

## President Obama Announces new STEM Master Teacher Corps

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I applaud the President's efforts to promote science, technology, engineering and mathematics education in classrooms throughout the United States by launching the new STEM Master Teacher Corps. The President is recognizing the great work that America's classroom teachers provide to their students as they teach the problem solving and critical thinking skills that are so important for life and necessary for technological development and job creation. By investing in STEM education and teachers in particular, we are building a firm foundation of technologically literate and skilled Americans ready to continue American innovation and excellence and ensuring a critical and discerning public that will safeguard our Democracy. The tangible result of the President's efforts will be an outstanding corps of teachers committed to the development of a cadre of students who have the necessary skills and aptitude to thrive in colleges, career academies and their future jobs.

As Silicon Valley's representative and a science teacher, I know how important investing in STEM education is to our nation's future. For decades, I have been fighting to ensure that each student who dreams of being a global innovator has the knowledge and resources she needs to succeed. In Congress, I have: sponsored legislation to bring scientists and engineers into the classroom to help teachers understand and use technology; worked to get innovativeness and inventiveness taught in our public schools; and had provisions of my Enhancing STEM Education Act to improve coordination of the federal government's STEM efforts become law. My STEM Education Innovation Act continues this work by: promoting STEM education at the Department of Education, enhancing the work of consortia of STEM stakeholders in the states; and supporting the development of educational technologies. In the near future, I will also be introducing legislation to provide elementary educators high quality pre-service education in the STEM fields. I will be discussing these and other important ideas at a forum with STEM leaders at the 2012 Silicon Valley STEM Innovation Summit, hosted by the Microsoft Corporation, on July 30.