# **MEMORANDUM**

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| **To:** | Members of the Board of Elementary and Secondary Education |
| **From:** | Pedro Martinez, Commissioner |
| **Date:** | October 21, 2025 |
| **Subject:** | Update on Science, Technology/Engineering, and Mathematics Initiatives |

At the regular meeting of the Board of Elementary and Secondary Education (Board) on October 28, 2025, I will provide you with a comprehensive overview of ongoing and new initiatives related to Science, Technology/Engineering, and Mathematics. This presentation aims to inform you of the Department's continued commitment to strengthening STEM education across all grade levels and to highlight the progress and impact of key programs currently underway.

STEM education remains a priority for preparing students for success in an increasingly technology-driven world. The initiatives we will discuss reflect our focus on evidence-based practices, high-quality instructional materials, and equitable access to rigorous STEM learning experiences for all students across the Commonwealth.

**High-Dosage Tutoring in Mathematics**

We will provide an overview of the Department's high-dosage tutoring program in mathematics, which aims to strengthen and expand interventions to accelerate student learning in mathematics for students below grade level in grades four and eight. This segment will include data on program reach, implementation models being used across districts, early outcome measures, and lessons learned from the first year of implementation. We will also discuss sustainability planning and strategies for scaling effective practices.

**Supporting Students with Disabilities in Science Classrooms**

DESE's Educational Vision and the federal Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) emphasize the importance of providing all students, regardless of ability, opportunities and access to high-quality learning experiences in all content areas. DESE offers a variety of programming and resources to support this expectation. At the meeting, we will highlight the Science Curriculum Adaptations Project for Special Educators (SCAPE) Institute. The institute is a year-long professional learning experience for teams of science content leads along with special education leads. This initiative is currently in its second year of implementation.

Erin Hashimoto-Martell, Associate Commissioner, Ian Stith, Assistant Director of Mathematics, and Nicole Scola, Assistant Director of Science, Technology/Engineering, will lead the presentation. They will be joined by representatives from participating districts and schools who will share their firsthand experiences implementing these initiatives. These practitioner perspectives will provide valuable insight into the real-world application of our STEM programs and the impact on teaching and learning at the classroom level.