This report is a testament to the enduring legacy of the MATE ROV Competition and its instrumental role in shaping the next generation of the ocean technical workforce.
The volunteer judges have been so inspiring. They gave great advice, tips, and career ideas. The students are so thankful for this incredible experience!

- 2023 MATE ROV Competition Parent
NUMBERS TELL THE STORY

STUDENTS ARE MORE INTERESTED IN STEM

- 92% wanted to learn more about STEM.
- 86% were more interested in a STEM career.

STUDENTS INCREASED SKILLS & KNOWLEDGE

- 95% in ENGINEERING
- 93% in TECHNOLOGY
- 85% in SCIENCE
- 67% in MATH

PARENTS PROVIDED POSITIVE FEEDBACK

- 95% said that their children were more interested in STEM.
- 91% parents reported that their children were better team members.
- 94% parents reported that their children were better problem solvers.
- 89% parents reported that their children were better leaders.

TEACHERS SAW IMPROVEMENTS IN STUDENT LEARNING

- 99% observed improvements in their students' STEM knowledge and skills.
- 99% saw improvements in team building, critical thinking, and problem solving.

COMPETITION'S INFLUENCE ON STUDENTS' EDUCATION & CAREER PATHS

A 2020 survey of competition “alumni” included questions about their higher education, employment, internships, scholarships, and other opportunities that opened due to their involvement with the MATE ROV Competition. Highlights of the survey results are included below.

- 96% alumni credit the program with strengthening their workplace skills, including teamwork, problem solving, critical thinking, and leadership.
- 89% alumni credit the program with influencing their education and career a little to a great extent.
- 88% of alumni college degrees were STEM degrees.
- 83% of alumni college students were STEM majors.
- 77% of employed alumni had a STEM-related job.
- 38% the program played a role in attaining college admittance, employment, internships, scholarships, and awards.
“Possibly the greatest program I’ve ever been involved with.”
- 2023 MATE ROV Competition Faculty Mentor

“This event is outstanding on so many levels. It is a rare program that incorporates STEM in a fun, engaging and completely captivating way. Well done!!!”
- 2023 MATE ROV Competition Volunteer Judge

“MATE ROV is superb and should continue to be funded in perpetuity. The level of impact it has on students and learning is incalculable!”
- 2023 MATE ROV Competition Faculty Mentor

“Great program to introduce and strengthen understanding for scientific methods and how they can change the world.”
- 2023 MATE ROV Competition Parent

Our success in the MATE ROV Competition has caught the eye of the county office of education and we are setting up official school robotics programs soon!
- 2023 MATE Participant
THE NUMBERS DON’T LIE

STUDENT 21ST CENTURY SKILLS

1. APPLICATION
   94% of students stated that their ROV project increased their ability to apply STEM to solving real-world problems.

2. PROBLEM SOLVER
   91% of students stated that their ROV project made them a better problem solver.

3. TEAM MEMBER
   92% of students stated that their ROV project made them a better team member.

4. COMMUNICATIONS
   91% of students stated that their ROV project increased their ability to communicate the engineering design process.

5. CRITICAL THINKER
   91% of students stated that their ROV project made them a better critical thinker.

6. SELF-CONFIDENCE
   80% of students stated that their ROV project made them more self-confident.

7. LEADER
   80% of students stated that their ROV project made them a better leader.

8. ORGANIZED
   74% of students stated that their ROV project made them more organized.

The MATE ROV Competition uses underwater robotics (remotely operated vehicles or ROVs) as a way to get students in grades 4-16 excited about learning science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM). The program also exposes students to STEM career opportunities and helps them to see pathways to those careers.

With the exception of the 2020 alumni survey, all data resulted from an independent evaluation of surveys completed by more than 600 students, over 100 teachers, and nearly 200 parents who participated in the 2023 MATE ROV Competitions. For more information, contact MATE at materovcompetition.org/contact.