

Photos: <http://sierraschoolworks.com/section/curriculum/stem-academy/mastercam-training-inspires-teachers/>

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## **Instructors Learn MasterCam to Prepare Future Workforce**

### **Sierra College Science, Technology, Engineering and Math Collaborative offers training**

ROCKLIN – Retirements and fewer opportunities to take technical education classes due to funding cuts are creating a shortage of employees with skills to design, engineer and repair equipment. The Sierra Science, Technology, Engineering & Math (STEM) Community Collaborative ([www.sierraschoolworks.com](http://www.sierraschoolworks.com)) was formed in response to this need. The Collaborative brought together ten high school and Sierra College Career Technical Education instructors to learn MasterCam (a computer aided design and manufacturing software application) and Computer Numerical Control (CNC) machining skills at Rocklin High School on Monday, June 6, 2011.

Dan Frank, Engineering Support Technology instructor, Rocklin High School (<https://sites.google.com/a/rocklinusd.org/engineering/>) and Scott Seacrist, iDesign instructor, Lincoln High School, conducted the training at Rocklin High School's Engineering lab. Participants learned how to set up computer code in MasterCam, and then created dominoes and stacking blocks on CNC milling machines.

“Networking with other instructors, sharing project ideas and gaining an increased understanding of the software was valuable; it was a good combination of instruction and practice,” reported participants.

The California Community College Chancellor's Office awarded a SB70 grant to Sierra College to create a pipeline of students from middle school to high school to college interested in and prepared to fill the need for skilled technical employees. To learn the needed skills for local, in-demand, highly paid careers, students can pursue Engineering, Mechatronics, Welding, Energy Technology, and Design and Engineering Support at Sierra College ([www.sierracollege.edu](http://www.sierracollege.edu)).

For information about the Sierra STEM Collaborative, go to [www.sierraschoolworks.com](http://www.sierraschoolworks.com) or contact Carol Pepper-Kittredge, director, Center for Applied Competitive Technologies, Sierra College, at [cpepper-kittredge@sierracollege.edu](mailto:cpepper-kittredge@sierracollege.edu) or (916) 660-7801.

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