



STEM Education Coalition 2019 Report





The STEM Education Coalition has a powerful impact, thanks to the broad and united support of our more than 800 members in the education, business, and professional communities. We strive to assure that every student has access to a great education that will enable them to compete successfully for their own best futures in the increasingly technology-driven global economy.

This report highlights our work in making sure the voice of the science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) education community are heard – and heeded.



Year In Review

2019 will be remembered as a year of change. Our Coalition recognizes that the pathways into modern careers are changing and that our nation's education system must change too.

The STEM Education Coalition has long been a respected voice in Washington for the views and recommendations of a diverse array of STEM stakeholders. Over the past years, we have also successfully expanded our engagement at the state level where more and more education policy decisions are being made; especially in the wake of the landmark enactment of the Building Blocks of STEM Act and the amendment of prominent federal STEM scholarship requirements.

In 2019, we met with more than 100 legislators and their states. We are proud to have helped shape legislation that was introduced on the House floor and, some of which, was signed into law.

We are engaged in more than 15 states working to prioritize STEM education initiatives in state education plans and budgets and to engage more STEM educators and professionals in the public policy process.



Year in Review Cont.

We hosted congressional public briefing events on healthy learning environments for STEM students, workforce reskilling in STEM fields and STEM policy obstacles with a collective audience of more than 600 attendees. The Coalition was also invited to testify before both state and federal legislative committees.

The Coalition's activities have been covered in major media outlets in the U.S. and internationally, including U.S. News and World Report, the Washington Post, Investor's Business Daily, 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 45,000.

In 2019, we were happy to welcome the Association of Science-Technology Centers as the newest members of our Coalition's Leadership Council and we have added new local affiliate members to our Coalition as well, which now numbers more than 800 business, professional, and education organizations. The education landscape is ever-shifting, and as Congress and the White House contemplate major changes to k-12, higher education, and career and technical education policies, our Coalition will be engaged as a forceful and bipartisan advocate for STEM education at every level.



Highlights of Our Work

February 2019: The STEM Education Coalition commended the efforts of the House Education and Labor Committee to address educational infrastructure needs. The STEM Education Coalition Executive Director, James Brown, said: “Far too many students do not have the chance to learn in a fully-functional well-equipped classroom... Every student deserves a good school where they can learn the hands on science, technology, engineering, and math skills they need to compete in our increasingly technological world.”

April 2019: The STEM Education Coalition rallied 50+ education, professional, and business organizations to sign on to a letter to congressional appropriators. The letter thanks appropriators for the continued increase in ESSA Title IV, Part A funding in the 2019 enacted education appropriations bill and outlines key funding priorities for the FY2020 appropriations cycle.

September 2019: James Brown, executive director of the STEM Education Coalition, discussed his experience in STEM education policy with Zhanarbek Dogdurbek Uulu, Aizhan Kazakbaeva and Sobir Turdiyev, leading journalists in Central Asia. This segment helped portray how beneficial STEM education is, and how crucial the government’s investment in it is.

Highlights Cont.



October 2019: The STEM Education Coalition, joined by partner co-signers, sent a letter addressed to leaders of the education committees in Congress, detailing STEM education priorities we seek to be addressed in any eventual reauthorization of the Higher Education Act.

October 2019: The STEM Education Coalition released a statement upon the introduction of the College Affordability Act: "We appreciate today's introduction of the College Affordability Act as a step forward in the long overdue re-authorization of the Higher Education Act. We look forward to reviewing this new bill in detail and to working with members of both parties to enact thoughtful legislation that will help our students compete for the best jobs in an increasingly technological economy, most of which are in the science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) fields."

November 2019: The STEM Education Coalition applauded the passage of the MSI STEM Achievement Act (H.R. 4372) and the Building Blocks of STEM Act (H.R. 1665) in the House.



Media Coverage

January 2019: *Project Exploration*. STEM Education Brings Prosperity, Preparedness, and Opportunity

Project Exploration discussed the need for basic STEM skills in the modern workforce, citing the STEM Coalition's survey of 2015 CEOs.

January 2019: *Education Drive*. Trump vs. Obama: Presidential Strides in STEM Education

Education Drive quoted James Brown, executive director of the D.C. nonprofit STEM Education Coalition, about his opinion of the Trump Administration's STEM policy. Brown said that Trump's policies reflect the challenges of STEM "And it does largely reflect the inputs of our community in the process to develop it," Brown told Education Dive, noting that this wasn't the case with the Obama administration's STEM initiative rollout. "The [Trump] White House met with groups like us in late spring of this year and synthesized them into the points that show up."

January 2019: STEM Next Opportunity Fund and the US Department of Education Announces New Robert Noyce/Ellen Lettvin Informal STEM Education Fellow

STEM Education Coalition co-chair, Patti Curtis, gets chosen as the new Robert Noyce/Ellen Lettvin Informal STEM Education Fellow.

February 2019: *PR Newswire*. Afterschool Youth Development Network announces 2019 Pennsylvania STEM Ambassadors

STEM Education Coalition, along with others, helps to create the PSAYDN program in Pennsylvania. Brown is quoted "The STEM Education Coalition is proud to have another opportunity to engage with the Pennsylvania afterschool and STEM education communities. Advocating the need for increased access to STEM education provides students – especially underrepresented groups – with innovative, hands-on learning opportunities..."

Media Coverage Cont.

February 2019: *The Summit Ahead*. Uncovering the Real ROI of 4 STEM Degrees

West Virginia quotes the STEM Education Coalition about pursuing STEM Degrees in higher education.

March 2019: *Commonwealth Charter Academy*. Commonwealth Charter Academy Recognizes Policy Leader in STEM Education

The STEM Education Coalition is recognized for its work and contributions to the Pennsylvania STEM Ambassador Program.

