

STEM Action Center
Board Meeting Minutes
May 4, 2018

Call to Order

Chair Dave Hill called to order the regular meeting of the STEM Action Center at 1:00 pm on May 4, 2018 at WW-17, State Capitol.

Roll Call

The following were present: Tim McMurtrey, Dave Hill, Mark Peters, Matt Borud (for Bobbi-Jo Meuleman), Kami Faylor (for Dee Mooney), Von Hansen and Melinda Smyser.
Via Conference Line: Amy Lientz and Von Hansen

STEM Center Staff: Angela Hemingway, Erica Compton, Finia Dinh, Stephanie Lee, Cory Compton, and Kaitlin McGuire

Absent: Lorna Finman

Past Board Minutes Approved – Dave asked for comments on the minutes. No comments, minutes therefore approved for March 12, 2018 meeting.

Welcome and Introductions:

Dave had asked that we go around the table and introduce ourselves for the benefit of our visiting delegates.

STEM AC Updates:

- 1. Goal #1 Coordinate and facilitate implementation of STEM programs throughout Idaho**
 - a. STEM Programs:**
 - i.** We had 119 projects, an increase of 42% over last year and 170 students which was an increase of 30%. Next week the state winners will head to Pittsburgh for the International Fair for the 2nd time in Idaho history.
 - ii.** FIRST Robotics teams competed in Worlds and were very successful. One team placed as high as 8th but all teams placed as high as 60th with over 700 teams competing. Dave noted that in 2015 we had no ISEF or FIRST and now two years later we have teams competing on the international stage. It is good to look back and recognize how far we have come.
 - iii.** DRONES: Erica reported on the Advanced Drones PD that ran last weekend as well as the elementary Drone trainings. There is significant interest in both. Kami wondered whether we were working with universities like UI who has year round interest in Drones. There is a connection to make with UI.
 - iv.** Dual Credits: Finia reported on the Dual Credit program in partner with UI and ISU
 - v.** MSS-ASSET: Erica shared an update on the ASSET trainings which have been completed. Overall great responses from educators attending. MSS is occurring

this July in the Treasure Valley area. Two separate trainings focused on Earth Systems and Matter.

- vi. Early STEM: Erica reported on this new initiative that is being led by early STEM expert Heather Lee. These one day workshops are inquiry based learning trainings geared to 3-6 yr olds. Early educators are desperate for accessible STEM activities to engage in their classrooms. Angela commented that at first we thought this would only be in one location but the interest was much broader so we have 3 locations for these workshops. These workshops will also gather data to determine what works best. Erica also reported that each participant came away with \$700 toolkit which included tech tools and resources which will provide educators with the tools and confidence to bring STEM to little ones.
- vii. Rural Communities: Erica is the lead on this with the Salmon Library. She reported that we are very excited to have 7 applications because it is such a heavy lift for these small communities. Dave asked how they found us? Erica explained that these were communities already invested in Making which is what put them on the radar for this project. The Salmon community has developed the scalable model and will facilitate the program. The applications are under review and we will accept between 3-5 communities. It is a rigorous process. Communities who have applied include, McCall Library, Glens Ferry Library, Payette Library, Gooding Library, Southside Elementary, Valley of the Tetons school and Camus Jr. High.
- viii. Summer STEM Grant will promote hands on Making and will run in conjunction with the annual Making in June events across the country.
- ix. Educurious PD: National RFD. Project based trainings for formal educators K-8, running in 3 locations. Leadership Educurious has been awarded.
- x. C-STEM: Did not run last year because there was not enough interest. This year it is a one week institute for grade 6-12 to learn robotics and hands on computing.
- xi. VR4Ed: Pilot program. Diverse applicants who will introduced to coding through the creation of virtual worlds. Working with a local organizations Blocksmith and the Idaho Virtual Reality Council. Middle and High School educators. There will be a showcase of the projects created.
- xii. IDoCode: CS Endorsement; 20 credits thru BSU, ISU and UI. BSU program will run as load forgiveness with scaling to UI and ISU over the next two years.
- xiii. CS Co-Op: Graduate with 2 years of workforce experience as part of a traditional 4-5 yr college experience. Dave asked if the Workforce Development Council knew about this opportunity. **ACTION:** Angela will update them on it.
- xiv. Jr. Botball Challenge: Intro to coding and robotics through challenges not competitions. The Challenge was held last month in Jerome and we will be sending teams to Nationals in CA. Last year Idaho Team won the international competition.
- xv. iSTEM: Kaitlin is the lead on this initiative. We have 31 strands at 6 sites with about 400 educators. It has been a heavy lift and kudos for Kaitlin for taking this on for the first year under the STEM AC.
- xvi. Large Scale MOA's:

1. Erica reported on the Early STEM partnership with the Children's Center at BSU. They will act as a test lab for early STEM Ed. We have a videographer who will create a library of best practices to share. This also allows us to vet products and tools and identify the best ones.
2. GIZMO on the NIC campus with LSC and UI will work with pre-service teachers to be trained in current teaching methods.

