

**STEM Advisory Council Full Committee Meeting**

**July 20, 2016**

**2:30 p.m. – 4 p.m.**

**APPROVED MINUTES**

Approved at December 12, 2016 STEM Council Meeting

*Location*

State House – Room 157  
Boston, MA 02108

*STEM Council Committee Members Attending*

Hon. Joseph P. Kennedy III, Congressman, Honorary Chairman of the STEM Advisory Council \*  
Jeffrey Leiden, M.D., Ph.D, Chairman, President and CEO, Vertex Pharmaceuticals\*  
Hon. Karyn Polito, Lieutenant Governor\*  
Hon. James Peyser, Secretary of Education  
Al Bunshaft, CEO, DS Government Solutions  
J.D. Chesloff, Executive Director, Massachusetts Business Roundtable\*  
Jim Brosnan, Superintendent, Northern Berkshire Vocational Regional School District  
Nathanael Shea, for Hon. Sonia Chang-Diaz, State Senator, Co-Chair of the Joint Committee on Education  
Marianne Dunne for Mitchell Chester, Commissioner, DESE  
Joseph Dorant, Chair, MA Organization of State Engineers & Scientists  
Pamela Goldberg, CEO, MA Technology Collaborative  
Sheila Harrity, Superintendent, Montachusett Regional Vocational Technical School District\*  
John Hodgman, STEM Advocate  
Monica Joslin, Dean of Academic Affairs, Massachusetts College of Liberal Arts (MCLA)  
Joyce Kressler, Director, EcoTarium  
Debbie Lacy, Parent Representative  
Laurie Leshin, President, Worcester Polytechnic Institute (WPI)\*  
Anne Marie Levins, Associate General Counsel, Microsoft\*  
Eric Lieberman for Thomas L. Weber, Commissioner, Department of Early Education and Care  
Michael Looney, Curriculum Chair, Technology Department, Mashpee Public Schools  
Beth Nicklas for Travis McCreedy, President and CEO, Massachusetts Life Sciences Center  
Bob Gamache for Marty Meehan, President, University of Massachusetts  
Designee for Patricia Meservey, President, Salem State University  
Hon. Alice Peisch, State Representative, Co-Chair of the Joint Committee on Education  
Stephen Pike, Interim CEO, MA Clean Energy Center  
Kenneth Salim, Superintendent, Cambridge Public Schools  
Douglas Scott, Science Teacher, Hopkinton High School  
Michael Tamasi, President and CEO, AccuRounds\*  
Hon. Ronald L. Walker, Secretary of Labor & Workforce Development

*Not in attendance*

Jay Ash, Secretary of Housing & Economic Development  
Hon. Daniel Wolf, State Senator, Co-Chair of the Joint Committee on Labor & Workforce Development

Hon. John Scibak, State Representative, Co-Chair of the Joint Committee on Labor & Workforce Development

Timothy Murray, CEO, Worcester Chamber of Commerce

Carlos Santiago, Commissioner, Department of Higher Education

Nadia Chamblin-Foster, Director, Steps to Success

Reinier Moquete, CEO at Advopt Technology Group and Co-Founder of Latino STEM Alliance

Joyce Plotkin, STEM Advocate

Ira Rubenzahl, President, Springfield Technical Community College (STCC)\*

Yvonne Spicer, Vice President, Advocacy and Educational Partnerships, Museum of Science

Steve Vinter, Engineering and Site Director, Google Inc.\*

## **Minutes**

### *I. Welcome Remarks*

- Jeff Leiden
  - Welcomed all members of the STEM Council who then introduced themselves.
  - Recognized and welcomed Kelli Wells from the GE Foundation who will become a new STEM Council member.
- Congressman Kennedy
  - Thanked leadership of the Executive Committee for their continued commitment to STEM education
  - The key for this organization to succeed is around integration and engagement across multiple sectors
  - Spoke about current federal efforts for advancing STEM, including the Perkins Modernization Act

### *II. 11/9/15 Meeting Minutes*

- Jeff Leiden asked for approval of the minutes from the November 10, 2016 STEM Advisory Council Meeting. Congressman Kennedy seconded the motion.
- Minutes were approved on a voice vote, with no objections and no abstentions.

### *III. STEM Advisory Council's FY17 Plan & Alignment to Administration Priorities*

- See Secretary Peyser's presentation.
- Laurie Leshin asked why there was a discrepancy in the slides about the money for early college pathways.
  - Secretary Peyser answered that the designated money towards early college STEM pathways in an earlier slide were monies set aside for capital spending projects.

### *IV. STEM Summit Update (Lynn Griesemer)*

- Lynn Griesemer from the UMass Donahue Institute presented on the 2016 STEM Summit. See her presentation.

### *V. Highlighting STEM Advisory Council Priorities/Best Practices*

- a) STEM Work-Based Learning Opportunities

- Jeff Leiden and Neil Sullivan, Executive Director of the Boston PIC, discussed how they worked together to provide Boston Public Schools students with work-based learning opportunities.
  - Neil Sullivan: BPS has a large untapped talent pool and the Boston PIC Internship plus Connecting Activities are great programs to excite and engage students towards pursuing STEM fields. There is a shortage of talent coming into the workforce which has increased the need and interest in successful STEM programs.
  - Jeff Leiden: this year's High School Internship program will provide opportunities to 30 interns.
  - Neil Sullivan: In collaboration with the Executive Office of Education, Boston PIC is starting to think about how to reach out to employers statewide. In Connecting Activities, there are currently 3500 internships – an increase from last year. Also, GE is opening their company to interns for the first time and just recently promoted the Boston PIC model during a presentation at the UN.
  - Secretary Peysner: This is an important initiative and we're going to put some resources behind highlighting it and engaging employers.
  - Doug Scott: Are the interns paid? Many poor students would not be able to take advantage of these internship opportunities if they were not paid because they need to work for money.
    - Neil Sullivan: Yes, the interns are paid. The state provides \$3M in support while employers end up paying approximately \$14M for interns. There are approximately 3,000 employers involved.
  - Michael Tamasi: It would help employers to know the skills of HS interns so a company could better assess the usefulness of interns.

*b) STEM Early College Career Pathways*

- See presentation materials from Marlborough Superintendent Maureen Greulich Dan Riley, Director of the STEM Marlborough Early College High School

*c) Computer Science and Engineering Curricula (WPI)*

- See presentation materials from Martha Cyr, Worcester Polytechnic Institute, and Gabrielle Abrams, Medway Public Schools.
  - Laurie Leshin recommended that the STEM Council advocate that Project Lead the Way (PLTW) receive similar recognition to AP and IB courses.
  - Kerri Murphy highlighted the high costs of implementing PLTW is prohibitive for most school districts.

*VI. Wrap-Up*

- As the meeting concluded, John Hodgman gave his final comments as a Council member highlighting the Commonwealth's progress in STEM interested based on college course

taking over the last 15 years and the overall advancement of the state STEM Initiative over this same time.