



Collaborating with Portsmouth Public Schools since 2002

Launching futures one child at a time.

The New STARBASE...at Least for Now!

20/20 is perfect vision. 2020 is going to be remembered as the Year of Chaos. And the 20/21 school year is going to be remarkably interesting.

Portsmouth Schools has started the year in the “virtual” mode, and STARBASE will join that effort the middle of October. Like everyone, we are disappointed that “in person” classes are not yet occurring as we know that is the best choice...for students, parents, and the teachers. However, we are excited about the possibilities that virtual learning will give us all.

We believe our new Project SCOUT (STARBASE Connections & Outreach Using Technology) will develop broader interest in STEM education by engaging students, their parents, and perhaps even their siblings. Initially (and perhaps for the entire year), there will be two STARBASE experiences for all 4th, 5th, and 6th grade students. The first will be embedded in the virtual learning day for students. Not every day, naturally, but during the course of the school year, we will engage all of those 3,000 students. Our instructors will be online, working with them on a STARBASE project. Then, after school, there will be additional projects for them to do at home. We will send individual “kits” to student homes with a STARBASE T-shirt and the materials necessary to perform exciting projects.

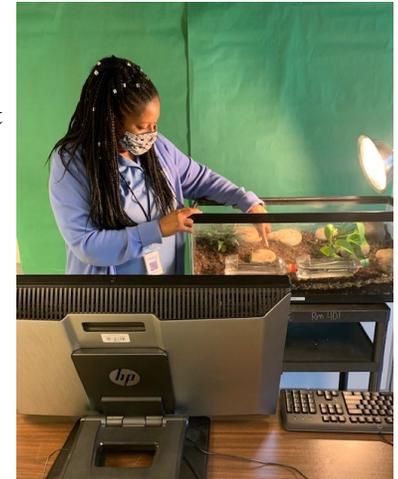
As an example of how our virtual program is different, the 6th grade kits will not include the rockets that everyone enjoys (sorry...too dangerous). However, AEROBASE will continue to emphasize elementary physics and introduce Mars exploration to 1000 6th graders. The goal is to engage students in a virtual version of our 6th grade STARBASE program, Mission to Mars. Students will study Newton's Laws of Motion as they model work by scientists and use NASA resources to explore Mars concepts and the science behind the mission. Students will engage in experimental design using straw rockets and complete coding lessons for use with a VEXcode virtual reality Rover.



The home projects will be associated with the classroom instruction, and we hope that parents (and brothers and sisters) will get involved. We want STARBASE to be a “family affair” this year. We have hired an evaluation team to tell us what worked (and what didn't), because we think these home projects will be an experience that every child will find interesting and educational. The ones that work will probably be used in future years...once life returns to the “new normal”. Students and parents in the past have requested more STARBASE events, and this is an exciting, new way to provide those additional math and science lessons.

We appreciate all that you do to help STARBASE! To encourage participation in the after-school projects, we plan to award prizes. If you have connections or resources to help us, please check out the list!

Bill Hayden, Executive Director



Help Us Encourage Students and Their Families to Learn More STEM!

Technology or Supplies

- New tablets, Digital Cameras
- Earphones and/or ear buds
- A storage box with stapler, staples,
- Hangers/holders for school art and photos
- Digital or light up map of US

Family Entertainment

- Board Games
- Card Games
- Books and Videos
- Discovery or other Educational Toys
- Tickets to Museums and other Venues
- Art supplies and Craft Kits

Individual Items

- Rubrics and Puzzles
- Spinners and Tops
- Masks, Book Bags
- Subscriptions to Scholastics or National Geographic
- Other**
- \$25 or \$50 Gift Cards

Welcome New STARBASE Board Members!

STARBASE is excited to introduce four of our newest board members. There are others, so you will see us highlight additional members in coming newsletters and other media. Our DEC (Development, Expansion and Continuity) Committee developed new strategies and criteria for expanding the Board. We love the results! Thank you to all of our STARBASE officers and directors!