March 2019: *The University of Central Missouri*. Gov. Parson Kicks Off Middle School STEAM Event at UCM

The STEM Education Coalition is recognized as a leader and promoter of STEAM education.

March 2019: *US Department of Education*. Ed Review

The STEM Education Coalition is recognized for their research and cited by the US Department of Education.

March 2019: *Lower Bucks Times*. Pennsbury curricular coordinator named 2019 PA STEM Ambassador

The STEM Education Coalition is mentioned as a supporter of the PA STEM Ambassadors Program.

April 2019: *STEM Sports*. STEM Education Coalition

The STEM Education Coalition's advocacy of STEM Education is acknowledged and their letter to congress, in regards to promoting STEM education, is discussed.

June 2019: *All Together (SWE Publication)*. SWE's Advocacy for Women in STEM Won't Stop

SWE talks about the importance of the STEM Education Coalitions work in reskill programs in STEM industries.

Media Coverage Cont.

June 2019: *AGU Pathfinder*. The Challenges of Workforce Re-training in STEM fields.

AGU discusses the STEM Education Coalition's work and programming around STEM retention rates.

July 2019: *Illinois Technology Association*. Why the Tech Industry is Relevant to Everyone.

The STEM Education Coalition is acknowledged for its important work in STEM teacher development and the importance of teacher retention. In general, is discussed.

August 2019: *American Society of Landscape Architects*. ASLA Makes a Case for Landscape Architecture Alignment with STEM.

The STEM Education Coalition's work to incorporate architecture, landscaping and other fields into STEM education is addressed.

November 2019: *Committee on Science, Technology, and Space*. Support for the Rural STEM Education Act

Congress recognizes the STEM Education Coalition, and others, letter in support of the Rural STEM Education Act



The Policy Forum

The STEM Education Coalition Policy Forum, launched in 2015, is the public information and analysis components of the STEM Education Coalition. The Policy Forum continues to grow and deepen its focus on developing an in-depth understanding of emerging and critical STEM Education policy issues.

Year in Review

The Coalition Policy Forum team participated in multiple state convenings throughout 2019 designed to promote the impact and importance of STEM education opportunities at the state and local level. James Brown, Executive Director, attended convenings in Maryland and Pennsylvania and Austin Hall, Director of Policy, attended a convening in Oregon.

The Coalition Policy Forum also hosted three congressional briefings in 2019, including an introduction to STEM issues 116th Congress; how Congress can support reskilling in the STEM workforce; and mental health for students in STEM education.



PA STEM Ambassadors

In 2019, the STEM Education Coalition Policy Forum expanded our partnership with the Pennsylvania Statewide Afterschool Youth Development Network and the Education Policy Leadership Center to provide technical training/support for the ne Pennsylvania STEM Ambassadors Program.



Afterschool STEM Hub



In 2019, the STEM Education Coalition Policy Forum continued our involvement in the Afterschool STEM Hub, which is supported by STEM Next Opportunity Fund. The Afterschool STEM Hub produced coordinated messaging and advocacy tools so local advocacy efforts can harmonize with the efforts of afterschool STEM advocates nationally. The Afterschool STEM Hub is supported by a diverse collaboration of after school leaders and stakeholders and is led by the Afterschool Alliance.

Overdeck Family Foundation

In 2019, the STEM Education Coalition Policy Forum continued its partnership with the Afterschool Alliance and Overdeck Family Foundation on a multi-state initiative to provide assistance to the Mott Statewide Afterschool Networks (SANs) to engage in state-level out-of-school-time STEM Policy.

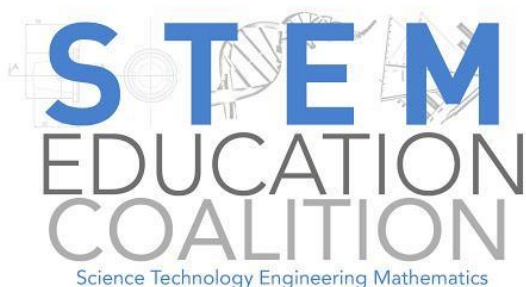


The Coalition Policy Forum also established a new partnership in 2019. With support from the Overdeck Family Foundation, the Forum is partnering with the STEM Ecosystems on an initiative to provide support to community-based STEM Ecosystems to engage in policy at the federal, state, and local levels.

Our Members



To our Leadership Council and over 850 affiliate members, thank you for your continued support in the mission of the STEM Education Coalition and our shared vision for a better future!



Staff

James Brown

Executive Director

jfbrown@stemedcoalition.org

Austin Hall

Director of Policy

ahall@stemedcoalition.org

Rachel Barrachina

Georgetown University Fellow

rbarrachina@stemedcoalition.org

Chloe Zurcher

Policy Specialist

czurcher@stemedcoalition.org

Coalition Leadership

Jodi Peterson

Chair

Assistant Executive Director

National Science Teachers Association

Lauren Posey

Secretary

Manager, Government Affairs

American Chemical Society

Steve Alexander

Treasurer

Co-Chair

Principal

Hands on Science Partnership

Ken Krehbiel

Co-Chair

Associate Executive Director,
Communications

National Council of Teachers
of Mathematics

Karen Horting

Co-Chair

Executive Director & CEO

Society of Women Engineers

Todd Mann

Co-Chair

Executive Director

National Consortium of
Secondary STEM Schools

Chris Neitzey

Co-Chair

Director of STEM Initiatives
Afterschool Alliance

Wes Hall

Co-Chair

Executive Director
STEMx at Battelle

Allyson Knox

Co-Chair

Director, Education Policy
Microsoft Corporation