



WINCHESTER REGIONAL AIRPORT

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MEDIA RELEASE

WINCHESTER, VA - January 28, 2020: The Winchester Regional Airport Authority is proud to announce that STEM Flights, a Virginia-based nonprofit 501(c)(3) organization, has selected the Winchester Regional Airport as its headquarters and base of operation for their Cessna 172 aircraft.

The mission of STEM Flights is to create positive experiences in general aviation and inspire America's youth to pursue STEM careers. STEM Flights partners with public schools or other education organizations to provide no-cost education and flight experiences to selected young adults. Students are matched with a Pilot Mentor from the local community to plan and execute a mission that aligns with their individual interests. Post-flight actions include mission feedback, career guidance, and resource assistance.

"The technological advantage that America used to enjoy has eroded significantly over the past couple of decades," states Dave Brubaker, a retired Air Force fighter pilot and STEM Flights founder. "The number of technology jobs being outsourced to other countries is staggering." STEM Flights aims to rebuild America's technological lead in the world through STEM education in the cockpit of an aircraft.

According to Authority Executive Director Nick Sabo, welcoming STEM Flights is a win for both the airport and community. "One can draw a short line between sparking an interest in aviation at an early age and an enriching career in the industry," he said. "We are glad to have a group based here that promotes that very ideal."

More information about STEM Flights and the Winchester Regional Airport can be found here:

www.stemflights.org

www.flyokv.com

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The Winchester Regional Airport Authority owns and manages the Winchester Regional Airport. The Authority is authorized by Chapter 687 of the Acts of the Virginia Assembly in 1987. The member localities include the County of Frederick, City of Winchester, County of Clarke, County of Shenandoah, and County of Warren.

