

NASSMC Talking Points for State Based STEM Summits
Per the Massachusetts STEM Summits I (2004) and II (2005)
MA STEM Summit III, October 25, 2006
March 2006 Annual NASSMC Conference
www.stempipeline.org

1. Define the need (if there is one):

Need: The STEM pipeline does not support the STEM needs of the Massachusetts economy.

Goal: Prepare all students for college and/or careers with a particular emphasis on STEM disciplines (therefore increase the flow from the STEM pipeline).

Process:

1. define a STEM Summit program for multiple years (sustainability)
2. augment the STEM Summit with local STEM initiatives
3. involve the leadership personnel from all stake holders
4. recruit the “movers & shakers” in the state legislator
5. the STEM Summit MUST provide the environment to make connections between all stake holders

2. The stake-holders: Policy framers (legislators and their staff members), K to 16 educators/administrators, organizations employing STEM professionals, government agencies (local, state and federal), business leaders and appropriate not-for-profit agencies; NOTE: you cannot be shy when asking for STEM Summit support, AND, identify the compelling reason(s) for each stake-holder to attend.

3. Getting them to attend: DOE Commissioner’s email to all Superintendents; personal invitations to appropriate legislators; BaP distribution to schools; DOE distribution to STEM Dept. Chairs and school system level STEM Curriculum Coordinators; business roundtables/Chambers of Commerce; Deans of the Engineering Colleges/Departments; BHE distribution; and STEM professional association distribution.

Then: (a) use an online registration process, and (b) notify all stakeholders with Summit notices 90, 60, 45, 30 and 15 days prior to the event; these notices offer Summit tidbits, i.e., student presenters, the keynote speaker, “first-come-first-served sessions”, announce the attendance prizes, announce the finale agenda no less than 30 days prior to the event.

4. After the Summit:

1. Use the information contained in all Summit attendee evaluations; build on the strengths – discard or reshape identified weaknesses; the assessment

document, if structured properly, provides valuable feedback for subsequent STEM Summits.

2. Satisfy Summit action items within 30 days of the Summit
3. Build support for the next statewide STEM Summit through a STEM Summit report
4. Support alternative STEM initiatives

5. Results and Actions Steps:

1. An appropriation in the Economic Stimulus legislation in support of STEM initiatives - \$20M over four years;
2. Quarterly STEM Pipeline seminars
3. Weekly updates on STEM related issues, programs and opportunities
4. Speakers bureau membership
5. Membership on BHE and DOE policy task forces
6. Continuously recognize business and/or community support by conducting post Summit events at business locations