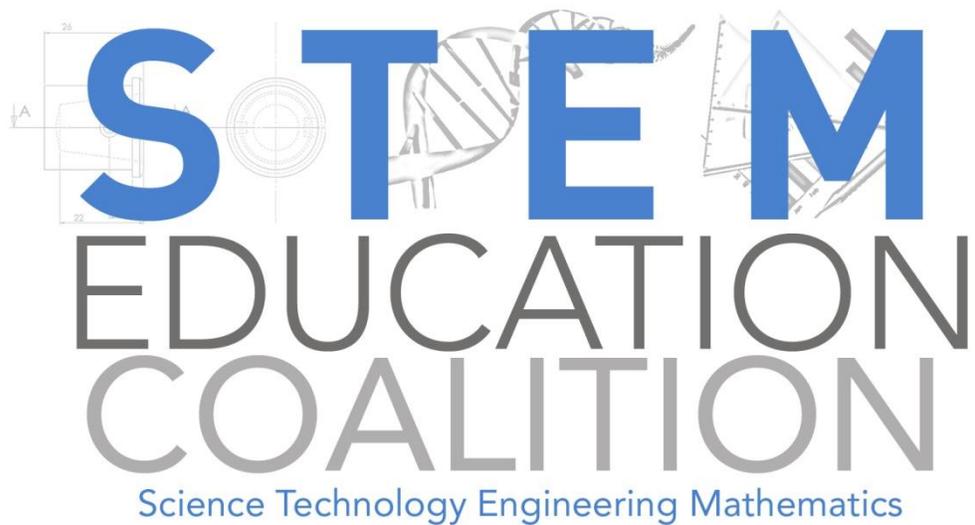


2012 ANNUAL REPORT



1/4/2013

Making STEM Education a National Priority

An outline of the Coalition's activities, accomplishments, and highlights for
2012

2012 Annual Report

The Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM) Education Coalition represents the broadest and most unified voice in advocating for policies to improve STEM education at all levels. It is a central mission of our Coalition to inform federal policymakers on STEM issues and serve as an advocate for the critical role that STEM education plays in U.S. competitiveness and future economic prosperity. In sum, the mission of the Coalition is to ensure that STEM education is recognized as a national policy priority. This report outlines the Coalition's activities, accomplishments, and key success indicators for 2012.

Highlights for 2012:

- Our Coalition played a leading role in a [successful amendment](#) proposed by Sen. Richard Shelby (R-AL) and adopted by the Senate Appropriations Committee to restore \$50 million in funding to the Department of Education's Math and Science Partnership program.
- The Coalition had a central role in an [intense debate over the role of science in a new accountability system](#) proposed by the House Education and Workforce Committee.
- Our Coalition was invited to [testify before Congress](#) for the first time in 2012 and has dramatically increased its profile before [national](#) and [education trade press](#).
- The Coalition's Leadership Council [grew to include 30 members in 2012](#).
- We succeeded in recruiting a number of new Congressional champions on STEM education issues, such as [Sen. Jeff Merkley \(D-OR\)](#) and [Rep. Richard Hanna \(R-NY\)](#).

Major Activities and Accomplishments

February 10, 2012: Coalition organizes [letter signed by 46 organizations to House Education and Workforce Committee Chairman John Kline \(R-MN\)](#) raising major objections on the lack of focus on STEM education in the Committee's proposed legislation to reauthorize the ESEA.

February 27, 2012: Coalition works with Rep. Richard Hanna and 3 other House Members on a [Dear Colleague letter](#) and an [amendment to the House ESEA Reauthorization bill](#) to retain a requirement that states test all students in science.

March 22, 2012: The Coalition's Executive Director [testifies before the House Appropriations Subcommittee on Commerce, Justice, and Science](#) on the Obama Administration's FY2013 budget request for the National Science Foundation.

April 2, 2012: Coalition issues an update to its [Core Policy Principles for STEM Education](#).

April 28, 2012: Coalition plays an active role in promoting the [USA Science and Engineering Festival](#). Attendees at the Washington festival are encouraged by organizers to send letter to Congress through the Coalition's [Legislative Action Center](#).

May 1, 2012: Coalition organizes [letter supported by 51 organizations](#) to House and Senate Appropriators urging that Congress consider STEM education as a national priority across the federal government.

May 24, 2012: Coalition members meet with NSF Education and Human Resources Directorate chief [Joan Ferrini-Mundi](#) to discuss the future direction of NSF's STEM education programs

June 14, 2012: The Coalition works closely with Sen. Richard Shelby (R-AL) in a rapid-fire 2-day campaign to build support for a [successful amendment](#) to reverse a substantial cut proposed by the Senate Appropriations Subcommittee on Labor, HHS, and Education to the Math and Science Partnership program. During this campaign, more than 1200 constituent letters were sent to Senators through the Coalition's [website](#).

June 15, 2012: Coalition [issues formal comments](#) on the White House Office of Science and Technology's proposed Federal STEM Program Guidelines.

July 26, 2012: Coalition members meet with Assistant Deputy Secretary for Innovation and Improvement Jim Shelton and other Department of Education officials to discuss the Administration's recent actions on the Math and Science Partnership program at new proposal for a [STEM Master Teacher Corps](#).

