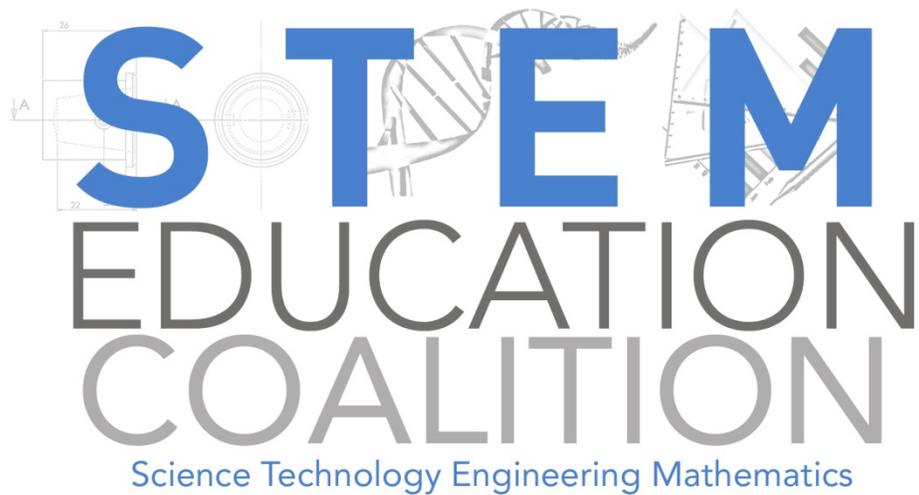


2013 ANNUAL REPORT



1/6/2014

Making STEM Education a National Priority

An outline of the Coalition's activities, accomplishments, and highlights for 2013

The STEM Education Coalition

As we have continued to grow our membership and engage in new policy debates, our Coalition played a major role in shaping and driving the debate in 2014 on national education and workforce policies, impacting federal policies and legislation in tangible ways, developing new allies and champions, and building a broader base of support for sound STEM policies.

The STEM Education Coalition is widely regarded by policymakers across the political spectrum as a trusted source for the views of the STEM stakeholder community. Our Coalition has a strong voice in shaping education policies and our members receive the latest information on STEM-related matters, including updates and analysis on recent and anticipated legislative actions in Congress and policy matters affecting the Administration and federal agencies. This past year has been an exciting and successful one for our Coalition!

“The science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) fields are a familiar topic in the education policy world. Policymakers of every stripe are widely aware of the need to focus on STEM education and the reasons why. The big challenge for our country – and for STEM advocates like the members of the STEM Education Coalition – is that over the past decade, for all of the awareness that has been created within the policy world about the importance of STEM education, precious little has changed to improve the situation.”

-Coalition Op-Ed Published in *Ideas Lab*

“The STEM Education Coalition is an alliance of more than 500 education, business, and professional organizations from across the country that are united in the goal of promoting policies to improve science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) education at every level. Our Coalition closely follows the development and evolution of policies across the federal government that seek to address the challenges our nation faces in educating the future STEM workforce.”

-Testimony of the Coalition’s Executive Director James Brown
before the U.S. House of Representatives

“I appreciated your note on the STEM amendment incorporated into the re-write of ESEA. Moreover, thank you for your Coalition’s advocacy. We couldn’t have done it without you!”