Fred Pasquine has been on the STARBASE board since February of this year, and he also has been elected as our new STARBASE Board Chairman for 2020/2021! Fred has over 20 years of experience with both large and small companies in engineering, process improvement, operations, business development, strategic planning, mergers, and acquisitions. Before joining Fairlead, Fred held the position of Senior Director of Business Operations for General Dynamics NASSCO Norfolk. He was responsible for all aspects of business development, estimating, planning, engineering, scheduling, supply chain, and procurement. He has served as Fairlead's President since 2017.

Fred has a Bachelor of Science in Mechanical Engineering from Geneva College and a Master of Business Administration from Miami University. He is a licensed Professional Engineer (PE) and a Certified Six Sigma Black Belt (CSSB) by the American Society of Quality.

When asked what he thinks of STARBASE, Fred said "STARBASE is a beautiful example of a united community caring for the next generation. It's the partnership of Portsmouth Public Schools and local businesses working together to provide students experiential science. It has positively impacted students in Portsmouth for nearly two decades and helped some to decide to choose a STEM career."

Growing up in Northern Maine, Fred learned to love the outdoors, music, and football. He and his wife Allison live in Portsmouth, Virginia with their three daughters. Allison enjoys remodeling and renovating older homes; Fred has learned to enjoy it too. This home is their current project!

Jessica Johnson became a STARBASE Board Member in late 2019 and has already shown her tremendous expertise to our instructional design team. Together, they developed the new Project SCOUT virtual (STARBASE Connections and Outreach Using Technology). She is an experienced curriculum coordinator, educational researcher, and STEM consultant. Jessica's background as an educational/developmental/human factors psychologist and STEM Coordinator has produced expertise in cognitive architecture, immersive learning experience design, educational neuroscience, biofeedback/neurofeedback, instructional design, and STEM curriculum development. Jessica has designed and implemented K-20 curriculum and various STEM/immersive learning interventions at the local, state, and national levels. She also has experience in game design, social and education sciences, and STEM workforce development. She continues to serve on national simulation committees and participates in numerous professional conferences. Jessica is a doctoral candidate in educational psychology and currently works at ODU's Virginia Modeling, Analysis & Simulation Center (ODU-VMASC).



Hear why she is happy to serve on the STARBASE board and what it means to her is inspiring:

"I am thrilled to serve on the STARBASE Board because STEM/STEAM is important. To prepare a future 21st Century STEM workforce, students need exposure and application of immersive educational approaches that cultivate mastery of multifaceted, real-world problems. Fostering these 21st Century skills requires more than merely memorization of fact but should create sustainable and dynamic, non-linear representations of problem solving- THAT is what STARBASE is to me. Challenges in preparing a future STEM/ICT workforce continue to revolve around providing equitable access for all students and the inherent fluidity of STEM careers- THAT is what STARBASE is to me. Students today will not only be solving tomorrow's problems but will work in careers that do not currently exist, therefore all community stakeholders need to help prepare our youth to propel transformative programs, like STARBASE."

Jessica describes herself as a really big nerd. She loves any community outreach that combines her passion for education, immersive learning, and STEM. She currently serves as a STEM Consultant for various state and national level programs. Additionally, she serves on various educational and workforce development boards, national conferences, and Serious Games committees. While not working, she LOVES to be outdoors and enjoying time with my family.

Join the STARBASE Campaign! See the back page for more information!

GIVING TUESDAY

Thank you for Bringing Us Your Leadership!



Robert J Fogel, P.E. recently retired from Norfolk Naval Shipyard. Robert has held several Department Head and Special Project Team Leadership Posts at both Norfolk Naval Shipyard and Pearl Harbor Naval Shipyard and Intermediate Maintenance Facility (IMF). Robert has led critical organizations at both shipyards to include Lifting and Handling Departments, Production Departments and Reactor Servicing Projects. Robert's specialized field was in nuclear support equipment and infrastructure.

