

**STEM Action Center
Board Meeting Minutes**

May 30, 2017

Call to Order

Chair Dave Hill called to order the regular meeting of the STEM Action Center on May 30, 2017 at WW-55, Boise Capital.

Roll Call

Chair Hill conducted roll call. The following were present:

Dee Mooney, Von Hansen, Tim McMurtrey, Bobbi-Jo Meuleman (for Megan Ronk).

Mark Peters and Lorna Finman were on conference line.

STEM Center Staff: Angela Hemingway, Erica Compton, Finia Dinh, Crispin Gravatt, Stephanie Lee and Cory Compton

Absent:

Ken Edmunds and Megan Ronk

Past Board Minutes Approved – No comments, minutes therefore approved for March 21, 2017 meeting.

STEM AC Updates:

- 1. Goal # 1 Coordinate and facilitate implementation of STEM programs throughout Idaho**
 - a. Angela provided the board with the latest State Science Standards which are not NGSS. Lorna asked how the State Standards differ from NGSS. Angela responded that the State Standard are focusing on the performance expectations and the other aspects were moved to supporting documentation to be integrated during PD. Districts have the flexibility to add the additional components if they wish.
 - b. iSTEM update: Funding for iSTEM was federally funded through No Child Is Left Behind legislation and the Math Science Partnership Grant. This funding is ending end of this summer.
 - i. The question is: Should the STEM AC consider funding iSTEM and bring it in under the AC to administer?
 - ii. Dee stated that Micron has funded iSTEM but will not have a strand going forward. She could not attest to the effectiveness of iSTEM programs.
 - iii. Ann from INL was able to answer the effectiveness question. She reported that 5K teachers have been trained since 2010. 50% are repeat teachers, 600-700 teachers attend each summer across the state in regional strands. Industry is integral in these trainings allowing teachers to see what industry needs really are in terms of a trained workforce. Research has shown 90% of participating teachers say that there is a long term positive impact on students in that they get a sense of STEM opportunities in their communities for future employment.

- iv. Dave: Can the AC take this on? Are we able to fund and staff take over iSTEM? Angela noted that there are currently 7 locations they have a large network that seems to be well established in each community.
 - v. Angela felt that this would be a heavy lift for current staff of the AC and that it might require a long term project manager. She felt it was important to not lose iSTEM and that STEM AC should consider carefully if choosing to move forward to pursue options of taking iSTEM over.
 - vi. Dave asked that we conduct due diligence to determine the cost/benefit of taking over iSTEM. Follow-up with report at next meeting.
- c. STEM Professional Development Updates:
- i. Erica reported that 1st of four related to the PD Initiative has run. ASSET in Lewiston was very well received. The second ASSET will be in Boise in a few weeks.
 - ii. Finia has a couple happening soon as well
 - iii. Drones is very popular PD and will run in 2 weeks
 - iv. Making Sense of Science will run late July
 - v. Dave asked if PD's tie in with iSTEM? Angela commented that we were thoughtful with this summer PD's to NOT compete iSTEM. Will need to discuss future PD's as part of the overall conversation regarding taking on iSTEM.
- d. Data entry and analysis. AC is planning on hiring a doctoral graduate to assist with data entry and analysis of data gathered about the PD's. It is important to determine the effectiveness of our PD efforts.
- e. ISEF: Crispin is working on 2018 Competitions. Sites and dates have been set. The students attended the international fair from Idaho were very gracious and looking forward to taking what they learned back to their schools to promote ISEF. There was a brief discussion about leveraging this event in the press. As requested, here is an example of after the event coverage: <https://www.idahoednews.org/news/idaho-students-make-history-international-science-engineering-fair/>

2. Goal #2 Align education and workforce needs throughout Idaho

- a. Update on Project-based Virtual Mentorship Platform: Stephanie taking lead on this project. We need to create a marketing piece to attract mentors from industry and teachers as well. Dave offered to help with recruiting mentors and to develop a communication plan to help with that. Stephanie is attending a training next week so we are getting very close to launching this platform publically.
- b. INDEEDS: Finia has launched and is actively working on securing sponsorships from industry. We will have 2 teacher winners; one from K-6 and one from 6-12. We need nominees and sponsors. The winners will be announced at the ITC Hall of Fame event Oct. 24th.
- c. Trailhead partnership: Finia has wrapped that up. We will provide links to the press we received around this partnership.
- d. STEM School designation: Need to get information out to the schools about what the rules are for STEM designation. This opens June 1. We will provide information in our

June newsletter. This needs to be open to the public around the state. Stephanie will be getting the links with information about this process to share with board.

