



April Board Meeting

April 10, 2024

1:30 p.m. – 2:30 p.m.

Idaho STEM Action Center – Conference Room

Public Streaming: livestream at <http://idahoptv.org/insession/>

Public comments may be sent to: admin@stem.idaho.gov

***Action Required**

Welcome

-Jennifer Jackson, Chair

- *Review of Board Meeting Minutes
 - October 31, 2023
 - November 3, 2023
 - February 7, 2024

Schweitzer Engineering Laboratories

-Ed Atienza, Vice Chair

- K-12 STEM Education, STEM Workforce needs

Employee Introductions

-Matthew Reiber

- Communications Manager, Financial Technician, Senior

Programmatic Update

-Katie Bösch-Wilson

- STEM Programming, EcosySTEM Update

Idaho STEM Action Center Foundation Update

-Sarah Howard

Next Steps and Discussion

-Matthew Reiber

- FY 25 Board Meetings
- FY 25 Budget Discussion – Potentials
- STEM AC Next Steps
 - Director Position
 - Operations
 - Legislative Session Recap

**STEM Action Center
Board Meeting Minutes
October 31, 2023 9:15 – 10:15 am
Zoom Meeting**

Listen here to IPTV Stream: <https://www.idahoptv.org/shows/idahoinsession/archive/#stem>

Call to Order

Chair Jenn Jackson called to order the regular meeting of the STEM Action Center at 9:15 am on October 31, 2023.

Roll Call

The **STEM AC Board** meeting was conducted as a virtual meeting via Zoom. Attendance: Jennifer Jackson, Dee Mooney, Matthew Reiber, Wendi Secrist, Ed Atienza, Dave Hill, Jake Reynolds, Alyssa Romero, and Jad Mahnken

Absent:

STEM Action Center Staff: Caty Solace, Katie Bosch-Wilson, Nate Dean, Francine McGrew, and Stephanie Lee

Opening remarks: Welcome by Jennifer Jackson. Briefly reviewed the agenda for meeting.

Approval of Board Minutes: Dave Hill moved to approve the May minutes as presented. Seconded by Jake Reynolds. Minutes were approved unanimously.

Executive Director Update: Caty Solace

- **LSO Audit** – have one finding in draft report. Did not identify errors in the schedule of expenditures of federal awards (SEFA). Fixing these inconsistencies within the new system (Luma) and getting a better understanding of what is being reported.
 - Numbers 2 and 3 from the audit will not be included in the final report.
 - No Federal audits as of this time
 - Audits are every 3 years
 - This was an accountability audit
 - Made sure these findings have been addressed and fixed for the future and making sure policies and procedures are adhered to- especially with the reorganization of the Center
 - What are the different funding mechanisms passed through the Center and/or Foundation?
 - ESSER Funding
 - Grants applied through the Foundation (State or Federal)
 - Grants applied through the Center (State or Federal)
 - Donations to either the Foundation or Center
 - Private donations (Center or Foundation)
 - Legislative appropriation
- **EcosySTEM:** Update and where we are at. In your packet Caty provided one of the reporting requirements they are at with their timeline and what they've submitted so far.

Power point presentation provided a screenshot from Ecosystem website and showed how STEM AC is represented. “Founding Member”

- Staff hired
 - Erica Compton, Director
 - Trisha Mick, Program Manager
 - Erin Lannigan, INNC Hub Coordinator
 - ReBekha Lulu, SWISH Coordinator
 - Ashley Schaffner, ISEE Hub Coordinator
- Two Public webinars
- Meeting every other week
- Contract requirements are being met
 - Work-plan has been delivered
- Applications have been opened for funding opportunities
- With Ecosystem – held two public webinars to update and give an overview to the community about the relationship between Ecosystem and STEM AC
- Caty stated she called past P3 and Sponsorship grantees to inform them of the new structure and how STEM AC is moving forward. For the most part the response was positive.
- Focus – shows the difference between what the STEM AC is doing and what the Ecosystem is doing and how we are connected.
- Ecosystem Community – which programs have stayed with STEM AC and what is with the Ecosystem
 - STEM AC Continued programs:
 - We did keep the Idaho Science and Engineering Fairs. We needed to handle this internally for the next one to two years to get a full package and perfect it before we turn it over to another entity, possibly the Ecosystem.
 - Externship
 - STEM Designated School
 - STEM Diploma/Scholarship
 - Idaho Connect
 - Learning Blade
 - Sawtooth STEM Educator Award
 - i-STEM
- *Questions/Comments*
 - Wendi – likes the visual as it shows the difference between both STEM AC and Ecosystem.
 - Jennifer – thank you for contacting the previous P3’s and Sponsorship grantees. She assumed STEM AC would take leadership over statewide STEM. However, I see the Ecosystem taking a larger role in national STEM such as STEMx – what is STEM AC’s role? Caty – we also attended STEM Connector in Denver last week. Ecosystem and STEM AC were both there as partners. Caty also met with Heather from STEMx. We have not changed our position when it comes to STEMx...our team has become more robust now that we have Ecosystem to support our work and being a partner. Jen has received some questions and lack of clarity of

where STEM AC sits at a national level, so I appreciate hearing that we are not swaying from that role. I know Katilin wrote an “white-paper” on STEM AC’s role nationally. Caty thinks it would be a good time to update that and get feedback from the Board.

- Dee – appreciates you went through this with us. You mentioned the webinars, are those recorded somewhere? Yes. Dee, is there an FAQ available? Not yet, but we are working on them. Caty will send out the recording of the webinar to the board.
 - Do other states that have STEM Action Centers have an Ecosystem or are they similar to us. OR do you know if they are trying to model us now or in the past? Caty -I have not heard other states modeling how we were in the past, Jenn echo’d Caty and stated we were the first state to have a STEM AC and that is why it is so important that we continue our presence at a national level.
- **Fundraising:** We have been working quite a bit. There are a couple current needs:
 - Sawtooth STEM Educator Award
 - IDSEF
 - Learning Blade (looking for a large title sponsor)
 - i-STEM
 - If any of you have anyone that would like to support STEM, please send them my way. We also have a new flyer to hand out. Caty will send to each of the board members to print and handout.
 - *Questions/Comments*
 - Ed – do we have targets/goals for each program? Yes, we are looking at 2500 for SSEA, for IDSEF we could accept 80K or more, LB – it is a big price tag, which is why we need a title sponsor for the upcoming year (100K), and for i-STEM the price tag can be quite large -looking at potentially use some of the funds from ESSER, but this program costs us about 500K each year, so as much funding as we can get we’d appreciate it.
 - Jenn- Can you send out the usage report for Learning Blade. i-STEM, would like to know how many teachers we serve and impacted. Caty will send a report for both to the board. Caty thanked Jenn for her inspiration for i-STEM this last year.
- **STEM Education Strategic Plan:** It is imperative that we get the board together so we can kick off on what we are doing with the Strategic Plan. We inherited this from OSBE and need to update it as it is expired. I will send out a doodle poll to get a meeting scheduled with all of you to review this plan.
 - Dave – The plan was delegated to STEM AC, so this is a deliverable to the Board. I believe ½ day is a minimum. I believe a full day is needed. Jenn is in agreement with Dave. Get this on the calendar as soon as possible as calendars fill up quickly. Ed – could we see the last Strategic Plan and a wish list of what you’d like us to do. Caty will send it out after this board meeting. Katie – there has been work started on this from the Ecosystem Convening, and Katie, John, and Crispin have worked on it.

