

# STEM Education Coalition



November 20, 2009

President Barack Obama  
The White House  
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW  
Washington, DC 20500

Dear President Obama:

Like many Americans who care deeply about the future of our nation's leadership in the global economy, the members of our organizations were heartened by your April 27<sup>th</sup> remarks before the National Academy of Sciences. In that speech, you outlined a broad agenda to reinvigorate our country's science and technology enterprise and pledged to work with our communities to inspire students to pursue careers in the science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) fields that will help keep our nation prosperous, innovative, and competitive.

Our organizations represent over 6.2 million science, math, engineering and technology professionals and educators and we are pleased to respond to this call to action. Starting today, we are pledging to engage our volunteer members to form partnerships with educators and schools and collaborate in an ongoing campaign of events and activities that will help to improve educational outcomes; inspire students to pursue science, engineering, and technology careers; improve hands-on laboratory environments in the STEM subjects; and raise student, parent, and public awareness of the importance of science and technology to our nation's future.

Over the next year we hope to build 10,000 "communities of support" as the result of the individual connections between K-12 educators and STEM professionals – with the potential to reach over 1 million students— and we are establishing the ambitious goal of building 100,000 such community relationships over the next four years. Through this bold effort, thousands of diverse and innovative collaborations between communities of STEM professionals and educators will help strengthen student learning experiences across the country.

Although many of our activities will be conducted on an ongoing basis, we will be focusing on two central projects we have termed *National STEM Week* and *National Lab Day*. During *National STEM Week*, our members would organize, publicize, and join in public events that bring together students, parents, and educators with STEM professionals, colleges and universities, and industry partners designed to celebrate the importance of science and technology within our society and inspire young minds. This week will function as a launch to an ongoing, multi year effort to create close collaboration between STEM professionals and educators.

*National Lab Day* would focus on building teacher-community connections that enable STEM professionals to contribute their knowledge and skills to the improvement of middle and high school laboratory facilities and foster educational activities that support learning in a hands-on environment and in strong partnership with individual teachers, local teacher teams, and schools.

Accomplishing the initiatives we have outlined here will not be easy, but we are prepared to undertake this challenge knowing that you will be working alongside us to advance our common goals. We will also be working closely with the Office of Science and Technology Policy and the Domestic Policy Council to ensure that this project is a success.

Thank you for your continued leadership in elevating the role of science and technology in addressing our nation's challenges. We pledge to work with you to ensure our nation remains strong and prosperous.

Respectfully,

*National Science Teachers Association  
American Chemical Society  
American Association of Physics Teachers  
National Engineers Week Foundation  
SAE International  
National Society of Professional Engineers  
Council on Undergraduate Research  
National Council of Teachers of Mathematics  
Association of Science-Technology Centers  
American Institute of Physics  
American Society of Civil Engineers  
National Alliance of State Science and Mathematics Coalitions  
American Society for Engineering Education  
American Institute of Biological Sciences  
IEEE-USA  
ASME Center for Public Awareness  
Math for America  
National Association of Biology Teachers  
Society of Women Engineers  
American Society for Biochemistry and Molecular Biology  
American Association of Engineering Societies  
American Council of Engineering Companies  
International Technology Education Association  
National Geographic Society  
Citizen Schools  
National Education Association  
Council on Competitiveness*

*American Institute of Chemical Engineers (AIChE)*  
*National Science Education Leadership Association*  
*Biotechnology Institute*  
*American Mathematical Society*  
*American Society for Microbiology*  
*American Association of University Women (AAUW)*  
*Triangle Coalition*  
*American Association of Colleges for Teacher Education*  
*Association for Women in Science*  
*American Nuclear Society, Inc.*  
*Project Lead The Way*  
*Association for Science Teacher Education*  
*Girls Inc*  
*American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics*  
*American Association for the Advancement of Science*  
*Geological Society of America (GSA)*  
*Association for Computing Machinery*  
*Computing Research Association*  
*FIRST (For Inspiration and Recognition of Science and Technology)*  
*American Physical Society*  
*Battelle*  
*INTEL*  
*Information Technology Industries Council*  
*Association of American Geographers*  
*International Society for Technology in Education*  
*National Association of Geoscience Teachers (NAGT)*  
*Carnegie Mellon University*  
*Botanical Society of America*  
*Education Development Center, Inc.*  
*American Statistical Association*  
*Engineers Without Borders-USA*  
*EAST Initiative*  
*SPIE - The International Society for Optics and Photonics*  
*Society for Economic Botany*  
*American Society of Plant Biologists*  
*National Society of Black Engineers*  
*Junior Engineering Technical Society*  
*National Girls Collaborative Project*  
*NASA STEM School Administrators Association*  
*Mosaica Education, Inc.*  
*Center for Genomic Sciences Allegheny-Singer Research Institute*  
*Baltimore/Washington Corridor Chamber of Commerce*  
*The University of Pittsburgh – Johnstown*  
*Teaching Institute for Excellence in STEM (TIES)*  
*Project Exploration*  
*New York Hall of Science*

