



Barrington Middle School STEM Day

23 January 2026

Event Outcomes

SOFWERX hosted Barrington Middle School STEM Day, welcoming middle school students for an immersive, hands-on experience designed to introduce real-world applications of science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM). Students participated in multiple interactive activities, including engineering design challenges, applied mathematics exercises, and introductory electronics work. The event emphasized critical thinking, collaboration, and iterative problem-solving while reinforcing how STEM concepts translate into innovation and mission-driven outcomes. Engagement with a representative from United States Special Operations Command (USSOCOM) headquarters further contextualized the importance of STEM skills in national security and operational problem-solving.

- SOFWERX staff facilitated multiple hands-on STEM activities, including a Marshmallow Spaghetti Tower challenge, Minute Math exercises, and a soldering activity, reinforcing the engineering design process with a focus on implied assumptions, iteration, and effective communication.
- Approximately 42 students participated in collaborative problem-solving and brainstorming exercises, strengthening teamwork, adaptability, and analytical thinking skills through structured challenges.
- Students gained exposure to mission-relevant STEM applications, including how innovation, engineering rigor, and collaboration support real-world problem sets aligned with USSOCOM objectives.