- Dave - This should not be a **performance** plan, but a **strategic** plan.
 - Jenn – would prefer that we don't wait months for this, I like Jan or beginning of Feb. Also, with JFAC, would you like our attendance and assistance? Caty – Yes. I have not seen what the format will be this year, but as soon as I know I will inform all of you.
- **Announcements:** We have been working from a flat organizational structure. I had worked with the Governors Office, DHR, and DFM to reorganize the structure to create more depth within the leadership structure. Two of our staff have had significant promotions. Katie Bosch-Wilson as the STEM Ed Coordination Officer, and Stephanie Lee as the Operations Officer.

Operations Update:

- Steph introduced our new staff, Nate Dean, Francine McGrew, and Sarah Howard who will be starting Nov. 6th. Crispin has also been promoted to our communications manager.
- We have also reclassified our data/research position to an admin position.

Programmatic Updates:

- Skipped a slide due to time
- STEM School Designation Standards – need to vote on
 - Nate gave a quick update on background and timeline of STEM School Designation. State Board of Education originally approved the Cognia standards, in order to stay current, Cognia has updated their standards each year, but those standards are no longer appropriate for Idaho. There has been a committee working to create Idaho State Standards and these are the standards we are putting forth to you for approval, which will then go to the OSBE for final approval.
 - Dave – what are the substantial differences between the old standards and the new ones. Nate- we are working on a document to outline these changes, which I will share when it is available. The main difference is that Cognia standards do not align with our legislation, and our new standards will. Dave – how will this affect the schools? Nate – this will help the schools keep more of their money instead of paying Cognia a large portion of it. Dave – STEM School is not a continuing designation, correct? Nate- that is correct, schools must reapply every 5 years.
 - Jenn – is there a timeliness issue on approving these? I would like to review the crosswalk if possible. Nate - Yes, we are required to have the Board approve these at their next Board meeting so we can start getting the schools their designation by the start of the new year.
 - Nate – showed the draft cross-walk
 - Dave – Boards schedule emergency meetings all the time and I feel we need to review the cross-walk before making a decision. Jenn feels the same and reconvene by the end of this week to vote.

- Caty – if we could get all the documents sent to the Board by the end of today, would the Board be willing to meet at the end of the week or the beginning of next? Friday, Nov. 3rd at 12:30 for a quick meeting to vote on standards.
- Ed – is there more to these documents? Nate – these are just what is required, the actual review and rubric are a different process. Once the standards are established, the rubric will be created after that.
- Motion – on hold until the Nov. 3rd meeting.

No public comment.

Jenn adjourned the meeting at 10:43 am

View recording here: [STEM AC Board Meeting](#)

Passcode: \$XEAYY67

**STEM Action Center
Special Board Meeting Minutes
November 3, 2023 12:30 pm -1:00 pm
Zoom Meeting**

Listen here to IPTV Stream:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82655340043?pwd=NVBkT2FZY1RoVUgycmY4TXFaSm45dz09>

Call to Order

Chair Jenn Jackson called to order the regular meeting of the STEM Action Center at 12:30 pm on November 3, 2023.

Roll Call

The **STEM AC Board** meeting was conducted as a virtual meeting via Zoom. Attendance: Jennifer Jackson, Dee Mooney, Wendi Secrist, Ed Atienza, Dave Hill, and Jad Mahnken

Absent: Jake Reynolds, Steve Christianson, Allison Duman

STEM Action Center Staff: Nate Dean, and Stephanie Lee

STEM Action Center Staff Absent: Caty Solace, Katie Bosch-Wilson

Opening remarks: Welcome by Jennifer Jackson. Briefly reviewed the agenda for meeting.

Special meeting is to approve STEM School Designation Standards and move them to the State Board of Education for approval.

Motion: Dave Hill moved the recommendation to amend the Idaho Standards for STEM School Designation, as submitted in Attachment 1 (of the presentation), to the State Board of Education for final approval.

Seconded by Ed Atienza and Jad Mahnken

Votes: Unanimously voted Aye no opposed

Stephanie Lee will send a Save-the-Date calendar invite for Board Retreat

No public comment.

Jennifer adjourned the meeting at 12:50 pm

Recording: [STEM AC Special Board Meeting](#)

Passcode: 5bti=br6

**STEM Action Center
Board Meeting Minutes
February 7, 2024 8:30 am – 4:00 pm
Doug Park Conference Room at
Idaho Workforce Development Council Offices**

Members Present: Steven Christensen, Wendi Secrist, Ed Atienza, Dave Hill, Jake Reynolds, Jennifer Jackson, Dee Mooney

Absent: Allison Duman, Jad Mahnken

Staff Present: Caty Solace, Katie Bosch-Wilson, Crispin Gravatt, Nate Dean, Stephanie Lee, Morgan Howard, Sarah Howard

Call to Order

Jennifer Jackson called the meeting to order at 8:47 am. Thanks the board for attending. Turns over time to Caty Solace for passion activity.

Passion Activity

Each Board and staff member shares their connection to the work of STEM AC. Caty opens for Board to give input on time spent in the agenda. Jenn encourages board members to focus on creating consensus on goals of STEM AC. Caty invites Board members to share desired outcomes for the day. Board members share their goals for the meeting and for the future of STEM AC.

STEM Action Center in Summary

Caty gives overview of the past work of STEM AC. Touches on founding, original goals, first attempts at strategic planning, past executive directors. Gives summary of legislative obligations. Caty invites Katie Bosch-Wilson to join her for a summary of the past year at STEM AC.

- Alignment with legislation
- Focusing work on combined focused between goals
- Taking work of 18 contractors in-house/improving quality of programs
- Defining success – specific measures
- Successes of foundation manager: grants/donations awarded and awaiting notification
- Coordination of STEM activities
- Out of School ESSER funds
- Boots on the ground work – speaking and engaging from all of the staff
- Work of EcosySTEM
- STEM Professional Development
- Statewide Learning Platforms
- STEM School Designation

- Nate Dean requests feedback on Board's level of involvement with STEM School Designation review
- Computer Science legislation
- Board input for planning process

Board comments/questions:

- Jennifer emphasizes importance of building better partnerships with state agencies across the STEM sphere
- Steve Christiansen requests focus on process improvement and on discontinued projects

Legislative Alignment

After a break, Jennifer Jackson calls meeting back to order and gives context for alignment discussion. Invites Dave Hill and Dee Mooney to share thoughts. Dave and Dee share thoughts on goals of original STEM AC advisory board. Board discusses how legislative intent has changed and best practices to meet changing needs and goals. Board discusses need and intent of STEM AC Foundation. Board discusses role of State Department of Education designee. Dave suggests CTE being more involved with STEM AC.

Jennifer asks what resources will be needed moving forward. Board discusses limits of government entity programs, and responsibilities of EcosySTEM and STEM AC. Caty contextualizes and praises relationship between Katie Bosch-Wilson and Erica Compton. Board discusses shared duties between EcosySTEM and STEM AC.

Strategic Plan and Goals

Caty explains how the STEMAC strategic plan and goals tie into legislative requirements. Steve Christiansen suggests reordering the goals to align STEM and CS education with workforce needs. Crispin gives context for current goals. Caty asks Board for feedback regarding goals. Dave and Jennifer suggest that the agency take the lead in creating goals. Caty invites the Board to brainstorm goals, including:

- To produce a STEM-literate citizenry to produce an Idaho STEM-competitive workforce

By:

- Develop, coordinate, facilitate implementation of STEM/CS programs
- To promote STEM
- Implement STEM best practices in public and higher education
- Strategically engage industry, business and public or government entities to cooperate with the STEM action center and focus outcomes and goals on workforce needs and opportunities

Board and staff discusses how goals and benchmarks are measured. Discusses stakeholders represented on STEMAC advisory board and unrepresented stakeholders. Discusses relationship between industry, education, and agencies.

Caty thanks the Board for their input. Asks them to have action items ready at April meeting. Jennifer asks staff to flesh out STEM AC goals for April meeting. Suggests holding Board meetings in different locations around the state. Board examines desired outcomes. Expresses satisfaction with meeting outcomes. Jennifer thanks the Board and staff for their work.