*Sloan Career Cornerstone Center*  
*National Alliance for Partnerships in Equity*  
*STEMES*  
*Urban STEM Strategy Group*  
*BEST Robotics Inc*  
*National Science Decathlon*  
*GALAXY Classroom/Best Practice Networks*  
*National Council for Advanced Manufacturing (NACFAM)*  
*National Council for Geographic Education*  
*Science Teachers Association of New York State (STANYS)*  
*American Sociological Association*  
*Society for the Study of Evolution*  
*Ohio Mathematics and Science Coalition*  
*American Society of Heating, Refrigerating and Air-Conditioning Engineers, Inc.*  
*University of Kentucky*  
*American Society of Human Genetics (ASHG)*  
*Technology Student Association*  
*The Ecological Society of America*  
*In Reach, Inc.*  
*Delta Institute for Math & Science Education Arkansas State University & East Arkansas*  
*Community College*  
*Biomedical Engineering Society*  
*American Fern Society*  
*Funutation Tekademy LLC*  
*Association for Research in Vision and Ophthalmology*  
*American Physiological Society*  
*Society for In Vitro Biology*  
*Pathways into Science*  
*The Ohio Academy of Science*  
*Charles County Technology Council*  
*Puerto Rico STEM Promoters*  
*Center for Minority Achievement in Science and Technology*  
*American Association of Anatomists*  
*American Industrial Hygiene Association*  
*National Rural Electric Cooperative Association (NRECA)*  
*Chicago Educational Publishing Company*  
*American Society of Agronomy*  
*Crop Science Society of America*  
*Soil Science Society of America*  
*Chinese Institute of Engineers -USA*  
*American Railway Engineering and Maintenance-of-Way Association*  
*The Institute of Industrial Engineers*  
*National Association of Multicultural Engineering Program Advocates (NAMEPA)*  
*CSTEM*  
*Charlotte Mecklenburg Schools*  
*CASTLE Coalition (Charlotte Area STEM Teaching and Learning Environment)*

*National Action Council for Minorities in Engineering, Inc. [NACME]*  
*Philadelphia Academies, Inc*  
*ASFE/The Geoprofessional Business Association*  
*American Public Works Association*  
*Engineers Leadership Foundation*  
*Society of Petroleum Engineers*  
*Society for Industrial and Applied Mathematics*  
*National Council of Examiners for Engineering and Surveying*  
*American Bryological & Lichenological Society.*  
*The Einstein Project*  
*Arkansas River Education Service Cooperative*  
*Miami University Center for Chemistry Education*  
*Coalition for Science Literacy at USF*  
*The National Science and Technology Education Partnership*  
*Entomological Foundation*  
*Shiller Math*  
*MITS, Inc.*  
*Science Olympiad*  
*The Pittsburgh Regional Center for Science Teachers*  
*Learning for Life Corporation*  
*Academy of Science-St. Louis*  
*Ohio Technology Education Association*  
*Ohio Technology Education Advisory Council*  
*Scottsdale Children's Museum*  
*Consortium of Social Science Associations*  
*TBED21, Inc. – technology-based economic development for the 21st century*  
*Iowa Mathematics and Science Coalition*  
*Connecticut Academy for Education in Mathematics, Science & Technology, Inc*  
*The Evergreen Project*  
*BSCS (Biological Sciences Curriculum Study)*  
*Altshuller Institute for TRIZ Studies*  
*Knowledge Alliance*  
*MIND Research Institute*  
*PBS*  
*New York State Technology Education Association*  
*Platform Shoes Forum*  
*Bentley Systems, Inc*  
*Real World Design Challenge, PTC*  
*PTC-MIT Consortium*  
*American Society of Agricultural and Biological Engineers*  
*National Council of Structural Engineers Associations*  
*SouthEast Educational, Inc.*  
*Entertainment Industries Council, Inc.*  
*National Center for Simulation*  
*National Science Resources Center*  
*Cyberchase-Thirteen/WNET.org*

*ASTM International*  
*American Society for Biochemistry & Molecular Biology*  
*Challenger Center for Space Science Education*  
*Illinois Mathematics and Science Academy*  
*Society for Mining, Metallurgy & Exploration*  
*California Healthcare Institute (CHI)*  
*INSPIRE, Institute for P-12 Engineering Research and Learning, Purdue University.*  
*College of Saint Elizabeth, Morristown, NJ*  
*Georgian Court University, Lakewood, NJ*  
*National Organization of Gay and Lesbian Scientists and Technical Professionals*  
*American Association of People with Disabilities*  
*Tau Beta Pi Engineering Honor Society*  
*Math & Science Institute at Arkansas Tech University*  
*Society for Research in Child Development (SRCD)*  
*American Society of Plant Taxonomists*  
*LearnOnLine, Inc*  
*Hands On Science Partnership*  
*Maryland Academy of Sciences*  
*Association of Science Materials Centers*  
*TERC*  
*The University System of Georgia's STEM Initiative*  
*McGraw-Hill*  
*Michigan Technological University – Youth Programs*  
*Museum of Science – Boston*  
*National Center for Technological Literacy*  
*SACNAS*  
*National Organization for the Professional Advancement*  
*of Black Chemists & Chemical Engineers*  
*American Indian Science & Engineering Society*  
*ASTRA, The Alliance for Science & Technology Research in America.*  
*AWE Project (Assessing Women and Men in Engineering)*  
*Aerospace Industries Association*  
*Computer Science Teachers Association (CSTA)*  
*National Science Center*  
*Center for Excellence in Education (CEE)*  
*Museum of Science and Industry, Chicago*  
*National Coalition for Advanced Technology Centers (NCATC)*  
*Exploratorium*  
*3 M*  
*American Geological Institute*  
*The Optical Society*