



mbae
MASSACHUSETTS
Business Alliance for Education



2021 IMPACT REPORT

Key Accomplishments and Driving the Work Ahead



“We cannot meet employers’ workforce needs and diversity goals without strengthening our home-grown talent pipeline.”

ED LAMBERT, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR,
MASSACHUSETTS BUSINESS ALLIANCE FOR EDUCATION

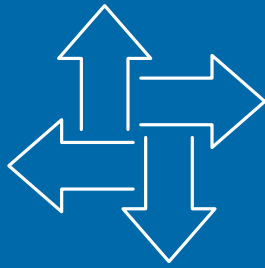
The challenge

Companies across all sectors struggle to find job candidates with the qualifications needed to sustain and grow their businesses and keep our economy booming, while prioritizing their goals to develop a workforce that looks like and fully represents the communities where they do business. At the same time, education equity and opportunity gaps exacerbated by the pandemic, and a lack of access to career-connected learning hold students back from realizing their dreams and full potential and lead to leaks in our workforce pipeline.

The opportunity

This is a moment of great potential. Heightened public urgency demands we address opportunity, wage, and wealth gaps. Enthusiasm grows among parents, business, policymakers, and community leaders to build stronger connections between education and career opportunities. These factors have combined as we emerge from the pandemic to create significant momentum to ignite innovation and accelerate improvements.

Secured funding to expand student access to career programs. MBAE advocacy led to a \$25M allocation of federal COVID-19 relief funds to expand college and career pathways programs and move students off waiting lists and into career vocational technical pathways. We also supported a \$100M capital investment appropriation for the state's vocational schools and programs.



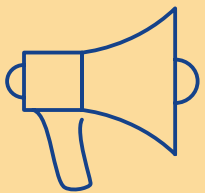
2021 successes

Doubled state funding for the Early College initiative.

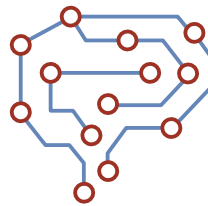
Early College programs are helping put many more low-income and students of color on a pathway to college. An MBAE-led campaign resulted in a doubling of FY22 state funding to significantly expand access for our most under-resourced students.



Triggered call for improved district planning for how to use historic education funding.



MBAE led a coalition that persuaded the Commissioner of Elementary and Secondary Education to seek updated and improved district plans for spending new funds to close gaps, improve outcomes and opportunities for all students, and better prepare them for college and career. MBAE is thankful to our partners in this work.



Introduced a STEM-focused high school model to Massachusetts.

The game-changing P-TECH high school model, flourishing in other states, offers students a seamless pathway from high school through college and career and specifically prepares students for technology careers. MBAE is leading the effort to gather and align stakeholders.



Successfully launched MBAE membership model.

With 27 new members and counting, MBAE is off to an excellent start on our transition to a new membership business model that more directly amplifies the voice of business in our policy priorities and provides more intentional opportunities for employers to engage with this important work.



Our work ahead

Data confirm what employers already know—that there is much work to be done to improve student opportunity and better connect our education system to the needs of our economy and our workforce. Our policy agenda is grounded in and responsive to this data as well as to the tremendous opportunities to have an impact.

ADVANCING EQUITY



Only two out of ten

Black, Latino, and low-income students obtain a college degree of any type within 6 years of high school graduation.

MBAE understands that as business makes equity and diversity their highest priority for investment, we must view all of our work through the lens of equity. MBAE's newly-formed Equity Committee will guide our ability to recommit to our founding principle of closing outcome and opportunity gaps for all students by identifying and prioritizing key policy levers for achieving better results, especially for our most vulnerable and chronically left-behind students.

SUPERCHARGING EXPANSION OF EARLY COLLEGE

Representing a major priority of businesses across MA, MBAE is the leading voice pushing to increase enrollment in Early College pathways from 4,500 students today to 45,000 in five years. We zealously support funding increases and regulatory changes that are needed to meet this goal. As a founding member of the Massachusetts Alliance for Early College, we are actively engaged with stakeholders across all sectors to give more students the support and opportunity they need to earn the degree the vast majority of jobs require.

MASSACHUSETTS COULD BE SHORT OVER

70,000

college graduates from our workforce

due to the pandemic's dual impact of accelerating retirements and causing students to veer off the path to college completion.

DEFENDING ACCOUNTABILITY



MBAE will continue to be the primary watchdog and advocate for effective and efficient use of the substantial funds flowing to

districts. With enormous challenges created by the pandemic that have deepened inequities in outcomes, this funding represents a historic opportunity that cannot be missed.