Dave Hill moves to adjourn. 2:30 pm.

Morgan Howard, Communications Manager



Morgan is a lifelong Idahoan and has worked in the Idaho public sector since late 2019. After graduating from the University of Idaho in 2018, she completed several internships before starting her professional career. She served as the secretary to the Idaho Senate Education Committee in 2020 and moved on to work as an administrative assistant at the Idaho State Board of Education and Boise State University. In addition to her work with the STEM Action Center, Morgan works as a freelance proofreader and developmental editor for authors and poets in the US, Canada, and Australia. She joined the STEM Action Center in 2024 to help provide opportunities for Idaho students for STEM careers that will best serve the future of Idaho. In her free time, Morgan is an ardent animal lover, reader, writer, and tabletop roleplay game player. Morgan has a bachelor's degree in agriculture communications from University of Idaho.

Meliah Anchustegui, Financial Technician, Senior



Meliah was born and raised in Idaho. She recently graduated from Boise State University with a Bachelor's degree in Music with an emphasis on Musicology/Music History. Similarly to music, she feels like finance and accounting require attention to detail as well as understanding and analyzing patterns, which she enjoys. When she is not working or pursuing academic enrichment, she is either playing her flute or enjoying the great outdoors with her two labs, Kimber and Sky! She recently got into backpacking and has a goal to go on one weekend trip a month. When she's not hiking or backpacking you can find her exploring anywhere near water while her pups enjoy a swim. She is excited to start working for STEM AC and getting to know everyone on the team!

Board Meeting Report – April 10, 2024

Goal 1		
Increase awareness of the importance of STEM throughout Idaho		
Name	Description/Purpose	Status
Awareness Events	Events in which we raise awareness on the importance of STEM and celebrate STEM education and workforce development.	Hosted i-STEM professional development institutes at 6 locations. Highlighted a variety of events across the state for STEM Matters Month. Working closely with the EcosySTEM to make sure we are connected to partners across the state.
Media Coverage	Leveraging media partners and opportunities to raise awareness about STEM.	Ongoing partnerships with KBOI, KIVI, KTVB; new key messages on Building a STEM Identity and it is important, and HOW to engage in STEM; focusing on story telling; recent PR representative press releases include Externships, Computer Science Education Week/Hour of Code, and STEM Matters Month.
Social Media	Leveraging social media to raise awareness about STEM	Active on Facebook, LinkedIn, YouTube, and Instagram. Posting frequently and utilizing more interactive methods such as giveaways, spotlights, and interviews. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • https://www.facebook.com/IdahoSTEMAC • https://www.linkedin.com/company/idaho-stem-action-center/ • https://www.instagram.com/idahostemac/

Goal 2

Advance equitable access to high-quality STEM and CS opportunities for educators, students, and communities

Name	Description/Purpose	Status/Update
i-STEM PD Institutes	Peer-led STEM and CS professional development held at LCSC, ISU, CSI, CEI, CWI, and NIC across three weeks of June, in partnership with WDC, Micron, Dairy West, Rocky Mountain Power Foundation and AVISTA.	i-STEM will be hosted at 6 sites across the state: LCSC June 12-15, CWI June 13-16, ISU June 13-16, CEI June 20-23, CSI June 20-23, and NIC June 20-23. Theme has been chosen: STEM Leaders: Launching a STEM Identity. Registration is now closed and we have approximately 400 participants this year.
i-STEM Lending Libraries	Six STEM lending libraries that contain materials, resources, and devices for educators to check out and use in their classrooms. Many of these materials are based on past PD opportunities. Housed at LCSC, ISU, CWI, CEI, CSI, and GIZMO.	Videos and curriculum are continually being created/produced and resources are being curated. Each site was allocated funds to support replenishing consumable materials for their kits so they can continue to offer them to educators completely free. Through a grant made possibly by WDC and Micron, we will be hiring an i-STEM Library Coordinator to help make the resources and libraries more accessible and troubleshoot barriers. Each library will also receive \$10,000 to bring new items to the libraries.
Sawtooth STEM Educator Award	Award given to two educators who create unique opportunities for students to experience the fun and excitement of STEM by integrating real-world experiences and hands-on activities into the classroom.	The 2024 Sawtooth STEM Educator award will open in May of 2024 and will remain open until August of 2024 with the hope of utilizing different programs to help with recruitment. We will be increasing the portion of the award that supports attending a conference to \$3,000 due to inflation in travel costs. Award will be presented at the ITC Gala on November 5, 2024.

Educurious STEM Professional Development	Help schools build STEM leadership capacity and support them as they work towards STEM Designation. Provide educators best practice in STEM education through PBL instructional planning. Provides administrators skill sets to properly evaluate a PBL/STEM classroom.	<p>3 different Educurious programs are put on in partnership with STEM AC:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Educurious STEM Leadership Academy Cohort V started in late January. 4 schools are participating and 2/3 of the way through the class. They are identifying problems of practice, brainstorming solutions, and building a STEM leadership team. • Two Educurious PBL Teacher Workshops happened in July/August. One in Southwest Idaho and one in Northern Idaho. We had approximately 50 educators combined at the two trainings. We are working on arranging for additional training next fiscal year. • Educurious administrator training has been developed in partnership with the State Board of Education. This training is being piloted in Southwest Idaho with the hope to grow it state-wide. The pilot is currently underway.
Idaho Science & Engineering Fairs	High school student competition held regionally (north, east, west Idaho) with winners advancing on to the international competition. Teacher grants provided to support student projects.	<p>The Idaho Science & Engineering Fairs (IDSEF) were cancelled for the 2024 cycle due to low numbers of qualifying participants and major logistical challenges that arose as the program was brought in-house. The STEM AC is actively working with the EcosySTEM to restructure IDSEF and have it return next year following an intensive summer PD opportunity.</p> <p>To recognize the efforts of the students who likely would have qualified for IDSEF this year, the STEM AC has created a one-time alternative program called the Idaho Research & Engineering Showcase (IRES). This program is currently underway and students who complete qualifying original research/engineering projects by the end of April will be recognized in a digital showcase and receive financial awards.</p>
Conference Sponsorships	Funding provided to events and conferences.	We have sponsored two statewide conferences, Idaho Association of School Administrators (IASA) at \$6,000, Idaho Educators Technology Association (IETA) at \$2,500.00.
ESSER III Out of School STEM Programming Grant	We were awarded \$2,000,000 in ESSER III funding to support learning loss in out-of-school settings and time. You can go to https://idaholearnseverywhere.org/ for information on all funding available, and communities impacted.	\$960,000 of funding was awarded in Round 3 to 41 communities. There were a variety of afterschool/during school year programs and summer programs. All funds of the original \$2,000,000 has been awarded to communities across Idaho. STEM AC was awarded an additional \$928,539 to

		support after school and summer learning loss in out of school time. All funds must be exhausted by August 30, 2024.
Computer Science	Help educators across the state grow their knowledge around computer science. Work with state and district level leaders to increase and advocate for computer science in educational environments. (IC 33-1633)	According to the CS report given by code.org 38% of the high schools in the state of Idaho offer CS. STEM AC, BootUp PD, and AIR (NSF CSforALL Grant) is partnering with 5 focal districts across the state to provide SCRIPT training. Four of the five districts have been identified: Caldwell, Bear Lake, Garden Valley, and Lewiston. Supporting work being done by BSU to get a pathway in place for cybersecurity teaching certificate. Funding earmarked to support educators to go through CS and Cyber teaching certification programs.

