

**STEM Action Center
Board Meeting Minutes
April 2, 2020
Conference Line due to Covid 19**

Call to Order

Chair Dave Hill called to order the regular meeting of the STEM Action Center at 1:00 pm on April 2, 2020

Roll Call

Due to the Shelter in Place order from the Governor the Board meeting was conducted via teleconference. On the line were Dave Hill, Jake Reynolds, Wendi Secrist, Jeff Rosser, Dee Mooney, Paul Casey, Jennifer Jackson, Tim McMurtrey

STEM Action Center Staff: Angela Hemingway, Erica Compton, Crispin Gravatt,

STEM Action Center Contractors: Cory Compton, Kaitlyn Maguire

Absent: None

Past Board Minutes Approved: Dave asked for comments on the minutes. Since there were none, Wendi moved to approve, and Jennifer seconded. The minutes were approved unanimously.

Idaho STEM AC Draft Board Bylaws:

Dave recapped the meeting in January regarding the bylaws and noted that language was added to address the Chair and Vice-Chair positions. The edit included: "To extent possible the Chair and Co-Chair should be a representative from industry, as allowable." All were in agreement with this addition.

Dave asked for a motion to approve the bylaws. Tim moved to approve, and Jeff seconded. The vote to approve the bylaws was unanimous.

Dave advised that the new Chair and Vice-Chair will be voted on during the July 7th meeting and opened the floor for nominations. Nominations can be made verbally during the meeting or in subsequent emails to Angela. Self-nomination is welcome.

Dave and Dee gave a brief description of the duties of each position and their experiences as Chair and Vice-Chair. Dave encouraged current board members from industry to consider taking on a leadership role.

Wendi nominated Dee Mooney for Chair. Dee graciously accepted and noted that this was the normal course for the Vice-Chair to step up to be Chair.

Jeff Rosser was nominated to be Vice-Chair by Dave Hill and Jeff was happy to accept.

No other nominations were voiced during the nomination process. Angela offered that other nominations would be accepted via email or phone prior to the July 7th meeting. Dave advised both Dee and Jeff that if between now and the next meeting they had second thoughts they were free to decline the nomination.

STEM AC Updates and Discussion of Partnerships relate to Goals and Outcomes:

Angela shared that the STEM AC is working under extraordinary circumstances remotely as a result of the Shelter in Place order from the Governor. The team has stepped up and launched two new initiatives in just two weeks in response to the current pandemic and the needs of the community.

STEM@HOME: With students now staying home, STEM AC created an initiative called STEM@HOME (aka SAM). The STEM AC lead is Cory with assistance from STEM AC intern, Makayla, and STEM AC Vista, Teresa. The idea behind SAM is to provide students, parents, and teachers with resources to help bridge the learning gap when out of school. Parents have been moved into the role of teacher with little support nor resources to keep their kids engaged. We have added a new tile to our resource portal called STEM@HOME or our SAM Tile, where we will provide a plethora of online activities, lesson plans, research, videos, virtual tours, and general information about teaching and learning from home, sortable by grade level and topic. For the next few weeks, we will be posting to FB at least twice a day under the new SAM logo activities and other STEM related information.

We are partnering with one of our media partners, CBS2, who will conduct daily live Facebook demonstrations of activities on our portal. This will be reduced as school resumes online. We will share their page to ours and will post the activity to our page with the link to the resource and direction to CBS2's page and live demonstration. In addition, we are partnering with The Peregrine World Center of the Birds of Prey by highlighting on our FB page, their daily educational live videos about a chosen bird of prey. We have also been contacted by SDE to create Math videos provided by their Math Consultants from around the state who no longer can go into the classrooms.

Morning posts will always be an activity to engage students and afternoon posts will include sharing other partner's similar attempts to address the learning gap like our partners at Micron, INL, IDLA and IPTV. An additional posts might include a video, virtual tours of zoos or museums from around the world, or a chance to engage with NASA. These activities vary daily.

Resources are aimed at all grades and all subjects and are primarily STEM related. We are currently gathering resources that are also available in Spanish and ones that address special learning needs. All resources are available for FREE to school districts, parents, teacher and students. The vision for SAM is longer than just addressing the current situation with the pandemic. We plan to continue providing this resource thru summer and all breaks.

Media coverage as been extensive and very positive. Market penetration is not known yet as this is less than two weeks old, but we will be reviewing Google analytic. Concerns were raised around the ongoing problem with access in rural areas and how to address. Angela shared that one of our new partners, Clearwater, is offering resources and hotspots to help address the issue. We will continue to look for partners to help with the access problem. Jake shared that the Dept of Commerce has \$118K to fund new broadband office with a FT coordinator to work on rural access. Dee commented that Micron is getting lots of requests from schools for funding to get or enhance access. Jake and Dee to look at collaboration.

#Idaho Maker Unite (IMU): Angela acknowledged the work that Erica has done to take the lead on this new huge initiative to quickly get it up and running. At the time of the board meeting, this initiative was 3 days old. The intent of this initiative is to harness the talent of 3D printers and Makers across the state to address the lack of Personal Protection Equipment (PPE) for our first responders, nursing home staff, clinics, and other healthcare facilities or providers particularly in the rural communities. Even though this has been off the ground for only 3 day, it has gained tremendous traction. Angela already has 5 interviews across the state! KTVB 7 will be partnering with us to provide several PSA's with directions to text MAKE to a number where they will be directed to the new page on our website dedicated to IMU. The

new page has two parts. Makers can fill out a form letting us know where they are what they are doing, ie masks, shields etc. Makers can also apply for limited funding for certain items (ie 3D filament, fabric). The second part is for facilities to ask for help with PPE's. Erica will then match the needs across the state.

Businesses have responded to the need as well. Erica reported that she received a donation of furnace filter material from Furnace Factory Outlet, a local company, some of which will be shipped north to Gizmo (who is doing tremendous work). She also reported that some materials are very difficult to find like $\frac{3}{4}$ inch elastic.

Additionally, through the new web page we will be capturing the stories and pictures of Makers and the impact they are having. Erica also shared examples of how makers like Jeff in Salmon are working closely with the local hospital to design exactly what they need. We are also collaborating with BSU who has been working closely with the hospital to make sure to accurately address their needs. The website also has a list of designs that makers can link out to and the materials they will need. There are hundreds of designs out there making it difficult to centralize which is why it is imperative that the Makers talk with facilities to determine the exact need. Erica commented that this is a very fast-moving movement across the country with armies of Makers in large and small communities. We will also be using Idaho Gives Day to help fund the project.

STEM Ecosystem Update: Angela happily announced that we appear to be in the final stages of receiving our first NSF grant for \$100K which will support the Ecosystem development across the state. Our new SAM and Makers Unite initiatives are indicative of the strength our Ecosystem. The funding will support two additional convenings in North and East Idaho. North Idaho is currently scheduled for 9/17-18. The second one will take place in Twin Falls and focus on measurement and communication.

Fundraising: Angela gave a quick fundraising update. Our internal goal of raising \$1M will be met and exceeded. To date we have raised \$1.3M! Though many of our programs have had to be cancelled or postponed our very popular funding mechanism the P3 is still open and will remain so. We greatly appreciate our partners support.

Public Comment: None

Closing remarks: Angela advised the Board that Cory would be reaching out to set up the May catch up calls. The next board meeting is currently scheduled for July 7th at the Capitol. Dave congratulated the team on impressive work particularly under these circumstances.

Meeting was adjourned at 1:40pm.

Next Board Meeting is July 7 at the Capitol 1-4 PM Room TBD