

THE OUTREACH ORBIT

OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF WPAFB STEM OUTREACH

THIS MONTH'S NEWS:

LEGACY

WOW! Teacher Workshop

Building the Future: LEGACY Craftsman Camps Kick Off

This month, LEGACY hit the ground running with its Craftsman Camps. The STEM pipeline started strong with its three younger camps, aimed at students ages eleven through thirteen. Attendees had the opportunity to engage directly with hands-on technical disciplines, focusing heavily on coding, robotics, and engineering. This hands-on approach allowed the young learners to immerse themselves in complex problem-solving and foundational technical skill-building.

The energy and hard work of the students did not go unnoticed, as the camps welcomed distinguished leadership during the event. Air Force Materiel Command (AFMC) Commander Lt. Gen. Linda Hurry and AFMC Acting Deputy Commander Maj. Gen. Mark Slominski stopped by to see the amazing things the students were accomplishing. The leaders spent time observing the technical demonstrations and interacting with the campers, reinforcing the importance of nurturing early talent to secure our future technological edge.



WRIGHT-PATTERSON AIR FORCE BASE, Ohio- AFMC Commander Lt. Gen. Linda Hurry engages with 11-year-old students coding at the WPAFB LEGACY Craftsman Camp on June 22, 2026, highlighting AFMC's commitment to cultivating the future STEM workforce that will power tomorrow's aerospace capabilities.



WRIGHT-PATTERSON AIR FORCE BASE, Ohio- AFMC Commander Lt. Gen. Linda Hurry watches 11-year-old students build foundational programming skills at the WPAFB LEGACY Craftsman Camp on June 22, 2026, inspiring young minds to build the foundational digital skills critical to sustaining the future of Air Force materiel readiness.



WRIGHT-PATTERSON AIR FORCE BASE, Ohio- Air Force Materiel Command Commander Lt. Gen. Linda Hurry and AFMC Acting Deputy Commander Maj. Gen. Mark Slominski pose for a group photo with LEGACY Junior Apprentices (high school), Apprentices (college), and members of the current civilian workforce during a visit on June 22, 2026. The engagement highlighted AFMC's strategic commitment to cultivating a robust, end-to-end STEM pipeline to deliver future STEM workforce.



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WOW! Teacher Workshop

This month, 25 teachers from across the region gathered at the STEM Outreach Office for an exciting two-day professional development workshop focused on hands-on learning, emerging technologies, and real-world STEM applications. In partnership with the Dayton Regional STEM Center and DO STEM, the workshop provided educators with practical experiences and classroom-ready ideas they can immediately apply with students.

Throughout the two days, teachers learned directly from in-the-classroom experts about integrating Micro:bits and Finch robots into existing curriculum and instructional practices. Sessions emphasized meaningful ways to connect technology, creativity, and problem-solving across content areas.

Participants also had the opportunity to experience STEM in action through two unique tours. Teachers visited an AFRL laboratory to see, and even use, a Scanning Electron Microscope, gaining insight into advanced research tools and scientific investigation. They also met the ATAK team (Android Team Awareness Kit) to learn how emerging technologies support real-world collaboration and innovation.

The workshop highlighted the power of partnerships and provided teachers with new tools, experiences, and inspiration to bring STEM learning to life for students across our community. STEM learning opportunities will continue next month with a new group of teachers attending our July teacher workshop.

The next workshop will feature additional hands-on experiences while teachers explore and use Makey-Makeys, Ozobots, Sphero Indis, and Sphero Bolts while discovering engaging ways to integrate these tools into their classrooms and connect learning to real-world applications.

Thank you to all our partners, presenters, and participating teachers for making these two days such a success!