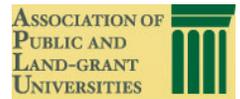
-Senator Jeff Merkley

Major Milestones for 2013

- **Working with the Obama Administration to Improve Plans to Reorganize Federal STEM Programs:** The President's FY2014 budget was the most ambitious and sweeping effort to reorganize federal programs related to STEM education since the Sputnik era, proposing to increase total funding for STEM programs to more than \$3.1 billion, while eliminating more than 100 existing programs. However, the Administration's plan lacked crucial details – like whether or how the missions of eliminated programs would be incorporated into new initiatives requiring Congressional authorization – and was produced with minimal critical input from STEM stakeholders. While our Coalition greatly appreciates President Obama's clear commitment to STEM education as a national priority, we also have worked closely with White House and federal agency officials over the past year to explore concrete ways to improve the Administration's plans, which have to-date been roundly rejected by Congress.
- **Making Science Count in the U.S. House:** The Coalition scored a major legislative victory with the inclusion of a provision to require all K-12 schools to test students in science each year in the House-passed version of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA) Reauthorization bill. The previous version of this bill, advanced in the House Education and Workforce Committee on a party-line vote in 2012, removed this requirement - so this year's inclusion of this key provision represented a whole-sale victory and a successful realization of a multi-year campaign by our Coalition to achieve this result.
- **Creating a \$400 million STEM Education Funding Provision in the Senate Immigration Bill:** The inclusion in the Senate's comprehensive immigration bill of a significant STEM education funding provision, funded by H-1B and Greencard fees paid by U.S. employers seeking to hire foreign workers, was a major victory for the Coalition. This provision, which would provide \$300-500 million in new funding to state education authorities to support STEM education reforms, also enjoys the broad support of the business and education community. The Coalition played a major role in developing and advocating for this new policy proposal and for building support for it amongst the STEM community. A similar version of the proposal has been included in House legislation still under development.
- **Keeping STEM Education Central to Innovation Policy:** The U.S. House Science, Space and Technology Committee has begun actively working on a America COMPETES Act reauthorization bill as the year came to a close, with the expectation that they will mark-up a bill in the early spring of 2014. The Coalition was invited to testify at a high-profile November hearing on reauthorization and has been asked for specific recommendations on the STEM education-related aspects of the bill. Given the partisan nature of many policy debates in the House, it is promising that the two parties are in substantive agreement on many of the STEM education aspects of the bill, which focus largely on efforts to incorporate broaden input from the STEM community into federal agency educational plans.

Leadership Council Members

Our Coalition's Leadership Council sets the policy agenda and overall objectives for the group and plays an active role in direct advocacy with policymakers. Council members support the organization through annual membership dues.



Major Policy and Advocacy Activities

March 20, 2013: Coalition works with Sen. Merkley to develop and support a [STEM College and Career Ready Budget Amendment](#) during floor debate on the Senate Budget Resolution. See a [fact sheet](#) on the amendment and a copy of the [legislative language](#).

April 1, 2013: Coalition supports [STEM education funding provisions](#) in the Immigration Innovation Act introduced by Sens. Hatch, Rubio, Klobuchar, and Coons. The American Ingenuity Fund would provide \$300-\$500 million in funding to support state-based STEM education activities through fees paid by U.S. employers seeking to hire foreign workers.

April 8, 2013: In advance of a hearing on STEM issues at the House Education and Workforce Committee, the Coalition works with the Democratic Committee staff to help frame the issues and articulated a wide range of STEM policy recommendations in a [public letter to the Committee](#) leaders.

April 25, 2013: Coalition works with Sens. Merkley and Franken to develop a [“Dear Colleague” letter](#) in support of STEM priorities in the Department of Education’s budget request. Thirteen Senators eventually sign on to the [letter to Senate Appropriations leaders](#).

May 3, 2013: Coalition supports [Principles for America COMPETES Act Reauthorization](#) that stress STEM education and innovation.

May 13, 2013: Coalition leads effort to [rally more than 30 education, professional, and business groups](#) to urge the Senate Judiciary Committee to include STEM education funding provisions in its comprehensive immigration reform bill. [Education Week](#) covers the Coalition’s efforts the next day.

May 15, 2013: Coalition [supports successful Hatch amendment](#) in Senate Judiciary Committee to boost funding for STEM education provisions in comprehensive immigration bill.

May 20, 2013: Coalition [issues a comprehensive response](#) to the Obama Administration’s FY2014 Budget proposal to reorganize and eliminate more than 100 federal STEM education programs and [urges Congress to prioritize STEM education spending](#) based on stakeholder input.

Why is STEM Education A National Priority?

- ✓ *Council on Foreign Relations:* “60 percent of U.S. employers are having difficulties finding qualified workers to fill vacancies at their companies.”
- ✓ *Change the Equation:* “In the current overall employment market, unemployed people outnumber job postings 3.6 to one. In the STEM occupations, job postings outnumbered unemployed people by 1.9 to one.”
- ✓ *National Governors Association Center for Best Practices:* “At all levels of educational attainment, STEM job holders earn 11 percent higher wages compared with their same-degree counterparts in other jobs.”
- ✓ *Georgetown Center for Education and the Workforce:* “47 percent of Bachelor’s degrees in STEM occupations earn more than PhDs in non-STEM occupations.”

June 11, 2013: Coalition works with members of the Senate Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions Committee to ensure a strong STEM education provision is included in its ESEA reauthorization bill and [issues a supportive statement](#) during the June Committee mark-up.

June 17, 2013: Coalition works with House Education and Workforce Committee Democratic staff to improve STEM education provisions in the Minority's ESEA reauthorization substitute bill and [publicly supports the provisions in a letter to Ranking Member Miller](#).

