

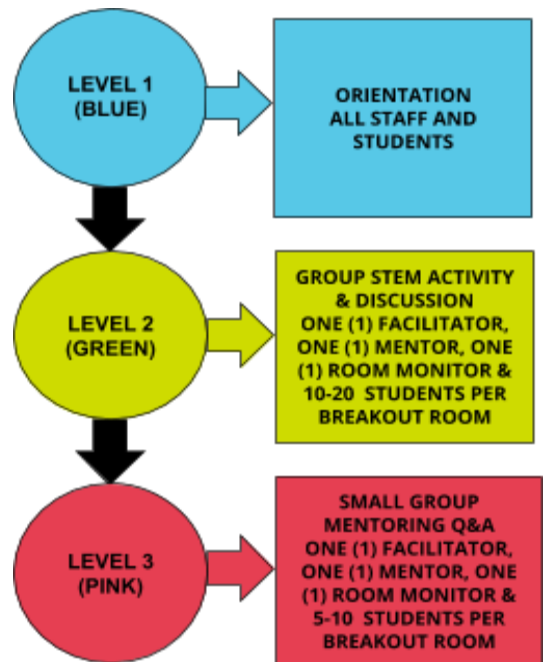
SWENEXT CONNECT: PROGRAM PURPOSE & OUTCOMES

The SWENext Connect program provides SWENext students with the opportunity to establish a safe, positive relationship with peers and SWE members. During the 2020-21 year, the SWENext Connect program will be hosted as part of SWENext High School Leadership Academy ([SHLA](#)).

Connection circles are cluster groups of students in the SHLA program that work with peers, facilitators and mentors to discuss topics based on SHLA core content tracks. The intended outcomes of the virtual connection circles are for STEM-interested high school students to:

- Make connections with peers and women in engineering
- Have conversations about topics including STEM pathways, leadership, self-development, college preparation and inclusion and cultural awareness
- Get advice from women in engineering on topics of interest
- Gain insight on how to achieve goals they set at the beginning of the SHLA program

SWENext Connect Format:



LEGEND | Level 1 (BLUE): SWE HQ staff and committee volunteers, facilitators, mentors and students will engage in a virtual orientation and training. SWE HQ staff will introduce the session and identify the SHLA core content track and sub-topic, learning outcomes, expectations for all participants, name of each facilitator and mentor, rules of engagement, and logistics. Time allotted: 10 minutes

LEVEL 2 (GREEN): Students will be assigned to virtual breakout rooms by grade level to participate in a facilitator-led interactive engagement activity and group discussion exploring STEM. **NOTE:** Level 2 breakout rooms are led by facilitators that will create the lesson plan for the session. Time allotted: 15 minutes.

LEVEL 3 (PINK): Students will be assigned to virtual breakout rooms for mentoring sessions with guided Q&A. Equipped with best practices and back-up questions, mentors are advisors for this student-run learning experience. **NOTE:** SWE HQ staff and committee volunteers will be assigned as room monitors for all virtual breakout rooms to maintain safety and manage session logistics. Time allotted: 20 minutes.

