

STEMsail is a newly formed organization of volunteers who teach STEM (Science Technology Engineering and Math) to middle school students using sailing as a platform to reinforce these concepts. We are employing the REACH curriculum developed by US Sailing and are currently being funded by a grant from the Richmond Yacht Club Foundation and donations from fellow yacht club members. , We have partnered with the Helms Middle School of Pinole CA and the Richmond Yacht Club junior sailing program to provide a free program for an initial cadre of ten students for a four-week-long program, which commences in May 2016. Five of these students are from lower income families and would not otherwise have the opportunity to participate in such a program. The Richmond Yacht Club has generously offered the use of their facilities and boats for our program.

With additional funding from West Marine, we could insure that needed supplies and transportation for our students is provided for. We believe that Richmond and the surrounding areas comprise a demographic of students that can take maximum advantage of a program like ours. We are on a limited budget, and donations currently must be made to the Richmond Yacht Club Foundation (a 501c3 organization) for the benefit of the STEMsail program. With additional funding, it is our hope to make the STEMsail program a permanent fixture at the Richmond Yacht Club, so that we may be able to introduce the beauty and science of sailing to more deserving children in our community.