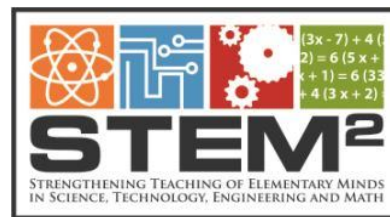


FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
November 15, 2013
Contact: Sara Goodman 617-475-3475
x2005 sgoodman@knowatom.com



Industry Leaders, Science Teachers Team Up to Make the Case for Elementary STEM

Unique partnership of educators, policy makers, industry leaders says high-quality STEM education in elementary grades today is essential to growing tomorrow's skilled workforce

Wenham, MA—Science teachers, administrators, policy makers will join forces with some of the region's leading high tech companies next week behind the cause of more science education in the earliest grades. Called STEM Squared, the unusual partnership is aimed at ensuring that elementary students learn STEM skills today in order to become tomorrow's highly-skilled workforce.

"By the time students get to middle school it's really too late," says Scott Morrison, the director of curriculum instruction for the Manchester-Essex schools and a leader of STEM Squared. "We need to make sure that our students are being introduced to STEM much earlier and in a way that really builds on their natural sense of curiosity about how the world works."

Science teachers will also have a chance to see first-hand the kind of skills and higher-order thinking that area high-tech companies require. Teachers are invited to tour any one of the four companies that are participating in STEM Squared: semiconductor equipment manufacturer Applied Materials in Gloucester, Danvers medical implant maker Abiomed, Peabody ultrasound specialists Analogic and Axcelis Technologies, a Beverly company that manufactures semiconductor processing equipment.

US Congressman John Tierney will welcome STEM Squared participants via video remarks and will stress the importance of elementary science education to prepare students for an increasingly high-skilled world.

What: STEM Squared gathering of science teachers, policy makers and industry representatives

When: Tuesday, November 19, 9:00AM; Tours of four local STEM companies begin at noon.

Where: Ken Olsen Science Center, Gordon College, 255 Grapevine Road, Wenham, MA

For more information visit www.facebook.com/stemsquared

###