



## **Cindy Hasselbring, Sr Director, High School Aviation Initiative**

### **Aircraft Owners and Pilots Association (AOPA)**

#### **Engineering Practices in Action**

Do you have what it takes to successfully launch a “heavy lift rocket”? Come and learn about applying engineering practices in this engaging, hands-on activity that will test your problem solving skills from AOPA’s aviation STEM curriculum.

#### **Short bio:**

Cindy Hasselbring serves as the Senior Director for Aircraft Owners and Pilots Association’s High School Aviation Initiative. Cindy was a high school mathematics teacher in Michigan for 16 years and earned the Presidential Award for Excellence in Mathematics and Science Teaching. She served as an Albert Einstein Distinguished Educator Fellow at the National Science Foundation in Washington, DC where she provided a teacher voice in federal STEM education programs. Cindy also worked at the Maryland State Department of Education, where she served as Special Assistant to the State Superintendent and led STEM initiatives for the state. Cindy enjoys flying as a private pilot with a seaplane rating.

#### **Long bio:**

Cindy Hasselbring currently serves as the Senior Director for the High School Aviation Initiative at Aircraft Owners and Pilots Association. In this role, she leads high school curriculum development in aviation STEM career and technical education pathways, a high school flight training scholarship program, and an annual high school aviation STEM symposium. She is on the Board of Trustees for Aviation Accreditation Board International (AABI).

Prior to her current role, Cindy served as Special Assistant to the State Superintendent of Schools at the Maryland State Department of Education and led STEM initiatives. Ms.

Hasselbring was a 16-year veteran mathematics teacher at Milan High School in Milan, Michigan. She was awarded the White House's Presidential Award for Excellence in Mathematics and Science Teaching and earned National Board Certification. She served at the National Science Foundation (NSF) as an Albert Einstein Distinguished Educator Fellow providing a teacher voice to federal policies and programs.

A three-time highly qualified applicant and interviewee for NASA's Astronaut Candidate program, Cindy was an active member of NASA's Network of Educator Astronaut Teachers (NEAT) for many years. Her pursuit of being an astronaut led her to achieving her private pilot's certificate. She volunteers each year with the Experimental Aircraft Association at a high school girls aviation camp during AirVenture.

She earned her Bachelor of Arts in Mathematics from Cedarville University (OH) and her Master of Arts in Secondary School Teaching from Eastern Michigan University.