2. GOAL #2: Align education and workforce needs throughout Idaho

- a. Project – based Virtual Mentorship Update: We have 60 mentors and 50 teachers signed up. We have an easier registration process now and will begin actively recruiting this summer after the US2020 grant announcement.
- b. US2020: Kaitlin is going to San Francisco in May to represent STEM AC for the winner announcement.
- c. Lengthy discussion occurred around the issue of marketing and doing a better job of explaining what we do in more laymen's terms. Angela reported that we are beginning to develop a marketing plan. We will be able to evaluate our programs better because we have more data to share. It was suggested that we develop a “**dashboard**” based on the Impact Map. Discussed the great media we have received over the past year as well. Brief discussion on how to engage parents while conducting our Family STEM nights where we take parent surveys. The STEM Day at the Fair we are considering having chrome books available for parent to fill out a quick survey about STEM and their children.

3. Legislation:

- a. STEM School Designation: Committee selected the Advanced Ed Model which is a high quality model and affordable at \$1500/application. The scale will be from 1-11 for STEM Designation and we need to get reviewers trained in state so we do not have to use out of state personnel. The goal is a December 15 deadline for first designees to make it through the State Board and the STEM AC Board for approval. Angela stated that this is an aggressive timeline and may need to be modified.
- b. FY19 Legislation: Bill HO648 passed as was signed for now every HS will have computer science courses during school by 2020.
 - i. National Level: Supporting Effective Educator Development (SEED) program. The applications opened in March and will end May 17th. Focus on computer science with 5-8 grants for \$1M - \$6m per project to be awarded. Since we are not a national 501 (c) (3) we cannot apply but shared with partners to garner interest. Due to short timeline we were unable to accomplish that but look to next year if the funding is still available.
 - ii. Education Innovation and Research (EIR) grant from the Dept. of Education. University of Idaho will likely apply. Second of 2 programs of the administration supporting STEM and CS Education.

4. GOAL # 2 Align education and workforce needs throughout Idaho

- a. STEM AC Foundation update:
 - i. Idaho Gives Update: Kaitlin took the lead on this project when Maureen left. She reported that we did not meet our goal but we did raise \$2,142 with 35 donors. The STEM Team participated in the event at the Basque Block which helped to raise awareness about the STEM AC.

- ii. Our long awaited document from the IRS for our 501 (c) (3) status arrived this morning! **ACTION:** Email the document to the Board to use when talking with potential donors.
 - iii. Foundation Director: Due to a determination by legal and procurement that the Foundation is a private entity Angela will be the “volunteer foundation director”. We will look to hire a grant writer/fundraiser to support her. Any FTE for this job has to have the foundation work as part of their job not the sole job per the Historical Society model.
- b. Donor Totals: As of May 1, 2018 \$660K**
- i. Angela outlined the support in dollars from our various supporters including INL, Micron, SDE, Andeavor, ICfl and others. For a total of \$660K. We are in talks with additional donors to diversify our portfolio.
 - ii. Of the top 6 options to support Educator PD and Competitions remain the favorites.
 - iii. In-Kind: In ten months we have received \$1.23M which includes judges, industry partnerships and a lot of in-kind from media coverage.
- c. ACTION REQUESTED:**
- i. We need help spreading the word about our summer PD’s. We need to find new teachers and pre-service teachers.
 - ii. We are creating a media package for grant recipients to use to help spread our story and the impact the grants have had on the work they do.

5. GOAL #3: Increase awareness of STEM throughout Idaho

Awareness Events:

- a.** Prevention Conference in Sun Valley: Erica reported that the conference was very successful. She held a workshop for formal and informal educators on 3D printing, VR and Coding with the assistance of 2 grant recipients and their students. In addition we held a night event with several local partners providing STEM activities for conference participants and their families. Both raised a lot awareness about the STEM AC.
- b.** Media Coverage: We received extensive media coverage for Advanced Drones PD, as well as being featured in the Boise Weekly and Angela’s appearance on KBOI’s weekly program Idaho Living highlighting the STEM opportunities across the State this summer.
- c.** Impact Data: We continue to update our data collection and outcome metrics. We did not estimate significant increases in our numbers because the funding remained the same year over year. In spite of that we are blowing the numbers out of the water particularly in cash and in-kind donations.

6. INL Leveraging Report Update: Amy Lientz

- a.** INL developed their report to align with the Goals of the STEMAC. The report will be shared quarterly and during the legislative session. Amy provided an extensive presentation on the goals and accomplishments of the INL in coordination with the STEM AC to implement and promote STEM activities throughout the State.
- b.** The three main Goals of INL are: Goal #1 Communicate and cultivate STEM literacy; Goal #2 Inspire interest in STEM careers to fill Idaho’s talent pipeline; Goal #3 Increase participation of underserved, underrepresented and rural/remote populations in STEM opportunities. Each of INL goals align with the 3 STEMAC goals.