Goal 3

Align STEM education and workforce

Name	Description/Purpose	Status
Learning Blade	STEM/CTE, CS online career awareness platform with interactive lessons, teacher lesson plans, and printable at-home activities primarily targeting grades 5-9. Career Blade extension, grades K-12, launched as well as a complete middle school Intro to Coding course.	Learning Blade has been passed to a new company eDynamic Learning, but no changes in services and supports. Since inception Idaho students have completed 285,000 STEM lessons have been completed. Learning Blade meets the new middle school career exploration course, and STEM AC has been working with CTE to support middle school educators. Leveraging the middle school Intro to Coding course to support 6-8 educators in meeting the new state board requirement. Contract comes to an end at the end of May 2024. Looking for funding so support platform. STEM AC is working with eDynamic to get a new agreement in place. STEM AC has secured funding from WDC/Micon, State Farm, and Clearwater Analytics to support the new contract, but additional funds are still needed.
STEM School Designation	Schools can be STEM certified by adhering to 16 STEM education standards recognized by Cognia, (IC 33-4701).	The new Idaho-specific Standards for STEM School Designation are in-place and the STEM AC is currently working with the same cohort of STEM school leaders who developed the standards to create an in-house review process that aligns to them. The first schools to go through this process are likely to be recommended to the board in the Fall.
STEM Diploma/STEM Diploma Scholarships	Students can earn a STEM Diploma providing they comply with the requirements of IC 33-523.	More schools continue to request STEM seals to put on diplomas of graduating seniors. The application for this year's STEM Diploma Scholarship closed on April 1 st . There are approximately 40 applicants, and the STEM AC will competitively award 10 of them \$3000 scholarships to attend an Idaho public institution and pursue a STEM-related program next year.
Externships	Educators are placed in local businesses for 200 hours over the summer to learn STEM skills firsthand so that they can better prepare their students to pursue STEM careers.	This year, the Externship Program underwent significant programmatic changes. We completely overhauled both the host and externship applications, focusing on enhancing both formatting and content. A key improvement was requiring host sites to submit their project plans prior to the application phase, facilitating a more effective matching process for externs. Additionally, we revamped the externs' application experience by

		incorporating more STEM-specific questions, enabling us to align hosts and externs based on their interests and skills more accurately. Currently, we are in the interview phase with 72 host sites and 123 externs actively participating in the process. So far, we have received positive feedback from both parties regarding the changes that have been made. I believe we're on track to onboard more externs than we did last year, which was 85.
Grants & Fundraising	Raising funds and developing partnerships in support of STEM AC programs and initiatives.	Total FY24 STEM AC revenue to date is \$2.6M, which includes \$ 875,000 from WDC and the Micron Foundation for the Externship program, in addition to another \$1.5M+ for Out of School Grants, STEM School Designation, CS PD Creation, i-STEM and Sawtooth STEM Educator Award. To date, STEM AC Foundation has raised \$90,720, which includes grants and donations from State Farm Foundation, Boise Cascade and Perpetua Resources. The Foundation is currently awaiting notification on an additional \$90,000. In May, we will be participating in Idaho Gives with a goal of raising \$15,000.
Idaho STEM Ecosystem	Sponsorship with Idaho Business for Education to continue the network of STEM education and workforce development stakeholders to develop coordinated efforts and communication streams to improve STEM awareness regionally throughout Idaho.	STEM AC is a founding member sponsoring the Idaho STEM Ecosystem which includes a statewide group of engaged partners from PreK-12 and higher education, out-of-school education, industry, nonprofits, state and local government agencies, parents, and the legislature. The EcosySTEM fosters the integration of STEM experiences for Idahoans, creating problem-solvers and critical thinkers who shall sustain and lead our economy.

Sponsorship Award Agreement

Idaho STEM Action Center

This agreement is hereby entered into by Idaho Business for Education, an Idaho non-profit organization ("Awardee"); and Idaho STEM Action Center, a legislatively created office in the office of the governor ("STEM AC") for the **FY24 Sponsorship Idaho STEM Ecosystem**. In consideration of the covenants hereinafter expressed, the parties agree as follows:

RECITALS

Through its support of the Idaho STEM Ecosystem ("EcosySTEM") and its pursuit of this sponsorship, STEM AC seeks to fulfill the following legislative requirements as outlined in Idaho State Code 67-823:

"To promote STEM through best practices in education to ensure connection with industry and Idaho's long-term economic prosperity; to produce an Idaho STEM-competitive workforce to offer better access to competitive employment opportunities; and to drive student experience, engagement and industry alignment by identifying and implementing public and higher education STEM best practices to transform workforce development." Specifically, STEM AC's intent aligns with:

§ 5 (e) "Strategically engage industry, business and public or government entities to cooperate with the STEM action center and focus outcomes and goals on workforce needs and opportunities;"

§ 5 (h) Engage private entities to provide additional funding and/or in-kind employee time for STEM activities in schools supporting industry career readiness in addition to what is currently provided by private entities.

§ 7 (b) Ensure that the STEM action center acts as a research and development center for tools and best practice in STEM education coordination and development;

§ 7(d) Facilitate participation in interscholastic STEM-related competitions, fairs, expositions, camps and STEM education student programs;

§ 7(f) Use resources to bring the latest STEM content, 21st century skills and hands-on STEM education resources into public education classroom schools;

§ 7 (h) Identify best practices being used outside the state and, as appropriate, develop and implement selected practices through pilot programs;

§ 7(i) As appropriate, join and participate in a national STEM network and collaborate with neighboring states in STEM program development;

§ 7 (j) Identify performance changes linked to use of the best practices;

§ 7-1.(v) Introduction of other research-based methods that support student achievement in STEM areas

As outlined in § 3(h) of this Idaho State Code 67-823, STEM AC may

(a) Enter into contracts for the purposes of this section; and

(b) Apply for, receive and disburse funds, contributions or grants from any source for the purposes set forth in this section.

This grant Agreement sponsorship award is state-funded.

AGREEMENT

The parties agree as follows:

1. Awardee Address & Project Liaison

Awardee shall identify a liaison to be responsible for this agreement listed below. The liaison shall be available to STEM AC to provide information or discuss matters pertaining to this Award.

Contact's name: Rod Gramer

Contact's work address: 877 West Main Street, Suite 706, Boise ID 83702

Contact's email address: rgramer@idahobe.org

Contact's phone number: 208-914-8711

2. STEM AC CONTACT

The point of contact for STEM AC shall be:

STEM AC Contact: Katie Bösch-Wilson

Phone Number: 208-332-1727

Email: Katie.BoschWilson@stem.idaho.gov

STEM AC Address: 802 W. Bannock St., Ste. 900, Boise, ID 83702

3. OBLIGATIONS & COMPENSATION

Awardee shall perform all work that may be reasonably inferred from the terms of this Award and its attachments, whether or not it is specifically described therein. Any programmatic or fiscal amendments shall be approved by the STEM AC.

This agreement may be amended through a mutual written agreement of the parties. If there is a request for an amendment, please email Katie Bösch-Wilson, STEM AC point of contact with the following:

- A copy of this fully executed Agreement; and
- If you are asking for budget reallocation, include your original and new budget with justifications.

Awardee shall ensure STEM AC is recognized as "Founding Member" as outlined in [Attachment A](#) of this agreement.

Awardee must return all necessary paperwork (signed agreement and invoice) by June 30, 2024 to receive any funding.

4. PROJECT DESCRIPTION

Idaho STEM Ecosystem is a growing network of collaborators committed to leveraging shared resources that effectively raise awareness of STEM opportunities and connect all Idahoans to STEM pathways in their community.

The Idaho STEM Ecosystem's mission is to engage partners to foster transformative STEM learning experiences and expand career pathways in every Idaho community.

STEM AC through this sponsorship shall continue the supportive role of “Founding Member.”

