Mentoring a Fellow

Getting Started
Thank you for hosting a summer internship for a Kenan Fellow K-12 educator! As a host there are several things to consider as you put together your in-person or virtual experience.

Remember the purpose
The goal of the Kenan Fellowship is to give an educator tools to better expose their students to STEM and exciting careers. The time at your organization should give an educator a deeper understanding of your company, the role it plays in the world of STEM, and how problems are solved. Consider this a chance to begin building your pool of future employees!

Plan engaging activities
The more immersive and engaging your activities, the more educators will have to share with their students! Some activities that have proven successful in the past are facility tours, hands-on activities, demonstrations of technology, participation in a project, and interviews with experts in different areas of your company. Many teachers have limited experience with corporate or industrial environments so feel free to share about general operations and how soft skills are also important.

Communicate
Clear and timely communication helps ensure that everyone has a great experience. Once the educator is selected in May, he or she can be introduced to your company and can share his or her goals for the internship. As a mentor share your expectations, your career path, and your passion for your company and industry. Typically, internships are 3 weeks in July or August and the Fellow and the company can agree on a mutually beneficial schedule.