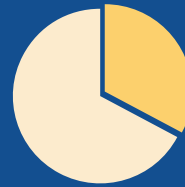
Between the three rounds of federal stimulus grants and the first year of **funding increases under SOA**, districts have received new funding amounts of up to of their regular budget.

64%

LAUNCHING P-TECH

We will galvanize business, philanthropic, and educator support to launch one or more STEM-focused P-TECH high schools here in the Commonwealth. MBAE intends to bring this pioneering high school model—that is flourishing in other states—here to Massachusetts where STEM jobs are going unfilled.

BETWEEN 2018 AND 2028



One of out of every three jobs created in the Commonwealth will be in **STEM fields.**

The Boston Globe

THE GREAT DIVIDE

Why is Massachusetts' tech sector so lacking in diversity? Take a look inside AP computer science classes

Zipporah Osei, May 17, 2020

MAKING MASSACHUSETTS A LEADER IN STEM EDUCATION

As our life sciences and high-tech sectors boom, K-12 student participation in STEM coursework lags far behind industry's talent pipeline demands. MA desperately needs a state policy plan for STEM education in order to meet the needs of industry and students alike. **MBAE is launching a STEM Committee to develop this plan, with an emphasis on improving participation among girls, Black, and Latino students.**



ALIGNING EDUCATION WITH THE DEMANDS OF OUR ECONOMY

MBAE is developing a roadmap for greatly expanding high school student access to pathways that prepare them for college and careers. In addition to Early College, MBAE supports expanding access to career vocational technical education, Innovation Pathways programs, and other career connected learning opportunities. We continue to build support for pending legislation that will incentivize high schools to provide students opportunities to earn industry-recognized credentials that are of value to employers and in high-demand. Every student should graduate high school with a pathway to college and career success.

ONLY **45%**
of MA ninth graders go on to earn a post-secondary degree or credential that the vast majority of jobs require.

Big change can happen

MBAE defines the role that businesses should play in education policy and innovation. We know that when the business community goes all in, big change can happen.

How we activate and amplify the voice of business in policymaking

- Identifying opportunities for the business community to weigh in on education policy via **access and advocacy to decision makers and leading the conversation** in the public space.
- Representing business on state **committees and commissions charged with shaping policy**.
- Producing research to **inform debate on key issues** and developing content for **companies to demonstrate their commitment to education**.
- **Testifying at hearings** and before commissions and inviting our members and affiliates to join us.
- Initiating and **leading discussions on key issues that impact workforce and equity** via events and social media.
- Incorporating leaders who represent the full diversity of our corporate community into **our organizational governance and strategic planning**.

MBAE core principles

- Education is a critical influence on an individual child's success and our economy's overall health and vibrancy.
- The most impactful changes in education are occurring through policies adopted at the state level.
- Business leaders have a unique and valuable perspective to bring to education policy discussions. There are both economic and moral imperatives to fight for kids and strengthen our education system.
- Lasting systems-change requires active engagement from policymakers, educators, parents, students, community members, and business leaders.
- The long-term success of our economy, our state's competitive advantage, and our national security requires improving educational outcomes for all students.

