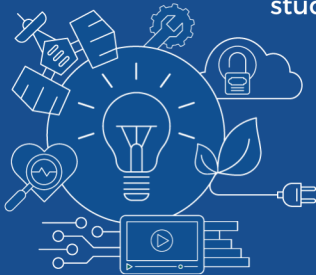


## NEW PATHWAYS TO CAREERS IN STEM

The culmination of an MBAE push to bring P-TECH high schools to Massachusetts, the state awarded **\$6.5M to launch STEM Tech Career Academies**, six-year programs based on the P-TECH model that will enable students to earn both a high school diploma and a postsecondary degree or credential at no cost to them. The Academies will **address growing workforce needs** and create pathways to opportunities in STEM careers, particularly for Black and Latino students who are **underrepresented in these fields**.



**5 STEM Tech Career Academies** will serve **1,600–2,000** students in the next few years

## Incentives for Awarding of Industry-Recognized Credentials

We saw enactment of most of our proposed legislation to incentivize high schools to award high-value industry-recognized credentials aligned with workforce demand. We successfully introduced a new requirement that the state produce an annual list showing which industry-recognized credentials are linked to high-paying jobs, which will be sent to all district and school leaders. Thanks to MBAE's efforts, the legislature also approved a \$3 million pilot program to support credentials in the wind energy industry.



**DOUBLED FUNDING**

for Early College to expand access across the state

## EXPANDING THE SUCCESSFUL EARLY COLLEGE INITIATIVE

MBAE had a second straight year of state budget success, securing \$19 million for Early College to build on this successful initiative and continue to work toward serving 45,000 students. By reaching that goal, we can close a quarter of the statewide college success equity gap by race and income, benefit thousands of students beyond that, and fuel a diverse, educated workforce pipeline.



## Boosting Computer Science Education

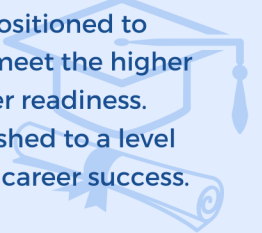
We were able to secure an amendment to the Economic Development bill at the end of last session, allocating \$2.5 million for the recruitment and training of educators to teach computer science. This critical area of study provides students with the skills they need to understand technology and its applications across numerous sectors and social contexts as well as to prepare for careers in the growing number of fields that require it. Language in the legislation calls for a strategy to ensure access in every high school, increase participation rates particularly among those traditionally underrepresented, and to evaluate whether a foundational computer science course should be a requirement to graduate high school, as it is in some other states.





### Raising the Graduation Standard

An MBAE-led advocacy effort helped lead the Board of Elementary and Secondary Education to raise the scores tenth graders need to achieve on the MCAS to meet the state’s high school graduation standard. Armed with billions of new federal and state funding, districts are well-positioned to make the investments they need to make to help students meet the higher standard, which data show is aligned with college and career readiness. Research shows the existing standard has, over time, diminished to a level where data proved students were unprepared for college or career success.



### STATE EDUCATION FUNDING INCREASES

MBAE worked to secure increases in funding for high school pathway programs, vocational-technical education, work-based learning opportunities, efforts to expand teacher diversity, extension for a year of free school meals for all students, and support for first-generation college students.

### Strong Defense Against Rollbacks of Effective Education Reforms

MBAE’s effective advocacy led to the protection of key education reforms that ensure we have comparable, objective, disaggregated information about student outcomes and school performance, and that we continue to provide students and families with high quality choices in education. The legislative session concluded without any of the bills filed to eliminate or alter accountability, MCAS, graduation standards, or charter schools being advanced for consideration.



### BRINGING THE BUSINESS VOICE TO POLICY DISCUSSIONS

MBAE members and affiliates are deeply committed to and engaged in promoting high quality education opportunities for all students. MBAE Board Member Tricia Canavan, CEO of Tech Foundry, and the previous owner of her own business, was chosen by Governor Baker to serve on the state Board of Education in August. Long-time MBAE Board Member Joe Esposito, a former CFO at SolidWorks Corporation, is serving on the state’s Data Advisory Commission.

