

**Northside Elementary School** was awarded GA STEM certification December 15, 2015 in a celebration lead by GA State Superintendent of Schools, Dr. John D. Barge who presented GA STEM certification to Principal Jodi Clark and her faculty in an assembly attended by Northside Elementary students, parents, Houston County central office personnel, and representatives from our community partners from Perdue Farms and the Georgia Farm Bureau. Northside Elementary became the first GA STEM certified school in Houston County to receive this distinguished title.

Elementary (NES) is a Title I school in a rural neighborhood. NES' goal is to involve 100% of our students in STEM education so that all of our students will be prepared to enter the 21<sup>st</sup> century work force. Some of Northside's STEM activities, led by Principal David Sams, include job fairs, coding, robotics-drones, rocket launches, Sarah's Garden, weekly engineering design challenges, Science nights for parents, Science with Santa, Pretty STEMtastic Girl's Club, and the first Houston County Elementary Science Olympiad Team. Take a look at some of these activities here: <https://youtu.be/mo-jRzQTvp0> NES' business partnerships with Perdue Farms and Georgia Farm Bureau have allowed our students to be involved in solving real-world problems. All NES STEM activities are taught within a cross-curricular framework which includes a strong emphasis on engineering, writing and data collection as well as a direct correlation between the Georgia state science and math standards. See NES students working hard with enthusiasm to become critical thinkers, problem solvers, and cooperative learners who are ready to explore and conquer any challenge they encounter here: <https://youtu.be/VUAHZVY-guY>