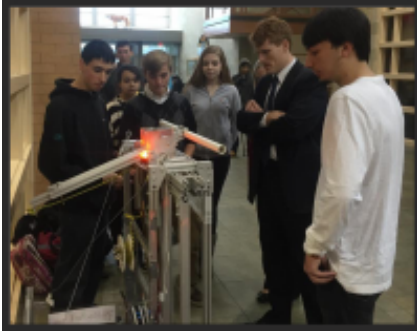


## Congressman Kennedy and Marcy Read, National Grid president, visit Easton Public Schools



"With a firm commitment to innovation and opportunity, Easton has set the bar for STEM programming in Massachusetts.

-Congressman Joseph Kennedy III

Throughout Southeastern Massachusetts, educators, businesses and community organizations are partnering to advance STEM education knowing that in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century, STEM skills support professional and personal endeavors in all arenas including the arts, business, education, government and community initiatives. According to Katherine Honey, SE MA STEM Network coordinator, "Easton is an exemplary model of how educators and community members have joined forces to ensure that students graduating from the Easton Public Schools (EPS) have the necessary skills to secure fulfilling and financially rewarding careers.

On December 19, 2014, Easton Public Schools hosted an event which was attended by Congressman Joseph Kennedy and Marcy Read, National Grid president, educators, students and representatives of local business, government, and community organizations.

While touring Oliver Ames High School, Congressman Kennedy and Ms. Read observed a demonstration by the Robotics Team, the Iron Tigers, and learned about the Science Team and Science Olympiad programs and how juniors and seniors work with 5th grade students and are committed to hands-on learning in Science.

During panel discussions, Congressman Kennedy shared that he has made Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) education a cornerstone of his first term in office, in order to ensure students are prepared for the jobs of tomorrow. Ms. Read provided information on National Grid's partnerships with community organizations across New England including Engineering Our Future, an initiative to inspire young people to pursue science, technology, engineering and math fields.

Assistant Superintendent Lisha Cabral and math teacher Kerri Murphy co-chair the Easton STEAM Education Team. They worked closely with Easton Selectman Dan Smith to organize the event. Ms. Cabral noted,

“The synergy at the December 19<sup>th</sup> meeting reflects what happens at the STEAM Education Team meetings and will definitely have a tangible effect on teaching and learning in Easton.” Working with over 30+ community members, Ms. Cabral and Ms. Murphy are developing a vision for Easton and a 3 – 5 year STEM plan to ensure that all students are provided opportunities to increase interest in STEAM related curriculum and careers.

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