June 24, 2013: Coalition urges Republican members of the House Education and Workforce Committee to reinstate science testing requirements in the Student Success Act before final Committee action. Coalition [issues statement praising Chairman Kline](#) for including these provisions in the final bill passed by Committee. However, the remainder of the bill contains no legislative provisions related to STEM education.

June 28, 2013: Coalition [issues statement praising the inclusion of substantial STEM education funding provisions](#) in the comprehensive immigration bill passed by the Senate.

July 18, 2013: Republican leaders bring Student Success Act ESEA reauthorization bill to the House floor without any provisions addressing STEM education needs. Coalition [issues statement opposing the bill's passage](#) which is covered by [Education Week](#) and cited by [several House members](#) as justification for voting against the bill.

Our Coalition Continues to Grow

- ✓ We've grown to over 580 [affiliate members](#), including 34 members of the Coalition's [Leadership Council](#).
- ✓ The Coalition met with more than 100 Congressional offices in 2013.
- ✓ [@StemEdCoalition](#), has more than 9000 followers on Twitter.
- ✓ Our website is the #1 search result for the term "[STEM Education](#)" and had more than 20 000 unique

August 2, 2013: Coalition joins with diverse array of business, education, and professional organizations to [urge House leaders to include STEM funding provisions](#) from the Senate's bill in the House's immigration package

October 7, 2013: Coalition works with Afterschool Alliance to [develop comprehensive afterschool STEM policy agenda](#) and recruits a broad group of national and state organizations sign a letter to Congressional leaders urging action.

November 4, 2013: Coalition convenes meeting with more than 20 House and Senate offices to discuss emerging STEM issues for 2014.

November 11, 2013: Coalition Executive Director James Brown testifies before the House

Science Committee at hearing on America COMPETES Act reauthorization. Testimony is covered by [Education Week](#) and [Science Magazine](#).

December 17, 2013: Coalition meets with White House officials from the Office of Science and Technology Policy and Office of Management and Budget to discuss STEM education policy priorities for 2014.

Legislation and Policy Initiatives Developed, Influenced or Supported

[Student Success Act](#) (H.R. 5) – House Republican ESEA Reauthorization Bill, Rep. John Kline (R-MN)

- The Coalition worked with Republican members of the Education and Workforce Committee to reinstate a provision to require continued testing of students in science and fought for inclusion of significant provisions in the bill to prioritize STEM education and **opposed the bill** when it came to the House floor.

[House Democratic Substitute ESEA Reauthorization Bill](#), Rep. George Miller

- The Coalition worked with the Democratic committee staff to include a significant STEM funding provision in the bill and **issued a statement of support** for this provision prior to committee mark-up.

[Strengthening America's Schools Act](#) (S. 1094) – Senate Democratic ESEA Reauthorization Bill, Sen. Tom Harkin (D-IA)

- The Coalition worked with the Democratic committee staff and members from both sides of the committee to include and strengthen the STEM provisions in the bill that passed out of committee **and issued a statement praising the bill's STEM provisions**.

[FIRST Act](#) – Republican America COMPETES Act Discussion Draft, Rep. Lamar Smith (R-TX)

- The Coalition was **invited to testify on the bill and make recommendations on its STEM-related portions**. The Coalition has also offered extensive recommendations on the STEM policies it addresses, most significantly with regard to the reorganization of Federal STEM programs.

[America COMPETES Reauthorization Act](#) – Democratic Discussion Draft, Rep. Eddie Bernice Johnson (D-TX)

- The Coalition worked with the Democratic committee staff to include substantial STEM provisions in the bill.

[STEM Education for the Global Economy Act](#) (S.854), Sen. Jeff Merkley (D-OR)

- The Coalition worked extensively with Sen. Merkley's office to write the bill and has **supported the bill** and its previous versions for the last two Congresses.

[STEM Education Opportunity Act](#) (H.R. 1353), Rep. Richard Hanna (R-NY)

- The Coalition has worked closely with Rep. Hanna's office to develop this legislation and has **supported the bill** since first introduced in 2012.

[STEM Gateways Act](#) (S. 1796), Sen Kirsten Gillibrand (D-NY)

- The Coalition has worked with Sen. Gillibrand's office to build support for the bill in the Senate and in the STEM community.

[Immigration Innovation Act](#) (S. 169) – Sens. Hatch (R-UT)

- The Coalition **supported the inclusion of a substantial STEM funding provision** in the bill, paid for through fees collected from companies seeking to hire foreign workers.