September 6, 2012: The Coalition's Executive Director joins Rep. Richard Hanna (R-NY) at [press conference to introduce the STEM Education Opportunity Act](#), a bill to provide tax benefits to students studying in STEM fields.

October-December, 2012: Coalition joins with more than [100 other education, science and technology, and professional organizations](#) in a broad campaign to advocate on behalf of R+D and STEM education funding as a national priority during the run-up to the Fiscal Cliff deal reached at the end of 2012. During this period, Coalition members meet face-to-face with more than 30 Congressional offices. The final deal does not include substantial cuts to STEM education programs or domestic discretionary funding.

Membership and Social Media

- Members joined in face to face meetings with more than 100 Congressional member and Committee staff offices in 2012.
- We've grown to over 550 [affiliate members](#), including 30 members of the Coalition's [Leadership Council](#).
- Our Twitter handle [@StemEdCoalition](#), has nearly 4000 followers and was named one of the [50 Essential Twitter Feeds for STEM Educators](#) by Best Colleges Online.com.
- The Coalition also published a [Twitter Toolkit for STEM Advocates](#)
- Our Facebook site has more than 500 opt-in members and hosts a robust conversation on STEM-related issues.
- Our website, [www.stemedcoalition.org](#), had more than 200,000 unique visits in 2012, a 52% increase over 2011 and is the #1 Google search results for the terms "STEM" and "STEM education."

December 3, 2012: Coalition joins with 19 other major education, professional and non-profit organizations in an [open letter to Congress in support of the National Talent Strategy](#) to create a new employer-supported and broad-based fund to improve K-12 STEM Education.

December 14, 2012: More than a dozen Coalition members meet with Special Assistant to the President for Education Policy Roberto Rodriguez and others from the White House staff to discuss STEM education priorities for the second Obama Administration.

Legislation Developed, Influenced and Supported

[STEM Education Opportunity Act \(H.R. 6325\)](#), Rep. Richard Hanna

- The Coalition worked with Rep. Hanna to **develop** and **support** this bill from its inception in mid-2011. The final bill was introduced in September 2012 with Rep. Steve Israel (D-NY) as the co-sponsor.
- The legislation will provide students that study in STEM fields with a substantial tax credit and would also provide companies with tax incentives to donate equipment, materials, and employee time to aid K-12 STEM laboratories and related hands-on learning.

[Hanna/Biggert/Hech/Buchson Science Testing Amendment to House Education and Workforce Committee ESEA Reauthorization Bill](#), Rep. Richard Hanna

- The Coalition worked closely with Rep. Hanna and other supporters to **develop** and **support** an amendment to retain the requirement that all students be tested in science at the K-12 level.

[Shelby Math and Science Partnership Amendment to Senate Appropriations Committee's Labor, HHS, Education Funding Bill](#), Sen. Richard Shelby

- The Coalition worked closely with Sen. Shelby to **develop** and **support** a successful amendment to the Senate Appropriations bill to restore \$50 million in funding to the Math and Science Partnership program at the Department of Education.

[Preparing Students for Success in the Global Economy Act \(S. 1675\)](#), Sen. Jeff Merkley (D-OR)

- The Coalition worked with Sen. Merkley to **develop** and **support** this bill from its inception in 2011 and was consulted in detail again in late 2012 on major revisions to the bill before reintroduction in 2013.
- The legislation would reauthorize the existing Math and Science Partnerships program at the Department of Education, modernizing the program and expanding its range of activities and partnerships.

[America Innovates Act \(S. 2369\)](#), Sen. Frank Lautenberg (D-NJ)

- The Coalition was **consulted** on the development of legislation to establish an American Innovation Bank, to improve science and technology job training, and authorize grants for STEM curriculum development.

[STEM Network Act \(H.R. 6517\)](#)

- The Coalition was **consulted** on the development of this bill to provide grants to states to establish state-based STEM networks.

[National Talent Strategy Legislation \(draft\)](#)

- The Coalition was **consulted** on the development of legislation to implement a new broad-based K-12 STEM education program at the Department of Education funded through fees collected from companies employing foreign workers in STEM-related jobs.

Selected Media Coverage of the Coalition’s Activities

[GROWING ROOTS FOR MORE STEM](#), Washington Post, April 22, 2012

[STEM Experts: Need To Focus on More than Just the Numbers](#), US News and World Report, June 27, 2012

[STEM Coalition Blasts Plan to End Science Testing Mandate](#), Education Week, February 2, 2012

[To Test—or Not to Test—in Science? Lawmakers to Debate Measure](#), Education Week, February 27, 2012

[America’s Inheritance: Where to Begin on the Big Issues](#), National Journal Policy Forum (Televised), December 13, 2012

[Hanna Introduces STEM Education Opportunity Act](#), WBNG12 Action News, Binghamton, NY, September 6, 2012

[Interview with STEM Education Coalition](#), International Innovation Magazine, December 13, 2012

[U.S. Lags in Math, Science](#), Orange County Register, November 9, 2012

[GAO: Overlap in STEM Programs, But ‘Not Necessarily Duplication.’](#) Education Week, January 26, 2012

"We believe that education reforms that are strongly focused on the STEM subjects are reforms that are strongly focused on jobs and economic recovery."

-Education Week, 2/2/12