to take advantage of those opportunities, DHEDF makes them in good faith, but they may not fit with your programing. DHEDF also wants to make it very clear that DHEDF has no financial interest in nor does it receive any financial benefit from any of the products or services we suggest to you for your evaluation.

If you have any questions concerning any of the foregoing or any other questions about DHEDF in general or the Rural STEM Initiative **please contact me, Wayne I. Fagan, at (210)570-7888 or wifagan@wifagan.com**

Thank you again for your participation in the DHEDF National Rural STEM Initiative, we are honored to have you, your schools, and your students as part of this Initiative.

Wayne I. Fagan | Chair
Dee Howard International Education Foundation



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