

## Lawrence Sheila

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**From:** Robert Piane <infocso@doe.k12.de.us>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, June 07, 2016 9:42 AM  
**To:** infocso  
**Subject:** Delaware STEM Formal Review Public Comment

**Name:** Robert Piane

**E-Mail Address:** rpianejr1@comcast.net

**Public Comment:** When i researched what jobs pay the highest out of college I found all top 10 are directly related to the subjects STEM is focused on. When I researched STEM's success rate I found it was among the most successful teaching programs in the US and we are in extreme need for it as a nation. I own 14 patents and when i went to find the skill set needed in this state to do what was needed to get my global company off the ground i had look out of Delaware and into 3 other states where the jobs went, and even that was hard. The following is from based on the more than 100 U.S. News STEM Solutions 2012 conference speaker remarks, as well as the numerous sessions, reports, and surveys of the 50 co-chair organizations and 1,600 conference participants. Additional reporting was provided by the staffs of U.S. News, Southern Methodist University Department of Education, STEM connector, and Innovate + Educate:

"STEM should be marketed as a path to better paying jobs and career stability. Math means money....It's really about the middle class. It's less about the folks who design the airplanes than the ones who build them. The guys who used to pour the steel now have to know how to program and instruct a robot to do it....Everyone in the room understood the problem, but 99 percent of the rest of the country would hardly have known what we were talking about. Creating public awareness, informing parents about why this kind of education is so crucial...The STEM brand is a hard sell. But would anyone agree that the world will become less technological? That good jobs will become less sophisticated?...Those are clearly questions that much of the world has been answering aggressively. The STEM problem in the United States is most clear when viewed against the gap we see between our high school students and those in China, South Korea, and much of Europe. Or the huge volume of mid-level engineers being produced by a place like India....The sweep of industries affected by the STEM skills shortage was revealing, from healthcare, energy production and distribution, and autos to the whole slowly renewing domestic manufacturing area, transportation, and agriculture. "There are no more jobs that require a strong back," said Tom Luce, the force behind the successful National Math and Science Initiative. "We have to explain to parents and kids that 30 years ago you could have a living wage job and not be STEM capable. Today that is not possible."..Some communities get it. U.S. News's ranking of Best STEM High Schools shows that folks in high-income zip codes like Palo Alto, Calif., Westchester, N.Y., and the Washington, D.C., suburbs have the right schools. Success is possible anywhere: Magnet and charter schools all over the country perform well. But there aren't nearly enough schools on our list. "The fact that it's not being done for 55 million children is our fault," said NMSI's Luce. "That's a lack of public will."

My vote is we need STEM more than we even know and the fact this program has a real chance of putting Delaware on the map as a state which is forward thinking, cares for its children and the nation's future and can make a real difference is one we need to give all the support it needs to get off the ground and become a reality in this state.

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**From:** Eraina Goodman <infocso@doe.k12.de.us>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, June 07, 2016 11:34 PM  
**To:** infocso  
**Subject:** Delaware STEM Formal Review Public Comment

**Name:** Eraina Goodman

**E-Mail Address:** eraina222@att.net

**Public Comment:** I SUBMIT MY FULL SUPPORT FOR DELAWARE STEM SCHOOL BECAUSE MY CHILD DESERVES A CHANCE FOR A BETTER SCHOOLING SYSTEM. HE HAS THE NEXT FOUR YEARS WITH THIS SCHOOL TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE TO THRIVE AND FLOURISH FOR HIS UPCOMING ADULT LIFE. I FEEL AS THOUGH THE STEM SCHOOL CAN GIVE HIM THAT.

Gwen Williams  
17 Rector Ct. Apt. D  
Wilmington, DE 19810

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Delaware Department of Education  
Charter School Office  
401 Federal Street, Suite #2  
Dover, DE 19901-3639

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing to express my full support for the opening of the DE STEM Academy in September 2016.

I understand the school is currently under formal review due to lower than anticipated enrollment numbers. Being a new school, there are challenges to getting large numbers of parents and students to become familiar with the great learning opportunity the Academy is offering.

My son has enrolled in the school and he is very excited about attending. As a parent, I believe the project based learning approach will be a wonderful learning environment and will help him remain engaged, focused and reach his academic potential. I believe the education that will be provided by the DE STEM Academy gives my son an excellent foundation for going on to college or finding a job after graduation.

I urge you to support the DE STEM Academy and allow them to open in September.

Sincerely,



Gwen Williams