FOUNDATION SUPPORT

The Boston
Foundation 

WALTON FAMILY
FOUNDATION

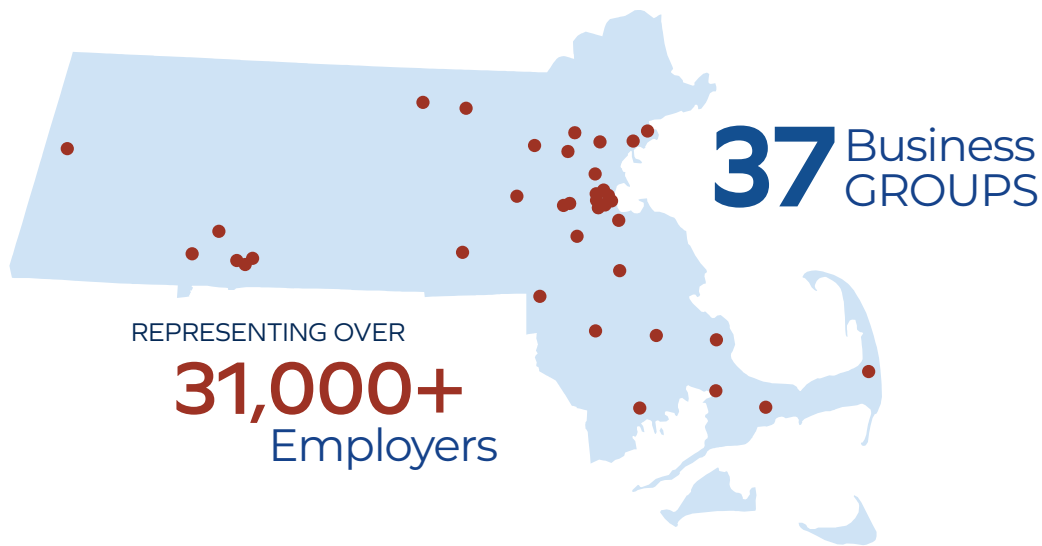


The Irene E. & George A.
Davis Foundation

 **Barr**
Foundation

Affiliate network members

MBAE has built a substantial business coalition, the MBAE Affiliate Network, to present a unified business voice on education policy. These groups from across the Commonwealth have joined with us in response to their own members' concerns about education and the workforce. They share our commitment to ensuring EVERY student gets the education they need to be successful in college and career. We are grateful for their support and amplification of our goals and priorities.



Statewide partners and affiliates

- 1Berkshire
- Blackstone Valley Chamber of Commerce
- Cape Cod Canal Region Chamber of Commerce
- Cape Cod Chamber of Commerce
- Charles River Regional Chamber
- Concord Chamber of Commerce
- Cranberry Country Chamber of Commerce
- Greater Boston Chamber of Commerce
- Greater Holyoke Chamber of Commerce
- Greater Lynn Chamber of Commerce
- Greater Westfield Chamber of Commerce
- MassBio
- Massachusetts Competitive Partnership
- Massachusetts High Technology Council
- Massachusetts Society of CPAs
- Massachusetts Technology Leadership Council
- Metro South Chamber of Commerce
- MetroWest Chamber of Commerce
- NAIOP Massachusetts
- Nashoba Valley Chamber of Commerce
- National Federation of Independent Business Massachusetts
- Neponset River Regional Chamber
- North Central Massachusetts Chamber of Commerce
- One SouthCoast Chamber
- Orleans Chamber of Commerce
- Plymouth Area Chamber of Commerce
- Quincy Chamber of Commerce
- Retailers Association of Massachusetts
- Salem Chamber of Commerce
- Springfield Business Leaders for Education
- Springfield Regional Chamber
- Stoneham Chamber of Commerce
- Taunton Area Chamber of Commerce
- TechNet
- United Regional Chamber of Commerce
- Western Mass Economic Development Council
- Worcester Regional Chamber of Commerce

Premium Business Members



The Irene E. & George A.
Davis Foundation



Business and Civic Leader Members

Rick Burnes
Chris Gabrieli
Tony Helies

Mimi LaCamera
Chuck Longfield

2022 Board Members

Bill Walczak, Chairman

Nicholas M. Christ, Treasurer

President and Chief Executive Officer, BayCoast Bank

Henry C. Dinger, Esq., Clerk

*Partner and Dep. General Counsel,
Goodwin Procter LLP*

Tricia Canavan

Chief Executive Officer, Tech Foundry

JD Chesloff

*President and Chief Executive Officer, Massachusetts
Business Roundtable*

Christopher J. Delorey

*Senior Vice President, Marsh & McLennan Agency
| New England*

Sharon M. Driscoll

*Senior Vice President (retired), Philanthropic Solutions, Bank
of America Private Bank*

Joseph E. Esposito

Chief Financial Officer (retired), DS SolidWorks

Emerson Foster

*Head of Human Resources, US Business Unit,
Takeda Pharmaceuticals*

David R. Gagnon

Partner, KPMG LLP

Brian R. Gilmore

*Executive Vice President (retired),
Associated Industries of Massachusetts*

Nicole Glazer, PhD

*Executive Director, Informatics & Predictive Sciences,
Bristol Myers Squibb*

David Mancuso

Founder, Mancuso Communications Strategies

Alicia C. Matthews

*Vice President, Government Affairs and Strategic
Initiatives, Comcast-Northeast Division*

Eileen McAnneny

President, Massachusetts Taxpayers Foundation

Peter Nessen

President, Nessen Associates, Ltd.

Syed G. Quadri

System Validation Engineer, Intel Massachusetts

Eileen Rudden

Co-founder and Board Member, LearnLaunch, Inc.

Brooke Thomson

*Executive Vice President, Government Affairs,
Associated Industries of Massachusetts*

Bill Triant

Chief Executive Officer, Talent Ventures

Axel Vigo

Manager, Cybersecurity Consulting, Ernst & Young



Become a member!

MBAE welcomes new members to help shape our agenda and to support our state advocacy for a strong and diverse talent pipeline and positive outcomes for all students. Membership categories accommodate individuals, companies, and organizations of every size and budget. Please consider joining us, or recommend a company or business leader you know, by connecting with Karen Cosmas, Director of Membership, at kcosmas@mbae.org.