When asked what he feels about STARBASE, Robert explained, "Education of our youth fosters a strong city, state and country. 2020 has taught us that we must make technological

adjustments in our way of life. These adjustments have been focused on rapidly employing new technologies and techniques in education, business, entertainment, and daily social interactions. STARBASE is at the forefront of our future by providing our youth both practical and advanced STEM skills. I look forward to being part of the STARBASE team and supporting this important program."

On a personal side Robert has coached many recreation and high school sports teams. He is married to Toni Fogel who is a community support advocate. Together, they have two daughters and three grandchildren. Robert is our newest board member. He brings 20 years of valuable experience in an important STEM-related industry in our region. We are looking forward to his contributions to the board!

Hope R. Sinclair, Ph.D. is the Executive Director of Communities In Schools of Hampton Roads (CISofHR). With a professional background in psychology, Dr. Sinclair began working extensively with nonprofit organizations in 2005. As the Executive Director of the nation's most effective dropout prevention program, Dr. Sinclair is steering the movement in Hampton Roads to give young people the help they need to not only graduate from high school but to become productive citizens. Inside and outside of CISofHR, she is working to bridge the gap between what our youth need in school and what our youth are expected to achieve.



Her solo practice, Hope Experts, LLC continues to promote youth development and excellence by leading the effort to provide quality substance abuse training and counseling services to juveniles and families. Her practice provides information to youth, parents and community partners about the dangers of substance abuse, its long-term effects, and safe and productive alternatives.

A native of Chesapeake, Dr. Sinclair graduated with an Advanced Diploma from Oscar Smith High School and pursued higher education in North Carolina. After earning a Bachelor of Arts degree in Psychology from Johnson C. Smith University, she went on to pursue and receive her Master of Arts degree in Psychology from North Carolina Central University. In 2005, Dr. Sinclair returned to Hampton Roads where she attended Norfolk State University and earned a Master of Arts degree in Urban Education and Counseling. She later enrolled in The Chicago School of Psychology where she earned her PhD in Organizational Leadership.

Since the very beginning, Dr. Sinclair's vision for her work has been to empower the community to get involved, get engaged and get connected to help fuel a stronger community. In addition to serving on the STARBASE board, she participates on several additional boards such as YMCA Effingham, Portsmouth Service League, Lefcoe Alumni Association, Portsmouth Partnership, and Volunteer Hampton Roads.

We are excited about having her leadership and vision on our board. When asked how she feels about STARBASE and her role, Dr. Sinclair said: "STARBASE is exceptionally important to our community as it is one of the first steps to get our students excited about STEM. My role on the board, hopefully, will be to expand this opportunity beyond Portsmouth so students in other cities will be able to take advantage of this amazing program."

STARBASE Officers and Directors

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President, Fairlead Integrated

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Asst. Dean, College of Science,
English & Technology, NSU

Becky Zambas, Treasurer
Branch Manager
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RADM, USN (Ret)

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Dean of Engineering, Science, & Math,
TCC

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Superintendent, PPS

Barry Fallon, Past Chair
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Transportation
Newport News Shipbuilding

Robert J. Fogel, P.E.
Retired Executive
Norfolk Naval Shipyard

Dr. Johnny Garcia
Founder/CEO, SimiS

The Honorable Shannon Glover
Portsmouth City Council
Commonwealth Employee
Benefits Solutions, Inc.

Rob Hogan
Retired VP, Newport News Shipbuilding

Jessica Johnson
Virginia Modeling & Simulation Center
(ODU-VMASC)

Dr. Bill McConnell
Asst Professor of Education
Virginia Wesleyan

Laura Nelson
Coordinator of Science, PPS

Dr. Hope Sinclair
ED, Communities in Schools
of Hampton Roads

James Wright
Director of Engineering & Tech
Services, City of Portsmouth

STARBASE Victory Creates the Foundation for Lifelong STEM Interest and Careers!

We often hear conversations from parents about how “STARBASE inspired my child and, he/she finished an engineering or technology degree”. Making a difference for Portsmouth Public School students by starting STEM education in elementary school has been a successful goal of the STARBASE mission for the past 18 years.

