## WILLIAMSBURG COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT ANNOUNCES THE UNVEILING AND RIBBON CUTTING OF THE INOVATE LAB, A SCIENCE TECHNOLOGY ENGINEERING MATHEMATICS (STEM) LAB AT KINGSTREE HIGH SCHOOL

There will be an unveiling and ribbon cutting for the new iNoVaTe STEM Lab at Kingstree High School on December 14, 2022, beginning at 10:00 am. The program will include expressions from school and district representatives and a tour of the STEM classroom. There will be a reception that follows in the Kingstree High School's media center.

The iNoVaTe Lab is a proprietary model designed by the experts at STEM U, an organization that is driven to create awareness in the STEM fields. According to the STEM U website, in the 21st century, scientific and technological innovations have become increasingly important as we face the benefits and challenges of both globalization and a knowledge-based economy. To succeed in this new information-based and highly technological society, students need to develop their capabilities in STEM to levels much beyond what was considered acceptable in the past." STEM education helps to bridge the ethnic and gender gaps sometimes found in math and science fields. Initiatives have been established to increase the roles of women and minorities in STEM-related fields. STEM education breaks traditional gender roles. To compete in a global economy, STEM education and careers must be a national priority. Every decision made uses an aspect of STEM to understand the implications.

The iNoVaTe STEM Lab at Kingstree High School will be a classroom designed to introduce students to careers in science, technology, engineering, and math. Inside are activities that promote critical thinking, scientific processes, and hands-on learning for all grade levels. STEM Labs give students opportunities to be problem solvers, risk takers, critical thinkers, and innovators by taking positions on real-world problems. By working through a combination of learning strategies they discover the nature of a problem, understand the variables involved, and gain a perspective viewpoint of those affected. Students will also participate in unique field experiences and many industry partners/experts work side-by-side with our students.