Across the nation, we are seeing concerning statistics regarding the number of students who are interested in science, technology, engineering and mathematics-related (STEM) careers. This growing shortage of science-based talent in our workplaces and universities also represents a serious potential problem for our nation. Science-based expertise is the heart of our high-technology culture, society and economy. If we are not able to draw on a substantial and growing infusion of that expertise, America will not be able to sustain its leadership position in an increasingly competitive world.

To help address these challenges, Northrop Grumman is focusing resources on education programs and partnerships, especially in the STEM areas. Supporting STEM initiatives is critical for our business and for U.S. competitiveness, so we’ve embraced programs that we think will help build a diverse employee pipeline.

A critical step in building a diverse employee pipeline is making science and math fascinating and applicable for the students. And, in order to engage the students, we have to have educators who are excited about what they do and can bring unique learning opportunities into their classroom. Programs like the Northrop Grumman Foundation’s ECO Classroom and Weightless Flight of Discovery are helping to address this concern.

Additionally, Northrop Grumman and its employees are taking time to teach and inspire young people and reach out to our local schools and establish partnerships that enhance the quality of education and help to improve academic performance. For example, CyberPatrol, the largest national high school cyber defense competition, was created to inspire high school students toward careers in cybersecurity or other STEM disciplines critical to our Nation’s future. Conceived by the Air Force Association with Northrop Grumman as the presenting sponsor, CyberPatrol is open to all high schools or accredited home school programs around the country.

To find out more about what is happening in Northrop Grumman operating sites across the country, click here.