I. Welcome from the Co-Chairs

- Lt. Governor Polito:
  - Spoke on Vertex’s 500 million dollar charitable contribution to STEM, expressed gratitude to Jeff Leiden and his team for their support
  - Amazon Proposal allowed us to showcase the Commonwealth—she noticed a level of confidence in places you wouldn’t expect
    - Places they feel they have something to offer—with an ecosystem that exists there. Showed us our competitiveness
    - Page 7 talks about some of the talent we have here that’s attracting many players—GE, potentially Amazon, incubators, etc.
    - Half of MA residents have college degrees
      - Gave stats on our population to reflect that the work we’re doing is working—“robust pipeline of talent”
      - Concerns raised that not enough people have the right skills—particularly computer science—something to be mindful of
      - We need to do more on early jobs—technicians, engineers, etc.
      - Exciting time for us to be strategic on what we should double-down on

- Congressman Joseph Kennedy III:
  - Discussion on importance of health care during this time
Further emphasized the importance of STEM/career tech education, as it is a unique opportunity to position individuals for 6 million unfulfilled jobs
- There are more CEOs in MA than plumbers
- The reality is that the workplace dynamic is screaming for certain needs we need to fill
- Added incentive/example that we have to try and get this right
  - Rhetoric/vision coming out of DC has to do with what MA is doing—opportunity for us to set an example for the rest of the country

II. Update and Discussion on Key Initiatives
- Secretary Peyser
  - Priorities/summary of meeting agenda
- Alexis Lian
  - Introduction
  - Quick updates
    - Expanding work-based learning programs
      - MA STEM@Work
        - Released RFP for 2 year competitive grant
        - Hiring consultant for STEM Council
    - Developing and growing Early College Career Pathways
    - Broadening and deepening CS & Engineering Initiatives
- Secretary Peyser
  - Assessment updates
    - Recently been updated (grades 3-8, ELA and math)
    - Exams in science
    - In high school there are 4 different science exams you can take (bio, chem, physics, tech/engineering)
      - The number of students who are taking these exams vary a lot. Not many take chem or tech/eng—this is very costly
      - Should find some alternative assessments to show that we care about these subjects without having the state carry the fiscal burden
      - Perhaps some third-party exams (e.g. PLTW) that align with the frameworks

Comments and Questions:
- Laurie Leshin asked about whether there have been any formal assessments on Work-Based Learning programs
- Sheila Harrity talking about how many of the vocational programs are STEM
  - LG asked for the information to be circulated
• Secretary Peyser: are there some trades/fields that don’t have as many co-ops/internship opportunities
  ▪ Want to catalyze employer investment in the school systems to promote this end

III. **Update and Discussion on Computer Science Initiatives**

• Steve Vinter, Google
  o Our redesign is focusing on the foundational, academic, practical disciplines important for Computer Science education
  o We want to provide pathways for implementing more robust Computer Science education
  o Our mission is to mobilize all the players to actually make educational change and create more equity in computer science education.
    ▪ Our baseline or floor is that everybody establishes competency in CS
    ▪ Our ceiling is that 30% graduating capable of taking AP exam
    ▪ Specifically targeting this 30% goal for districts that want to work very closely with this initiative
    ▪ This is still compatible with Project Lead the Way, we just want to provide schools with choice
    ▪ MA Association of Superintendents will continue to lead the PACE program part of this initiative
  o Teacher licensure
    ▪ MassCore
      • Seeing real policy changes
      • Working on implementation of that now
    ▪ First step is to collect data and see who the key leaders are in each district re: CS
    ▪ We need to represent all of the different regions and socioeconomic qualities of districts in the pilot programs, focusing on representativeness
    ▪ Biggest problem—getting teachers who are qualified to teach CS
      • Tripp: online schools as an option

• Tripp Jones
  o Capacity to help a lot in advancing a general/overall improvement in education
  o Appealing from a political standpoint—this is a problem that affects every district, not just the most challenged. Even the highest performing districts are struggling with this so it’s powerful.

*Comments/Questions:*

• JK: Newton North has a “Da Vinci Program”
  o This program is an amazing example of what education can look at, but we need to think about our districts that our struggling with other issues, e.g. Fall River
Thinking about the challenges here, and understanding that every different school has different needs
  ▪ How do we craft a policy that addresses this? Getting back to the equity point—not just for Superintendents who can afford to buy into it

IV. Discussion on FY18-FY19 Goals and Priorities
  ● Secretary Peyser
    ▪ Thinking about what we might do next
    ▪ Strengthen public/private partnership
      ● Deepening relationships
      ● We haven’t fully engaged the stakeholders—if we don’t do this, we won’t be successful as a whole
        o Both in terms of direct engagements as well as resource
        o What role should the STEM council play in terms of governance over this new MassCAN initiative? We should figure out how to take advantage of this big opportunity
    ▪ Other things to think about
      ● Micro-credentials
        o Other technical skills
        o Having a degree, is not necessarily the same as having relevant skills
          ▪ Supporting the development of micro-credentialing programs and having employers sharpening their demands
            ● Raised by Jeff Leiden
      ● 12 learning
        o Also supported greatly by Jeff Leiden
        o Developing of units
      ● Matching funds to support Project Lead the Way
        o We don’t have matching funds for the rest of what we do
        o How do we create a vehicle for soliciting private sector financial resources for some of these efforts?
          ▪ Not only is that helpful in accelerating the work, but more private connections in our public work
      ● Not necessarily enough demand in students/families because of misperceptions of what they think these jobs mean
        o How do we generate more demand from students and families for access to these career opportunities?

V. Approval of Minutes from March 24, 2017 Meeting

VI. Wrap Up and Next Steps
  ● Lt. Governor Polito suggested a follow-up executive committee meeting in early January.