The EcosySTEM partners are dedicated to:

- Building awareness of and ensuring access to STEM education opportunities and STEM careers.
- Providing STEM opportunities in line with Idaho workforce needs as they grow and evolve.
- Creating successful metrics for STEM education and programming.
- Building STEM momentum within the state and nationally.

There are three regional hubs that support local needs and leverage local resources. These hubs are:

- Idaho South & East EcosySTEM Hub (ISEE STEM)
- Idaho North & North Central Hub (STEM INNC)
- South West Idaho STEM Hub (SWISH)

Current infrastructural organization of the EcosySTEM is not intended to limit future reorganization, consolidation, or other organizational strategies negotiated within Awardee.

Components of STEM AC’s intended fiscal support of this agreement include but are not limited to the following:

Program Staff dedicated entirely to EcosySTEM activities which shall include:

- Director, Erica Compton (any future hiring decisions for director shall be approved by STEM AC Executive Director or designee and IBE President or designee)
- Program Coordinator (the President of IBE or designees makes the final decisions of hiring with the consultation and input of the EcosySTEM director),
- Statewide Hub Coordinators (3) (the President of IBE or designees makes the final decisions of hiring with the consultation and input of the EcosySTEM director)
- One part-time staff member to support financial needs (the President of IBE or designees makes the final decisions of hiring with the consultation and input of the EcosySTEM director)

Sponsored Idaho EcosySTEM program areas include but are not limited to:

- Statewide leadership and coordination of the EcosySTEM and its “hubs” including all EcosySTEM activities
- Membership in *STEM Learning Ecosystems Community of Practice* national network
- Participation in interscholastic STEM-related competitions, fairs, expositions, camps and STEM education student programs including, but not limited to:
 - Idaho Exhibition of Ideas (IDX)
 - Student STEM Ambassador/Leadership Program
 - Regional Idaho Science and Engineering Fairs as outlined in [Attachment D](#)
 - And others as funding allows
- Regional and local grants and sponsorships that prioritize community engagement/involvement to support STEM activities, professional

development opportunities, and travel grants to support professional development for STEM Educators and student participation

- Regional and local outreach and best practice research aligned with STEM AC's legislative requirements
- Upon request, outreach and recruitment for STEM AC programs and opportunities

Specific expectations and activities to assist with STEM AC legislative requirements are as follows in relation aforementioned legislation:

To assist with § 5(e) *Strategically engage industry, business and public or government entities to cooperate with the STEM action center and focus outcomes and goals on workforce needs and opportunities:*

- Awardee will strategically engage industry, business and public or government entities at the local and regional levels to become members of and participate in their statewide network, and will harness these interactions to assist with outcomes and goals focused on workforce needs and opportunities.
- Awardee will coordinate with STEM AC to align EcosySTEM goals and outcomes with regional and local workforce needs and opportunities, and report on these goals and outcomes as referenced in Exhibit A.

To assist with § 5(h) *Engage private entities to provide additional funding and/or in-kind employee time for STEM activities in schools supporting industry career readiness in addition to what is currently provided by private entities.*

- STEM AC will direct private entities, donors, and volunteers interested in providing additional funding and/or in-kind time at the regional or local level for EcosySTEM activities in schools to the awardee. STEM AC will incorporate the EcosySTEM opportunities into talking points.

To assist with § 7(b) *Ensure that the STEM action center acts as a research and development center for tools and best practice in STEM education coordination and development;*

- Awardee will adopt best practices and tools in STEM education and development.
- Awardee will clearly articulate how they are using and/or researching best practices and tools into their annual project timelines and reports.

To assist with § 7(d) *Facilitate participation in interscholastic STEM-related competitions, fairs, expositions, camps and STEM education student programs;*

- Awardee will establish program participation baselines, and will grow statewide participation in the following STEM-related programs:
 - Idaho Exhibition of Ideas (IDX)
 - Student STEM Ambassador/Leadership Program
 - Regional Idaho Science and Engineering Fairs as outlined in [Attachment D](#)
 - Other STEM-related competitions, fairs, expositions, camps, and STEM education student programs

- Awardee will document participation, goals and outcomes in timelines and reports.

To assist with § 7(f) *Use resources to bring the latest STEM content, 21st century skills and hands-on STEM education resources into public education classroom schools;*

- Awardee will facilitate and promote the use of the latest STEM content, 21st century skills and hands-on STEM Education resources including: i-STEM Libraries, Idaho Out of School Network's Think Make Create trailers, and STEM Action Center programs at the regional and local levels.
- Awardee will document plans for promotion of the latest STEM content, 21st century skills, and hands-on STEM education resources. Reports will provide examples and any collected results in connection to efforts promoting these resources.

To assist with § 7(h) *Identify best practices being used outside the state and, as appropriate, develop and implement selected practices through pilot programs;*

- Awardee will seek to identify and pilot best practices being used outside the state into regional and local program delivery, and include practices, promotion, and results into their annual project timelines and reports.

§ 7 (i) *As appropriate, join and participate in a national STEM network and collaborate with neighboring states in STEM program development;*

- Awardee will maintain an active membership in *The STEM Learning Ecosystems Community of Practice*, and as appropriate collaborate with neighboring states in STEM program development.

§ 7 (j) *Identify performance changes linked to use of the best practices;*

- Awardee will identify and introduce strategic changes in program delivery at the regional and local levels.
- Awardee will document integration of best practices goals and results of efforts into timelines and reports.

§ 7-1 (v) *Introduction of other research-based methods that support student achievement in STEM areas*

- Awardee will introduce research-based methods into program delivery at the regional and local levels to support student achievement in STEM areas.
- Awardee will document introduction of research-based methods that support student achievement in STEM Areas and results in timelines and reports.

EcosySTEM may promote, fundraise, and provide other programs that are not related to this sponsorship freely and without oversight of the STEM AC. However, the EcosySTEM may not use STEM AC funding for statewide events, competitions, conferences, etc. that may compete with STEM AC. In the event the EcosySTEM would like to support/sponsor a statewide event, conference, competition, etc. they shall first check with STEM AC for approval.

5. PROJECT TIMELINE

Idaho STEM Action Center may renew this agreement annually for three additional years:

- July 1, 2024 – June 30, 2025
- July 1, 2025 – June 30, 2026
- July 1, 2026 – June 30, 2027
- July 1, 2027 – June 30, 2028

6. DATA ASSESSMENT AND SCHEDULE

Awardee shall provide a proposed program offering and data and metrics plan for approval by STEM AC including:

- Project goals and outcomes
- A mid-year report (due 1/15/25), and a final report (due 7/8/25)

The annual scope of work and timeline shall be delivered by June 30, 2024. Plan may be constructed utilizing existing STEM AC and EcosySTEM templates and strategies included in Exhibit A of this agreement. Awardee shall include any impact metrics relevant to STEM AC referenced legislation, strategic plan, and performance report metrics, included in Exhibit A and subject to future changes by STEM AC.

A portion of this program offering and data and metrics plan shall include:

- A minimum of quarterly check-ins between STEM AC and EcosySTEM,
- Data-driven plans for renewal or non-renewal of programs and other offerings,
- Ongoing partnership inventories
- A draft of a sustainability plan (showing how they will continue to grow the Idaho EcosySTEM and become fiscally independent of STEM AC) with their mid-year report and a final sustainability plan with their final report.

Unless otherwise mutually agreed by the Idaho STEM Action Center Executive Director and the Awardee, the reports that Awardee shall be required to submit pursuant to this Agreement, and all references to “reports” and “timelines” contained in this Agreement, mean and are limited to a mid-year report due in December and a year-end report due in June, during the term of this Agreement.

7. PROJECT BUDGET

Awardee requests support for EcosySTEM in the amount of **\$983,000.00**. Awardee and STEM AC agree to negotiate on an annual basis. See [Attachment B](#) for budget details. Any residual funds may be used to sustain the program.