One of these success stories is Emilee O’Dell. Emilee graduated from Churchland High School and is now a senior at Roanoke College where she is studying environmental science, public health, and religious studies. Emilee spoke at the STARBASE Victory Partner Breakfast in 2016 about her experience at STARBASE in the 6th grade. She shared that the program had a major impact on her education and career choices: “The different fields I was exposed to through STARBASE made a positive impression on me. We talked about futures we could have with STEM skills. I think this is really important for children today.”



Emilee recalled the wide range of hands on experiences and unique learning opportunities she had at STARBASE. A few years later, she participated in Project SEARCH under Dr. Dickerson, President of STEM Consulting Services. He was an Associate Professor of Science Education at Old Dominion University (ODU) and the project was hosted at STARBASE during the summer. The focus of the grant was to provide urban students with Meaningful Watershed Experiences (MEWEs). Emilee was a mentee who had a transformative, hands-on experience developing and deploying a nautical buoy to collect data on the Elizabeth River. She graduated from mentee to mentor in the summer before ninth grade, when she spent three weeks working with 5th graders on this same project. It sparked an interest in her to work with children, helped hone her problem-solving skills, and gave her added confidence about her own abilities.

Emilee is attending Roanoke College as a Beazley Scholar. She also received a Portsmouth Sports Foundation scholarship, a 2017 PIT scholarship, and a Roanoke fellowship. Emilee plans to pursue a master’s in public health. She has interest in working with immigrant communities and has worked with Community Youth Program for the past three years.

Emilee’s experiences have also prepared her for leadership roles. In her sophomore year, she was elected President of Student Government for the entire student body. Now in her senior year, Emilee is serving as a Resident Advisor in a freshman dorm. Her recognition as an exceptional student continues with her award as a Fintel Senior Scholar, which provides another \$5200 scholarship and a stipend.

After her STARBASE experiences, Emilee never lost her passion for STEM. While at Churchland High, she was an active volunteer with the Elizabeth River Project, serving on a team of students who regularly participated in clean-up at the Paradise Creek Nature Park. This past winter she worked part time at a startup company, Commonwealth Learning Systems LLC, where she curated STEM content. Additionally, as a Roanoke Outreach fellow, she led a team of students in restoring shoreline and planting oysters on the Outer Banks. This kind of environmental stewardship is a testament to her desire for future generations to have clean air to breathe and water to drink.

STARBASE Victory is participating in GivingTuesday on December 1, 2020!

Each year, nonprofits, small businesses, corporations, schools, and faith-based organizations all over the world celebrate the global day of giving. We have a goal of \$5000 in donations! STARBASE will be setting up Facebook for Nonprofits this month, a secure system for receiving funds with no fees. Of course, we can accept donations through the website as well. This is a grassroots initiative with three simple objectives:

- increase the number of donors in our STARBASE community
- continue to educate our community on the value of early STEM education.
- provide opportunities for engagement during the pandemic

How can you help? As you think about your holiday giving, keep STARBASE in mind! Our new virtual program SCOUT has increased our expenses. We want to continue our students’ STEM education during the pandemic. We also need more Community Outreach/Marketing Committee Members, so let us know if you or an employee in your organization who would like to join us for our monthly Zoom meeting! Lastly, help us share the #GivingTuesday for STARBASE news on our social media! For more information, please contact Susan Long-Molnar at developmentdirector@starbasevictory.org or 757-513-8633.



**Launching futures,
One child at a time.**

The program is funded through a unique partnership between Portsmouth Public schools, community organizations and STARBASE Victory, Inc., a 501(C)3 nonprofit.

For questions about STARBASE Victory:

William Hayden, Executive Director: 757-343-3598 or tballhayden72@gmail.com

For Donations: P.O. Box 906, Portsmouth, VA 23705-0906

<http://www.starbasevictory.org>

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/StarbaseVictory>