3. Goal #3 Increase awareness of STEM throughout Idaho

- a. Grants: Three NSF Grants have been submitted all over \$1M which go directly to the colleges. Without the AC writing these they would not happen and Angela expressed the need to continue to clearly convey the STEM AC is bringing funds into the STEM pipeline, but not all these funds run through the Center. Tesoro is progress; Glanbia will not fill our request.
- b. Media Coverage: Lots of media has been received around various events we have sponsored. Angela will be on the KBOI on June 9th doing science experiments for kids and parents to do together over the summer. We will share links to the media coverage we have received.
- c. Impact Data Map: Crispin is working on the impact map for the website that shows the funding awarded for FY16 and FY17 by legislative district.

4. STEM AC Strategic Plan:

- a. Angela asked for any comments or feedback on the final draft of plan. She has cleaned up objectives and streamlined the introduction. The final plan is due July 1 as required by DFM. Please get all comments to Angela well before the July1 due date.

5. Foundation Founder and Structure Update

- a. Founder: We have posted the job to the Idaho Nonprofit Center job board and to date have received 6 applicants that will be reviewed tomorrow at team meeting. Will keep Board posted.
- b. Foundation Structure: There are two potential models for the foundation structure; Parent/Child or Brother/Sister. Per the Governor's office we will be using the Parent/Child structure per the Governor's requirement. Angela agrees that this can be an effective model for the Center. She is working with attorney to get it finalized. The docs have been redlined by attorney but not finished or vetted.
 - i. Dave asked if the Board needed to approve the structure of the Foundation. Angela will determine if a vote is needed and get back to Board.
 - ii. A brief discussion about the Board for the Foundation. There will be a separate Foundation Board and one member of that Board will sit on the AC Board. The Foundation Board will be under the umbrella of the AC Board.
 - iii. Dee offered to meet with Angela to share her understanding of 501c3 structures.
 - iv. Angela will keep the board posted on the progress of both the Founder and establishment of the Foundation itself.

6. FY18 Appropriation

- a. The AC now has 4 FT employees with the addition of the STEM Analyst filled by Stephanie Lee.
- b. STEM Ed Fund has funds from Grants and Industry with spending authority of up to \$2M.
- c. Analysis by Project: The FY17 proposed numbers are very close to the FY17 May actuals. There was a discussion around the use of the word 'pilot'. A pilot is typically seen as a test. Data on pilots should be obtained to determine the value of the pilot and if it should become an ongoing project. There was also a discussion on the word

- d. Scholarship and whether it was accurate in describing money spent. The word scholarship is used because it is part of our legislation.

7. FY19 Appropriation

- a. Angela will be working on budget during June and meet with DFM throughout the summer. The FY19 budget request is due September 1.
- b. \$2M for STEM is ongoing and not need to request again
- c. \$2M for Computer Science is not ongoing but will work to make it ongoing which is necessary to meet the CS goals
- d. \$2M spending authority. Angela asked if this number should be decreased to \$1M. There was a discussion regarding the merits of decreasing spending authority and the message it might send to the legislature. No decision was made but it was recommended that we get advice from the Governor's office.
- e. The next full time position that will be requested is the Grants and PD Coordinator who would be responsible for overseeing i-STEM as well as gathering and analyzing data to determine the value and success of grants and PDs.

8. Statewide STEM Strategic Planning Meeting and Possible STEM Summit

- a. Dave provided background to the idea of a Statewide STEM Summit. The STEM AC charter has the mandate to coordinate STEM activities in the State. We have not had significant time to do this to date while getting the Center up and running. Now is the time to take this mandate seriously. First step is to get the right people in the room to begin discussion. This should be with key government agencies to build consensus around how to execute the mandate. Assuming this first strategy meeting is a success we would then move the conversation into the public arena for comment. This will need full support of the communities to be successful. The first meeting will be on July 20 and all input is welcome prior to that meeting.

9. Public Comment: There were no comments from the public.

Next meeting will be August 15th in room WW55 from 1-4PM