

Guilford, NC

Building a True Pre-K to Middle School Curriculum Through the Power of Play

It all started with the leadership at Guilford County asking themselves some tough questions:

"How do we get students excited and engaged in concepts like engineering from the earliest ages?"

"Can we do it in a way that not only fosters 21st century skills but addresses the increasing need for social emotional learning?"

"Where do we find a solution that can do all this and fit seamlessly into our existing curriculum?"

"How do we assure our teachers that they'll have the resources and support they need to be successful?"

Walking through a LEGO® Education fueled summer program, former District STEM Coordinator, Tiffany Perkins found the answer. Perkins saw students who were more than excited or engaged, **they were joyful** about what they were learning. She knew there was something special happening, so when the district developed a new initiative to support 21st century skills, design thinking, and social emotional learning LEGO® Education was the partner they turned to!



Guilford County School District at a glance

90

elementary and middle schools

120

Languages spoken in classrooms across the district.

60%

socioeconomically disadvantaged students

70%

students of color

70,000

total student population

The District's Challenge

Providing every student in a diverse population of learners with access to meaningful and engaging educational experiences particularly in engineering concepts without adding to teacher workload



1

A pathway to success



Goal: Lay a foundation of critical skills that learners can build on year over year starting as early as pre-k to prepare them for success in school and the 21st century workforce

2

Access and Confidence for all learners and teachers

Goal: Ensure that *all* students have access to meaningful and engaging, hands-on learning experiences while being mindful of teacher workload and offering the support and resources they need to be confident and successful.



Why the District Selected the LEGO® Learning System



Standards-aligned and Scaffolded

Provides an end-to-end, interconnected, and scalable STEAM learning system that meets district-wide mandates and provides a scaffolded progression of skills learners build on year over year.



Equitable Access

Accommodates students of all backgrounds and learning styles by using the familiar—LEGO® bricks, minifigures, and age-appropriate hardware—to bridge the unfamiliar



Seamless Integration

With the help of our solution architects Guilford designed an implementation that fit easily into the existing curriculum making it an easy lift for teachers



Teacher Training

Includes a competency-based professional development that helps build teacher confidence and produce transferable instructional skills and strategies ensuring teachers are set up for success

The Result:

46,000+

students in Grades Pre-K-8
with access to powerful, playful
hands-on learning experiences!

“The impact has definitely been
a return of joy and excitement
in the classroom! **-Teacher**

The Response

“Kids are excited to learn they
repeatedly ask when we get to do
it again and they're disappointed
if we don't get to do it every day
and typically they don't respond
that way unless we're talking
about a game or recess!

- Teacher

“Seeing the concepts in action makes
them “real” for students.

-Teacher

“Doing things that are hands on really opens your
eyes to what your students are capable of!

-Teacher

“Learning about tougher topics is just
more fun when LEGO® is involved!

-Student



Are you ready to explore the LEGO® Learning System
and bring standards-aligned, hands-on computer
science to your elementary and middle schools?
Visit: education.lego.com/shop today!