8. FUNDING AND PROJECT RESTRICTIONS

STEM AC funding shall only be used for the activities specifically included in this Agreement.

Ineligible expenses include, but are not limited to:

- Activities intended to benefit places outside of Idaho or non-Idaho residents or businesses. Incidental expenses that take place out of state (e.g., attendance at national conferences or travel to northern Idaho via the Spokane airport) are permitted if undertaken to benefit the Idaho EcosySTEM.
- Parochial, private, or home-schooled students/educator.
- Political activities

- Lobbying
- Legal fees
- Any statewide events, competitions, conferences, etc. that may compete with STEM AC

9. AWARD AGREEMENT AND ATTACHMENTS EMBODY THE ENTIRE AGREEMENT

The parties warrant by their signature that they have read and shall comply with all sections of the Sponsorship Award Letter. By signing this, the Awardee agrees to comply with all terms written in this agreement.

By signing this, the Awardee agrees that all PI and/or all project managers/coordinators know and shall comply with all the terms and deadlines.

All future funding is contingent upon program goal attainment as indicated in regular reports and associated goals which shall be attached in Attachment C as noted in "Data Assessment and Schedule" as well as active and positive collaboration with STEM AC.

The STEM AC and Awardee each retain the right to end this agreement at any time, upon 90 days written notice to the other party. In the event of termination, Stem AC shall only pay Awardee for actual costs incurred and services rendered under this Grant Agreement, upon receipt of an invoice.

10. STEM AC OBLIGATIONS

STEM AC agrees to provide 50% of the total amount no later than July 11, 2024 after receipt of an invoice and year 1 final report.

STEM AC agrees to provide the remainder after receipt of an invoice, sustainability plan, and mid-year report which shall be attached hereto as [Attachment D](#) upon STEM AC's approval. All funding is subject to STEM AC's approval of the Mid-Year Report.

Payments to Awardee, without any dispute, shall process in accordance with [Idaho Code 67-9218](#). The Awardee understands that, while the Agency shall use its best efforts to secure prompt payment of invoices/agreements, as a state agency, the Agency may not make direct payment under this Agreement but must submit the initial payment to the State Controller's Office for final payment.

Awardee shall submit invoice to finance@stem.idaho.gov

11. TERM

This Award begins on July 1, 2024, and shall terminate on June 30, 2025, with the option to renew annually for three years upon written agreement of the parties. Each party agrees to give the other party 90 days advance notice if such party intends to not renew this Agreement.

12. AUDIT, MONITORING, REPAYMENT

Awardee agrees to maintain books, records, documents, and other evidence of accounting procedures and practices that sufficiently and properly reflect all direct and indirect costs of any nature expended in the performance of this Agreement. STEM AC or its duly authorized representative shall have access to any of Awardee's books, documents, or records that are directly pertinent to this specific Agreement. Access to records includes the right to review, audit, inspect, and make copies and transcriptions. Awardee is not responsible for conducting an annual audit, and the cost of any audit requested by STEM AC shall be paid by STEM AC.

Awardee agrees to maintain all books, records, and other documents relevant to this Agreement for three (3) years after final payment. It is agreed that if an audit, litigation or other action involving records is initiated before the three (3) year period has expired, the records shall be retained until all issues arising out of such actions are resolved.

Awardee agrees in case of the termination of the existence of Awardee by bankruptcy or any other reason, that all program and fiscal records related to this Agreement in Awardee's possession shall be provided to Stem AC and shall become the property of STEM AC.

The requirements of this section shall be included in all approved sub-grants and assignments. STEM AC shall have the right to monitor Awardee's performance under this Agreement. Monitoring of Awardee's performance shall be at the complete discretion of STEM AC which will include but is not limited to the Awardee's fiscal operations with respect to activities funded by this Award, and the terms, conditions, attachments, scope of work, and performance requirements of this Agreement. Monitoring may include both announced and unannounced visits. Monitoring will take place during normal business hours and will not unreasonably interfere with the conduct of Awardee's business. Any such monitoring and audits shall be limited to Awardee's use of funds pursuant to this Award and the Idaho EcosySTEM, and not Awardee's other programs or documents.

If it is discovered through monitoring that the Awardee is in material default (not in material compliance with the grant agreement), the Awardee may be subject to sanctions which may include warnings, audits, temporary suspension of payments, termination, demand for the return of funds and or suspension/debarment from participation in future STEM AC grants and contracts. Default may also result in the cancellation of other agreements between the Awardee and STEM AC. Severe sanctions, including suspension, debarment and/or a demand for the return of funds, shall only be imposed in cases of intentional misappropriation of funds, malfeasance, or other cases of serious misconduct.

13. CERTIFICATION CONCERNING BOYCOTT OF ISRAEL

Pursuant to Idaho Code section 67-2346, if payments under the Contract exceed one hundred thousand dollars (\$100,000) and Contractor employs ten or more persons, Contractor certifies that it is not currently engaged in, and shall not for the duration of the Contract engage in, a boycott of goods or services from Israel or territories under its control. The terms in this section defined in Idaho Code section 67-2346 shall have the meaning defined therein.

14. FISCAL NECESSITY AND NON-APPROPRIATION.

STEM AC is a government entity and it is understood and agreed that STEM AC's payments shall be paid from Idaho State Legislative appropriations. The Legislature is under no legal obligation to make appropriations to fulfill this Agreement. This Agreement shall in no way be construed

so as to bind or obligate the State of Idaho beyond the term of any particular appropriation of funds by the State's Legislature as may exist from time to time.

STEM AC reserves the right to terminate this Agreement in whole or in part (or any order placed under it) and not make any future payments after the date of such termination if, in its sole judgment, the Legislature of the State of Idaho fails, neglects, or refuses to appropriate sufficient funds as may be required for the State to continue such payments, or requires any return or "give-back" by STEM AC of funds required for STEM AC to continue such payments, or if the Executive Branch mandates any cuts or holdbacks in spending, or if funds are not budgeted or otherwise available, or if STEM AC discontinues or makes a material alteration of the program under which funds were provided. STEM AC shall not be required to transfer funds between accounts in the event that funds are reduced or unavailable. STEM AC agrees to give Awardee 90 days advance notice, or as much notice as is reasonably practicable under the circumstances, of any such termination.

All affected future rights and liabilities of the parties shall cease as of the date specified in the notice of termination, but in any event not less than ten (10) calendar days after notice to the Awardee. Further, in the event of non-appropriation, STEM AC shall not be liable for any penalty, expense, or liability, or for general, special, incidental, consequential or other damages resulting therefrom.

15. PUBLIC RECORDS

Pursuant to the Idaho Public Records Act, Idaho Code title 74, chapter 1, records received from the Awardee and certain records produced by the Awardee in the performance of the Agreement may be open to public inspection and copying unless exempt from disclosure. Upon request, the Awardee shall provide records subject to inspection pursuant to Idaho Code section 74-102 and not maintained by STEM AC. STEM AC acknowledges that Awardee conducts substantial business activities outside the scope of this Agreement and that records related to such other activities are not public records merely by reason of this Agreement. In any record provided to STEM AC, the Awardee shall clearly designate individual portions of records that it desires to keep exempt as "exempt" on each page of such documents and shall indicate the basis for such exemption. STEM AC shall not accept a legend or statement on one page that all, or substantially all, of a document is exempt from disclosure. The Awardee shall indemnify and defend STEM AC and the State of Idaho against all liability, claims, damages, losses, expenses, actions, attorney fees and suits whatsoever for honoring the Awardee's designation of exempt records or for the Awardee's failure to designate records as exempt. The Awardee's failure to designate as exempt any record that is released by STEM AC shall constitute a complete waiver of any and all claims for damages caused by any such release. If STEM AC receives a request for materials claimed exempt by the Awardee, the Awardee shall provide the legal defense for such claim and pay all expenses incurred by STEM AC or the State of Idaho in connection with such request.

