

CSEdWeek Sample Newsletter Article

A turnkey newsletter article for Coalition members, Computer Science Education Week (CSEdWeek) partners and others to include in their online and print publications

What do making the homeland secure, developing the skills and tools that make robotic surgery possible, sequencing our DNA and addressing global problems like hunger and poverty have in common? These are all innovations made possible through the use and understanding of computer science.

In spite of the important contribution of computer science in addressing these critical issues, there is a troubling shortage of certified teachers, rigorous curriculum and K-12 courses available to students with an interest in learning about computer science and pursuing careers in this exciting—and lucrative—field. The Bureau of Labor Statistics projects that by 2018 more than 800,000 high-end computing jobs will be created in the economy making it one of the fastest growing occupational fields. Computer Science Education Week (CSEdWeek) is a national effort to both celebrate the importance of computer science education and to expand public understanding and advocacy to address these shortages.

From December 4th-10th, thousands of events will take place around the country in schools, on university campuses and many other community locations where students, teachers, community leaders and the public can learn more about computer science and its relationship to the innovations that infiltrate our daily lives. The technologies we rely on today would quickly become obsolete absent the innovations that computer science and computer scientists constantly seek and improve. By leaving computer science out of the school day we are shortchanging students and leaving them unprepared for well-paying jobs that are both challenging and keep the US globally competitive.

What can you do to expand opportunities in computer science for students in your community? Explore the CSEdWeek website at csedweek.org. There you will be able to sign on to the PLEDGE to participate in or create your own CS event. You can read about the thousands of innovative activities and events that your colleagues around the country have developed to promote public understanding of computer science and expand opportunities to study computer science in your local schools. You can learn more about innovative programs and curriculum being used in other communities and effective professional development programs that are available to teachers who want to get certified in the field of computer science. You might even learn about an event that is already underway that you can encourage others to attend.

Computer science is the key to a safer future where innovation helps the US lead the way in solving the most troubling and challenging problems that face our planet. Make sure students in your community are prepared to take part. Sign the PLEDGE at csedweek.org today.