- c. Summary of INL STEM leveraging with STEMAC:
 - i. Total STEM AC support in February: \$151,333
 - ii. Total 2018 INL aligned with STEM AC support to date: \$503,795
 - iii. Total FY18 INL aligned cash equivalent support: \$237,869
 - iv. Total FY18 INL aligned STEM donations to Idaho: \$265,926 (\$250,026 direct to ISAC)
 - v. Total FY18 STEM AC matching funds to INL grant projects: \$65K
- d. Dave asked if this report is for the public only? Responded that it is meant for the legislature but could be useful for other audiences. It is given to the STEM AC monthly.

7. Micron Gives Update: Kami Faylor, Micron Foundation CRM

- a. Kami provided the Board with an update on the Micron new initiative called Micron Gives. The initiative was developed to address the global nature of Micron and it's employees and their desire to be philanthropic in their communities. Employees were surveyed about their philanthropic focus and while STEM remained high on the list so did support for basic human needs. As a result Micron Gives was launched.
- b. Kami gave a detailed explanation on how the portal operates by allowing employees to donate directly, matching gifts and volunteer and that the portal tracks all of these donations. Benevity is the company they are using to manage the portal.
- c. Kami reported that the STEM AC is live on the portal.
- d. Donations to date are \$176K and 5500 volunteer hours.
- e. Discussed the role in the STEM AC and how to pull the heartstrings in order to induce employees to donate. Kami felt that highlighting the issue of "have and have nots" as related to STEM opportunities would be important. Angela mentioned that perhaps the STEM Day at the Fair could be a good first opportunity for volunteerism with Micron.

8. STEM Summit: Angela

- a. The Summit is set for June 5th and OBE is taking the lead on running the day long summit to be held at BSU
- b. Angela encouraged board members to register for the Summit. Dave suggested we send an invite to Commerce. **ACTION:** Cory will send invite to Matt Borud.
- c. Code.org will provide the keynote and still looking for industry members to provide strong panels. Afternoon will be regional breakouts with industries in each region.
- d. Discussed the need to include industry outside of traditional tech ie: agriculture, logging and other similar commerce.
- e. Summit is an opportunity to listen to the needs of industry and ensure their needs are met.
- f. Mark Peters suggested we use the community colleges and the contacts they have in their local communities.

9. Strategic Plan: Angela

- a. The three goals currently in the SP will remain.
- b. The board is invited to provide input on June 6th from 9-11am in the Hoff building 3rd floor conference room. If you are unable to attend please let Cory know. Members may also call in or provide input in writing before the meeting. **ACTION:** send out SP in word format to the Board for comment and edits.

10. Public/Private Partnerships (3Ps)

- a. This application is open year round and the STEM AC will match up to \$5K.
- b. Angela asked that the Board help introduce the STEM AC to individuals, businesses or companies who could be a 3P.
- c. Micron and INL are overwhelming our biggest supporters. We need to identify more companies/organizations like these from which to garner support.
- d. It was mentioned that IBE could provide a good resource.
- e. **ACTION:** It was suggested to create a marketing piece around the 3P's funding opportunity to assist the board in talking with community donors.

11. FY19 Legislation –

- a. The election this year makes this a transition year and therefore only “mission critical” legislation should be submitted. We have on legislation at this time to run.

12. FY20 Budget Request

- a. Budget is due Sept. 1st. We will request \$2M for STEM and \$2M for CS. The question was posed as to whether to make the \$2M for Cs as ongoing. It was suggested that we go ahead and ask for ongoing funds.
- b. We will also request the funding for the Data Analyst position that was approved last year and not funded. We will ask that these funds are transferred in January.
- c. Discussed whether to ask for a FTE Foundation Director.
- d. Discussed who were the supporters we could reach out to for support in our funding needs and add them to the Summit invitation. Always good to seek advice from supporters.

Public Comment: Dave opened up the meeting to public comment. There was none.

Call to Action: Angela

- Highlighted the need for support from the Board in promoting our summer opportunities, mentorship portal recruitment with industry and making introductions to STEM supporters in the community to help with funding.
- **ACTION:** Set up “catch up calls” with Angela and board members. Cory to send out Doodle polls to set those up.

Upcoming Events:

- STEM Summit: June 5th 8:30 – 4:00 pm at BSU
- Strategic Planning Meeting: June 6th 9:00 am – 11:00 am Hoff Building 3rd Fl conference room

Next STEM Board meeting will be August 22 and October 30 from 1-4PM

Adjourned at 3:34 PM