



Cheese, beer, wine. Saturday at Copley Square.

Walsh, Chang tout STEM expansion in Boston middle schools

By **Jeremy C. Fox** | GLOBE STAFF | OCTOBER 03, 2015

Eighth-graders at McCormack Middle School got impromptu lessons in politics and science Friday, as Mayor Martin J. Walsh, Superintendent Tommy Chang, and leaders in business and philanthropy launched a push to expand science, technology, engineering, and math education.

“You start thinking about, at this age, what do I want to do with my life?” Walsh told students at the Dorchester school. “Everyone in this room is smart. . . . Any one of you in this room can do anything that you want.”

Through the new initiative, called BoSTEM, Walsh and others hope more young people will pursue and be prepared for jobs in the region’s booming technology industries. BoSTEM is a partnership between the city, local corporations, and more than a dozen nonprofits working to provide Boston public middle school students with hands-on learning by 2020.

Currently, only 6 percent of Boston students have access to such interactive programs outside school hours, according to the School Department.

Jeremy C. Fox

Jeremy C. Fox can be reached at jeremy.fox@globe.com.

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