

## Hello Parents and Family Members!

PECO and The Exelon Foundation, in partnership with the National Energy Education Development (NEED) Project and The Franklin Institute, launched the PECO Energizing Education Program over 10 years ago. This program has provided energy workshops, curriculum and hands-on kits to local teachers. As part of the program for 2017-2018, local teachers may elect to participate in the PECO Innovation Challenge, a STEM-focused energy project for grades 3-12. The PECO Innovation Challenge is a collaborative educational initiative designed to empower students to explore opportunities in STEM and help them discover their own path to innovation while learning about energy.

Participating classrooms, school clubs, or afterschool organizations will be learning about energy in their respective learning environments. As students explore various energy topics, they will look for ways to innovate by improving a process or designing a solution to an existing missing link in energy. Teachers have been provided with challenge inspirations, but each group can focus their efforts on any topic area of their choosing. Each participating classroom or afterschool program receives a cash grant to help energize their efforts and complete their project.

Students will work collaboratively through the beginning of June to learn about energy and create a project that summarizes, showcases, or demonstrates their energy and STEM innovation. Groups must share about their progress on approved social media (should be executed by the school or educator in charge), and document their learning. In May, students from all involved programs will come together for a celebration and symposium at The Franklin Institute (from 3 – 7 p.m.). Students will share their innovations and projects with STEM and energy professionals, network with other students, tour The Franklin, and learn more about STEM careers. Students will be recognized for their achievements and efforts on stage. We encourage parents and family to attend this showcase. Teachers will provide more information closer to the date.

Thank you for supporting your student and his/her teacher and their STEM and energy learning and the PECO Innovation Challenge.

The PEEP 2.0 Team







