STAIRSTEP students Matthew Williamson and Billy Newman attended the 48th Annual ACET Conference to present their work with “Engaging High School Students in a Game Computing Academy.” Their work involved five computing programming sessions that engaged high school students that self-selected interest in math but not necessarily computer science and attempting to raise interest in computer science. The conference hosted several other students presenting their work involving “Exploring Ephemerality in Social Media with Facebook Timebomb”, “GeoVista Crime Viz”, and others.

Matthew Williamson was the main presenter of the poster and felt it was beneficial to his presentation experience. He also stated he was able “to meet many judges who were very interested in Computer Science and I was able to meet several other students working on amazing projects.” Matthew was a big contributor to the academy and the presentation poster.

Billy Newman was also a main contributor to the academy and poster, and helped during the presentation of the poster. Billy also felt as though this conference was very beneficial to his presentation skills and creation skills. “The most important part was experiencing the competition and the conference.”

Matthew and Billy attained the prize of Honorable Mention.