[SKILLS Visa Act \(H.R. 2131\)](#), Rep. Darrell Issa (R-CA)

- The Coalition **supported the inclusion of a substantial STEM funding provision in the bill**, paid for through fees collected from companies seeking to hire foreign workers.

[Merkley Budget Amendment on STEM and CTE/Vocational Education](#) – Sen. Jeff Merkley (D-OR)

- The Coalition worked with Sen. Merkley’s office to **develop and support the amendment**.

[The Stepping Up to STEM Act \(H.R. 1089\)](#) - Rep. Mike Honda (D-CA)

- The Coalition **issued a statement of support** for the bill.

[STEM Academic Competition Resolution](#), Rep. Candice Miller (R-MI)

- The Coalition **supported the resolution** and has worked with the House Administration Committee staff to aid in the implementation of the STEM competition

[Senate Manufacturing Jobs for America Initiative](#), Sen. Chris Coons (D-DE)

- The Coalition **issued a statement** praising the substantial inclusion of STEM education provisions in this package of manufacturing legislation.

[Science Laureates of the United States Act \(H.R. 1891\)](#), Rep. Zoe Lofgren (D-CA)

- The Coalition **issued a statement of support** for the bill.

Why Join the STEM Education Coalition?

- ✓ We are regarded by policymakers as a trusted source for the views of the STEM stakeholder community.
- ✓ Members of the Coalition’s Leadership Council have a strong voice in shaping the Coalition’s agenda and direct a sustained advocacy plan.
- ✓ Our members receive the latest information on STEM-related matters, including updates and analysis on recent and anticipated legislative actions in Congress and policy matters affecting the Administration and federal agencies.
- ✓ Joining our Coalition is an easy and effective way to become a part of the STEM education policy conversation.

Selected Media Coverage of the Coalition's Activities

[Educators, Policymakers Unite to Discuss STEM Education in Norwood](#), Wicked Local, November 29, 2013

[House GOP, Democrats Lay Out Differing Visions for STEM Education, Research](#), Ed Week, November 15, 2013

[Subcommittee Discusses FIRST Act](#), House Science Committee Democratic Press Release, November 13, 2013

[Subcommittee Examines Draft Bill Supporting Federal Research and STEM Programs](#), House Science Committee Republican Press Release, November 13, 2013

[Montgomery County's Glenallan elementary shifts focus to science – lab coats included](#), Washington Post, October 7, 2013

[The High School Challenge](#), New York Times, September 2, 2013

[Op-Ed: Talk is Cheap, Improving STEM Education Requires Policy Changes](#), Ideas Lab, August 27, 2013

[Computer Science Gets Plug in House Bill to Revise ESEA](#), Education Week, July 29, 2013

[Garamendi Votes Against Bill that Cuts More the \\$1 Billion from K-12 Schools](#), Office of Rep. John Garamendi, July 19, 2013

[STEM Coalition Opposes House GOP Bill to Rewrite No Child Left Behind](#), Education Week, July 18, 2013

[Obama Budget Proposal Seeks Manufacturing Innovation](#), Investors Business Daily, June 13, 2013

[Senate STEM Education and Workforce Caucus Hosts Panel Discussion](#), Office of Sen. Mark Kirk, May 21, 2013

[Lawmakers Vote to Boost STEM Education in Immigration Bill](#), Education Week, May 14, 2013

[Immigration Bill Would Help DREAMERS, Boost STEM](#), Education Week, April 24, 2013

The STEM Education Coalition

Address

STEM Education Coalition
2000 M Street NW
Suite 520
Washington, D.C. 20036

Website

www.stemedcoalition.org

Twitter

[@StemEdCoalition](https://twitter.com/StemEdCoalition)

Coalition Leadership

Jodi Peterson

Chair
Assistant Executive Director
National Science Teachers Association

Steve Alexander

Co-Chair
Principal
Hands on Science Partnership

Lauren E. Posey

Co-Chair
Manager, Government Affairs
American Chemical Society

Bill Kamela

Co-Chair
Senior Director, Education and Workforce
Microsoft Corporation

Melissa Carl

Co-Chair
Manager, Government Relations
ASME

Ken Krehbiel

Co-Chair
Associate Executive Director, Communications
National Council of Teachers of Mathematics

Judith Opert Sandler

Co-Chair
Senior Policy Advisor
Education Development Center

Staff

James Brown

Executive Director
(202) 400-2192 (office) / jfbrown@stemedcoalition.org

Aubrey DeVillez

Legislative Assistant
(202) 470-2393 / adevillez@stemedcoalition.org