16. OWNERSHIP OF INFORMATION.

Work Product. All documents, including but not limited to photos, video, asset files, hard copy assets, code, applications, etc. prepared by Awardee pursuant to this Agreement are jointly owned by Awardee and STEM AC and may be shared with any person without the prior consent.

Ownership of Materials and Information. Except as specifically provided otherwise in the Agreement, STEM AC shall own and retain all rights to hardware and other goods purchased by the STEM AC and to information, materials, procedures, software, techniques, know-how, processes and data furnished to the Awardee under this Agreement.

Except as otherwise provided in this Agreement, all deliverables, information, documents, materials, instruments, manuals, procedures, processes, data analyses, and reports created or compiled by the Awardee in furtherance of the work described in this Agreement (the "Intellectual Property") shall be the property of the Awardee. Awardee grants to the STEM AC and State of Idaho a royalty-free, irrevocable, perpetual, non-transferable, and non-exclusive license to use, reproduce, prepare derivative works based on, modify, maintain and enhance all Intellectual Property. The payments paid by the STEM AC under the Agreement shall be the sole source of payment for the grant of license herein. This provision shall survive termination of the agreement.

17. GOVERNING TERMS

This Agreement shall be governed by, construed, and enforced in accordance with, the laws of Idaho without regard to its conflicts of law principles. The party's consent to the jurisdiction of the state courts of Ada County in the State of Idaho in the event of any dispute with respect to this Agreement.

In no event shall any official, officer, employee or agent of the State of Idaho be in any way liable or responsible for any covenant or agreement, whether expressed or implied, nor for any statement, representation or warranty made in or in connection with this Agreement.

Nothing in this Agreement shall be construed as a waiver of the Client's or State's sovereign immunity, which immunity is hereby expressly reserved.

Neither party may assign its rights or delegate its duties, in whole or in part, without the prior written consent of the other.

The headings have been inserted for convenience solely and are not to be considered when interpreting the provisions of this Agreement.

Awardee shall comply with all requirements of federal, state, and local laws and regulations, including nondiscrimination laws, applicable to Awardee or to the funds pursuant to the Agreement. For the duration of the Agreement, the Awardee shall maintain in effect and have in its possession all licenses and certifications required by federal, state, and local laws and rules.

36. OWNERSHIP OR OPERATION BY CHINA

Pursuant to Idaho Code section 67-2359, Contractor certifies that it is not currently owned or operated by the government of China and will not for the duration of the Contract be owned or operated by the government of China. The terms in this section defined in Idaho Code section 67-2359 shall have the meaning defined therein.

18. ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF HOUSE BILL 220

The Idaho Legislature recently enacted the No Public Funds for Abortion Act (House Bill No. 220), effective May 10, 2021 (“NFAA”). See [House Bill 220](#). In an effort to ensure you and/or your company is compliant with the NFAA, STEM AC and State of Idaho is requesting that you acknowledge the following:

The State is subject to the No Public Funds for Abortion Act, Idaho Code title 18, chapter 87 (the “Act”) and State employees who intentionally violate the provisions of the Act are subject to criminal prosecution. The State requests that vendors disclose, unless the vendor is within one of the exemptions provided in the Act, if it or an affiliate is or becomes, during the term of the Contract an abortion provider and if it will use State facilities or public funds to provide, perform, participate in, promote or induce, assist, counsel in favor, refer or train a person for an abortion related activity. Please refer to the Act for definitions of the terms used in this section.

_____ Please initial acknowledging your receipt of this request and provide your response, if any, at your earliest convenience.

AWARDEE

IDAHO BUSINESS FOR EDUCATION
877 WEST MAIN STREET, SUITE 706
BOISE, IDAHO 83702

Rod Gramer, CEO and President

Date

STEM AC

IDAHO STEM ACTION CENTER
802 WEST BANNOCK STREET, SUITE 900
BOISE, IDAHO 83702

Caty Solace, Executive Director

Date

Attachment A: Recognition and Communications

The awardee shall use the language “Founding Member” when referring to the relationship between STEM AC and the Idaho EcosySTEM.

Awardee shall ensure STEM AC is recognized as a “Founding Member” on all relevant public-facing communications, including but not limited to: press releases, public marketing, websites, communications, fliers, social media, presentations, and at any EcosySTEM events, etc. Upon request, EcosySTEM shall promote and distribute materials related to STEM AC programs and opportunities and provide at least quarterly opportunities for STEM AC to address EcosySTEM membership.

As “Founding Member” per this sponsorship agreement STEM AC’s logo shall be hierarchically more important than other sponsors. This can be indicated by the words “Founding Member” and larger size and/or higher line placement.

All joint press releases shall be approved by STEM AC’s Communications Manager prior to release.

OWNERSHIP

All information furnished to both the EcosySTEM and STEM AC for their use pursuant to this Agreement shall belong to both the EcosySTEM and STEM AC and shall be returned to the EcosySTEM and STEM AC upon completion of the Agreement. All documents, reports, and any other data developed by the EcosySTEM for this program in the performance of this Agreement shall become the property of both entities (EcosySTEM and STEM AC). Property shall include but is not limited to:

- Webpage content
- Social Media Pages
- Branding
- Logos
- Artwork
- Access to any/all content and details that includes information or promotion of the EcosySTEM

Attachment B: Budget

Exhibit A: Data and Metrics

In addition, awardee shall provide the following data to STEM AC on a semi-annual basis December 1 and June 1 over the course of the sponsorship. Reports, using the provided reporting templates, shall be submitted directly to STEM AC's Executive Director. With the submission of each report the Director of the EcosySTEM, the Idaho STEM Action Center Executive Director other designee shall work together to create and sign off on a table outlining goals for each of the metrics listed above in the project description and below within one month of each semi-annual report.

The table shall be signed and added as Attachment C to this agreement every six months.

Ecosystem Program Goals-Year Two

The following goals are generated from baseline numbers gathered in Year One.

- EcosySTEM partnership numbers by group

GOAL: increase partnership numbers for the following groups by:

Pre K-12 – 10%

Higher Education – 5%

Out-of-School – 10%

Non-Profit 5%

Industry – 10%

State/Local Government – 5%

Parents – 5%


Legislature – 5%

GOAL:

- IDX team participation information by showcase location and age level

GOAL: Add Student Showcase to Magic Valley, bringing the total number of Showcases to four. Increase student team participation by 10% for SWISH and STEM INNC Hubs.

- CSO program data including student growth, outreach, and activities or events

GOAL: Increase the total number of student CSOs by approximately 15%. 

- Number of interactions with students and educators outlined by programmatic area

GOAL: Increase total interactions with students by 20%

GOAL: Increase total interactions with K-12 educators by 10%

GOAL: Increase total interactions with Higher Education by 10%.

- Results from surveys of programs and members including quantitative and qualitative

data

- Data per HUB on:
 - Events and/or activities

GOAL: Increase events/activities by 10% in SWISH, STEM INNC, and by 15% in ISEE STEM with addition of Region 4 HC.

- Total funding awarded.

GOAL: Total regional hub funding awarded will remain the same.

Any additional collected metrics regarding impact including demographics, number served, and newly discovered best practices

- At least one bright spot story annually per hub regarding the work of the EcosySTEM

GOAL: Provide at least one bright spot story for SWISH and STEM INNC, and 2 for ISEE STEM annually.

