The Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM) Education Coalition is the broadest and most unified voice advocating for policies to improve STEM education at the national, state, and local levels. 2016 was a time of great transition and the Coalition was right in the middle of it, playing an active role in the implementation of the nation’s new K-12 education law, the Every Student Succeeds Act, which when fully in effect will provide every school district with new resources to support STEM learning. Elevating STEM education remains a key strategy in keeping our nation strong, prosperous, and innovative – for all Americans.
The STEM Education Coalition is the largest and most unified voice advocating for changes in policies at the national, state, and local level to improve STEM education. In 2016, we welcomed the National Society of Black Engineers and Apple as the newest members of our Leadership Council and we now have 636 affiliated organizations within our Coalition family.

The education policy landscape is ever-shifting and our Coalition will be engaged as a forceful and bipartisan advocate for STEM education to policymakers in the White House, Congress and at every level of government across our nation.

And our voice is growing.

Last year we met with more than 100 Congressional legislators and their staffs.

We are interfacing regularly with more than 30 state-level STEM organizations.

We hosted Congressional public briefing events on in and out of school issues, educational research, public-private partnerships and other STEM topics in 2016 with a collective audience of more than 500 attendees.

Our activities have been covered in major media outlet in the U.S. and overseas, including U.S. News and World Report, the Washington Post, Scientific American, and Education Week.

We publish a weekly newsletter to an audience of more than 25,000 STEM educators, businesses, and education leaders and our Twitter following has grown to over 35,000 followers.
Highlights of Our Work

January 8, 2016: The Coalition joined over 400 educational organizations, private businesses, and professional societies in a joint letter asking Congress to reauthorize the Carl D. Perkins Career and Technical Education Act.

January 22, 2016: The Coalition makes its first recommendations to the 2016 Presidential candidates.

February 26, 2016: In response to the independent comments made by the Aviation Technician Education Council, the Coalition released a letter supporting modernizing aviation technician education.

March 4, 2016: The Coalition issues a public statement in support of Dr. Diane Briars, President of the National Council of Teachers of Mathematics to participate in the negotiated rulemaking process for the Every Student Succeeds Act.

April 27, 2016: “The Case for Investing in Out-of-School Learning as a Core Strategy in Improving Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM) Education,” a 10-page paper written for policymakers and education leaders was released by the Coalition.

July 7, 2016: After the House Labor, HHS, and Education Appropriations Subcommittee released their bill to fund the Every Student Succeeds Act, the Coalition praised their $1 billion funding proposal for ESSA Title IV, Part A – the major STEM funding provision in the new law.

September 13, 2016: The Coalition commended the House for bipartisan progress on the reauthorization of the Perkins Career and Technical Education Act.

November 30, 2016: Following the election of Donald Trump to the White House, the Coalition published a memo to the Trump-Pence Transition Team outlining our policy priorities for the new administration.

December 12, 2016: The Coalition sent a letter to more than 10,000 state policymakers summarizing recommendations on how to leverage federal funding under the Every Student Succeeds Act to support STEM education.

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Media Coverage

U.S. Students Improve in Science-- But Just Barely
Scientific American

“We are happy to see continued progress in closing achievement gaps in the lower grades,” James Brown, executive director of the STEM Education Coalition, a nonprofit group that lobbies on behalf of science and math education, said in an e-mailed statement. “Many states are in the process of adopting new teaching frameworks in science and the jury is still out on that process right now.” (STEM stands for science, technology, engineering and mathematics).

A Decade is Way Too Long to Wait
The Hill

We applaud the U.S Department of Education report last week that presented an “aspirational” vision for STEM teaching and learning by the year 2026. To be sure, the STEM subjects — science, technology, engineering and mathematics — have been hot-button issues over the last few years, both inside and outside the Beltway. But why in the world is this blueprint for change slated for the year 2026?

The Case for Investing in Out-of-School Learning as a Core Strategy in Improving Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM) Education
The STEM Education Coalition

Exposure to formal and informal learning in STEM subjects, beginning at an early age and continuing through high school, prepares our nation’s students for the future ahead. Supporting quality science, technology, engineering, and mathematics education for all children and youth is therefore vital to our country’s social and economic prosperity.
In August 2016, the Policy Forum teamed up with the Afterschool Alliance to lead a multi-state initiative focused on preparing Mott Statewide Afterschool Networks to advance state-level policy that’s favorable to high-quality STEM learning in out-of-school time (OST) settings.

This initiative is generously supported by the Overdeck Family Foundation and will continue into 2017.
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Assistant Executive Director
National Science Teachers Association

Judith Opert Sandler
Treasurer/Secretary
Senior Policy Advisor
Education Development Center

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Manager, Government Affairs
American Chemical Society

Melissa Carl
Co-Chair
Manager, Government Relations
ASME

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