The following areas are the center of the STEM Advisory Council's work over the next year:

• Expand Work-Based Learning Programs
• Develop and Grow STEM Early College Career Pathways
• Broaden and Deepen Computer Science & Engineering Initiatives

The FY 2017 budget filed by Governor Baker and Lt. Governor Polito, the STEM Advisory Council's recommendations are a priority, including:

Work-Based Learning: Additional $2.5M for School to Career Connecting Activities, with language to encourage greater integration with the Youth Works summer jobs program

Early College Career Pathways: Additional $1.0M for Dual Enrollment tied to opportunities to develop STEM Early College initiatives

Broaden Computer Science & Engineering Initiatives: Additional $500,000 for Advanced Placement support for teachers and students in STEM subjects

All: Level-funding - $1.5 million – for the STEM Pipeline Fund to support STEM Council priorities, including Regional STEM Networks and the replication or expansion of proven 6-12 STEM programs for teachers and students, such as Project Lead the Way

Additionally, this fall the STEM Advisory Council voted to endorse MassCAN in its work to broaden access to computer science education across the Commonwealth. Their collaboration with the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE) and other partners led to the development of Digital Literacy and Computer Science Standards, which by the state Board of Elementary and Secondary Education voted to put out for public comment last week. Additional funding for MassCAN is not included in the Governor's FY 17 budget due to the fact that MassCAN is still working with the Mass Technology Collaborative (its fiscal sponsor) to complete its spending plan and the FY 16 appropriation (in combination with the required private match) may be able to provide some carry-over funding to support program expenses over the coming fiscal year. We will continue to monitor MassCAN's financial needs as the budget process evolves over the next few months.

STEM Advisory Council Subcommittees
We are looking forward to gaining insight and guidance from Council members over the course of the next year. In order to ensure that we all stay focused on the priorities that STEM Advisory Council has supported, we have decided to reorganize the STEM Advisory Council into four subcommittees focused on the recommendations as well as the regional networks in order to provide guidance, feedback and insights to those areas.

STEM Advisory Council Subcommittees and Chairs
Regional Networks -- Michael Tamasi, Chair
Early College Career Pathways -- JD Chesloff, Chair
Broadening Computer Science and Engineering Initiatives -- Steve Vinter, Chair
Work-Based Learning -- Marcy Reed, Chair

Screening of *CODE: Debugging the Gender Gap*

The STEM Advisory Council is co-sponsoring the screening of *CODE: Debugging the Gender Gap*, a documentary that highlights the gender gap in software engineering, on March 24 with Morpho Detection, a cyber security firm with an office in Andover. The movie screening will be followed by a panel discussion. We are working with Morpho Detection to confirm the location and the event details.