

**From:** [Katie Ruggieri](#)  
**To:** [Little, Allison \(DHE\)](#)  
**Subject:** Re: SSA: STEM Week  
**Date:** Thursday, October 3, 2024 10:42:08 PM

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Allison,

Massasoit will be hosting the Annual Cardboard and Duct Canoe race on Monday, 10/21, from 11 am - 1 pm, and then from 3-5 pm, Massasoit is co-hosting a STEM Careers fair at the Boys and Girls Club of greater Brockton with Love to Learn Brockton.

Tuesday, 10/22, we will have a STEMposium with student posters from 11-2 pm, with award winning STEM author, Michelle Cusolito, giving a book talk from 12:30-1:30 pm.

Best,  
Katie

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**From:** Little, Allison (DHE) <ALittle@dhe.mass.edu>

**Sent:** Thursday, October 3, 2024 5:15:25 PM

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**Cc:** Kathryn Baugh <kbaugh@berkshirecc.edu>; Sean Kenney <KENNEYS@middlesex.edu>; Marie Tupaj <TUPAJM@middlesex.edu>

**Subject:** SSA: STEM Week

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Hi! We are less than two weeks away from our STEM Starter Academy STEM Week event, which is taking place on October 16 from 10 am – 11 am. We are so excited that Secretary Tutwiler and Commissioner Ortega will be part of the event. As a reminder, please follow up with your presidents office to encourage them to come. Additionally, it is critical to have legislators in attendance so they can hear first hand the great experiences and outcomes your programs have had on students. These requests should go through your presidents’ offices. **Please follow up to see if the presidents will be in attendance and if the request to your local legislators has been made.** Please feel free to use the text below or draft your own email to inquire about their plans to attend. **Lastly, if you have not sent me your list of STEM Week activities, please try to do that by the end of next week.** Thank you!

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Dear **XXXXX**,

I hope you are doing well. I am writing to confirm **President XXX**'s attendance at the STEM Starter Academy virtual STEM Week event to celebrate 12 years of its success. This program has been vital to supporting community college students to persist in school and earn critical STEM degrees and certificates. This event is our opportunity to highlight the program in a critical year to hopefully restore its budget to its former funding level of \$4.75 million and support MassEducate students have the same experiences that our alumni have had. Secretary Tutwiler will be facilitating a student panel and Commissioner Ortega will be facilitating an employer panel so everyone can hear first-hand about the impact this program has had on changing students’ lives. Lastly, this is a great opportunity for us to thank local legislators for the investment they have made and encourage them to commit to SSAs continuation.

Please let me know if you have any questions.

Thank you,

XXX

**Allison Little**

Assistant Commissioner, P16 Alignment and Outreach  
Principal Investigator, MassTeach

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[alittle@dhe.mass.edu](mailto:alittle@dhe.mass.edu)

**Pronouns** She/Her/Hers

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Massachusetts Department of Higher Education

One Ashburton Place, Room 1401, Boston, MA 02108

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