Featured Expert on Today's News

Beth McGrath
Senior Research Associate and Executive Director, Center for Innovation in Engineering and Science Education (CIESE)

On National Engineer's Week

Recently the Board on Science Education released a new framework to guide what K-12 teachers will teach. It is the first time that engineering is included as part of science education.

With National Engineers Week beginning Feb. 19, now is the time to discuss a large-scale effort happening across the nation to introduce engineering education into K-12 classrooms.

The Center for Innovation in Engineering and Science Education (CIESE) at Stevens Institute of Technology is one of the pioneers, leading a hallmark five-year, $11.5 million National Science Foundation (NSF) partnership grant program called Promoting 21st Century Skills through Science and Engineering Education (PISA²) that includes two other universities, two education centers, 12 K-12 school districts and the NJ Department of Education.

Many K-12 teachers are being re-educated to enhance their repertoire of engineering, often with the help of engineering faculty at the university level. PISA² is designed to increase teacher, administrator and district capacity to deliver high-quality STEM programs. Since 2010, it has engaged 42 grade 3-8 New Jersey science teachers in graduate-level courses in physical and earth sciences.

Beth McGrath, the Executive Director of CIESE, can discuss this timely topic.