

PreK-12 STEM Education Innovations, Committee Meeting 1  
Supporting Document

**Patti Curtis**

Senior STEM Advisor/STEM Next Fellow  
Office of the Deputy Secretary  
U.S. Department of Education

For defining innovation- here is the definition we put in our Interagency Working Group (IWG) mission document:

For these purposes, innovation refers to a novel idea or solution to education's most pressing challenges. Such innovations may draw on inclusive partnerships, insights from basic science, and unique applications of advanced technology that can be translated into concrete, practical solutions.

Promising – The term 'promising' should incorporate an emphasis on research, both to inform the development of the innovation and evaluation of it for improving learning for students.

Barriers – The barriers we've discussed include building capacity to do interdisciplinary research and development that includes partnerships between education stakeholders, industry, and research; challenges with sustainability (especially after federal funding ends for projects that have been supported through by grant funding); scaling up something that has worked in one context – not always clear whether it will work in others. Other barriers I've thought about include changing mindsets and getting buy in/managing change and time/resources for the professional development needed for high quality implementation.

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