Attachment C: Budget

EcosySTEM Budget	2024-2025
	July 1 - June 30
REVENUE	Year 2
STEM AC Sponsorship	\$ 983,000
WDC/Micron Innovation Grant	\$ 298,100
Donations/Member Sponsorships	\$ 45,000
External Grants	\$ 25,000
STEM Discovery Workshop Fees	\$ 10,000
Total Revenue	\$ 1,361,100
EXPENSES	
Personnel	Year 2
Staff Salaries	\$ 508,400
Fringe Benefits	\$ 59,400
Insurance	\$ 76,100
ACCOUNTS/SUBSCRIPTIONS	
Software Platforms/Subscriptions	\$ 24,275
OFFICE RELATED	
Office Space/Rent	\$ 12,000
Office Equipment (Computers, Printers, Furn.)	\$ 2,500
Office supplies	\$ 2,500
Bank Fees	\$ 100
OUTREACH	
Statewide Ecosystem Convening	\$ 40,000
Regional Hub Meetings and Events	\$ 20,000
Awareness/Marketing	\$ 7,500
National Travel	\$ 17,500
Hub Coordinator Regional Travel	\$ 32,000
Hub Operating Costs	\$ 12,000
Professional Memberships/Conf Registrations	\$ 2,500
Statewide Outreach	\$ 7,500
CONTRACTORS	
Accounting	\$ 14,000
PR/Art Design/Marketing Contractor	\$ 17,000
Web Development/Manager Contractor	\$ 18,000
Grant Writer Contractor	\$ 15,000
Administrative/Events Contractor	\$ 13,000
PEAR Evaluation Contract	\$ 30,000
Strategic Planning	\$ 20,000
STEM Discovery Workshop Contractors	\$ 31,250
IDSEF Contractor	\$ 35,000

Grants and Programs	
Travel Grants (state and national)	\$ 35,000
Statewide Grants/Sponsorships	
Hub Grants/Sponsorships	\$ 220,000
IDSEF Regional Fairs/Grants/Travel	\$ 45,000
IDX Student Showcase (3d design)	\$ 11,000
Chief Science Officer Program	\$ 15,000
STEM Discovery Workshop	\$ 8,750
Total Expenses	\$ 1,352,275
Net Income	\$ 8,825

ATTACHMENT D

Idaho Science and Engineering Fair Obligations:

Roles & Responsibilities Regarding the Idaho Science & Engineering Fairs <i>A joint program offered by the Idaho STEM Action Center (STEM AC) and the Idaho STEM Ecosystem (EcosySTEM)</i>	
Responsibilities of the STEM AC (Primary focus on managing the international/national aspects of running an affiliated fair system)	Pay fees and file paperwork to affiliate up to three (3) regional Idaho Science & Engineering Fairs (IDSEF) with the Regeneron International Science & Engineering Fair (ISEF)
	Manage the relationship between IDSEF and ISEF and serve as the liaison between the EcosySTEM and Society for Science (SfS) for relevant communications
	Provide official guidance and training to EcosySTEM/IDSEF staff on affiliate fair rules / guidelines
	Plan / facilitate statewide professional development for educators in support of IDSEF (as funds and capacity allow)
	Organize and arrange for qualified finalists from IDSEF to attend ISEF at no personal cost, in accordance with SfS affiliation rules
	Provide the submission platform for IDSEF projects and serve as primary administrator for the platform (including building basic event template for each regional fair)
Shared Responsibilities between STEM AC and EcosySTEM	Send at least one (1) staff member each to ISEF to represent Idaho and assist in chaperoning the Idaho finalists (travel/lodging costs of 1 EcosySTEM staff member to be paid by STEM AC)
	Represent Idaho at SfS/ISEF meetings, webinars, and/or events relevant to IDSEF
	Recruit/advertise to increase student & educator participation in IDSEF
	Serve as members of the Institutional Review Board (IRB) and Scientific Review Committee (SRC) for IDSEF [as able and qualified]
	Recruit / advertise judging, mentorship (qualified scientist), and SRC/IRB opportunities via professional networks
Responsibilities of the EcosySTEM (Primary focus on managing the regional/local aspects of running an affiliated fair system)	Schedule/plan/hold (including logistics, venue arrangements, volunteer recruitment, stakeholder communication, etc.) up to three (3) regional fairs for IDSEF that will serve all of Idaho within their combined territories, in accordance with ISEF/SfS and STEM AC guidelines
	Organize/manage the IRB/SRC & pre-experimental review of student projects for all regional IDSEF events (in accordance with ISEF/SfS and STEM AC guidelines)
	Manage and serve as primary point of contact regarding project submissions to the IDSEF regional fairs and related questions.

	Manage direct communication with student participants and sponsoring adults regarding IDSEF (e.g., timelines, expectations, processes, etc.)
	Provide outreach about IDSEF and promote expansion of the program (especially to remote/underserved areas and schools that have not historically participated)
	Offer financial support to increase access for student participants (e.g. grants for materials, travel costs to regional fairs, etc.)



SPARKING **SUCCESS**, BUILDING **FUTURES**

COMPUTER SCIENCE EDUCATION

Invest in the future of Idaho's workforce by supporting Idaho STEM Action Center's computer science education initiatives. Equipping students with the skills to code, solve problems creatively, and think critically will prepare them for high-demand careers in your industry. Your partnership fosters a generation of tech-savvy thinkers who will drive innovation and propel Idaho's economy forward. Partner with us to build a talent pipeline that benefits your business and the entire state.

Why is CS Important?

Idaho's technology sector is one of the fastest growing in the nation, and 80% of jobs will require these skills in the near future. CS helps equip you with the skills you need to succeed in any field!

Incorporate CS in the Classroom

Funding is available throughout the year for a variety of CS-related projects. Your funding will help support the following educator tools, resources, and opportunities:

- Teacher Certifications
- Professional Development opportunities
- Resource Platform
- Teacher incentives
- Stipends
- Statewide curricular resource
- Needs assessment



By becoming a sponsor, you will help us achieve our mission and make a difference in the lives of **Idaho's future STEM leaders.**



Idaho STEM Action Center Investment



Silver: (\$7,500 - \$14,999)

- Logo on main computer science page
- Social media recognition
- Logo on training materials where applicable
- Recognition in newsletter



Gold: (\$15,000 - \$29,999)

- All prior items
- Logo on Zoom meeting background during CS Week
- Volunteer engagement: code beside kids during Computer Science Education Week/Hour of Code
- Logo on relevant program materials (such as promo fliers, etc.)



Platinum: (\$30,000+)

- All prior items
- Recognition during Computer Science Education Week
- Hour of Code Title Sponsor
- CS Week Kickoff Video
- Volunteer engagement: code beside kids and elected official during Computer Science Education Week/Hour of Code kickoff event

Become a Sponsor Today!

We invite you to partner with us and make a positive impact on the future of STEM education in Idaho. To learn more about our sponsorship opportunities, please contact us at foundation@stem.idaho.gov or visit our website at stem.idaho.gov.

Together, we can make a difference!



**IDAHO
STEM
ACTION CENTER**



SPARKING SUCCESS, BUILDING FUTURES

STEM COORDINATION AND LEADERSHIP

Support and Scholarships

STEM School Designation

Invest in the future of Idaho's workforce by supporting STEM education excellence.

STEM AC provides direct support to schools as they build capacity towards earning STEM school designation and perform collaborative on-site reviews to ensure programs are systematically implementing school-wide STEM and project-based learning. Once a school receives their STEM designation, we assist them in sharing instructional best-practices and provide annual funding to support the continued development of their STEM programs.

What makes these schools exceptional?

Interdisciplinary learning: Students don't just learn STEM subjects in isolation. They actively connect the dots between science, technology, engineering, and math, just like real-world professionals. This deeper understanding fosters critical thinking, problem-solving, and innovation.

Multi-grade collaboration: Younger and older students learn from each other, building confidence and leadership skills in the younger students, while the older students hone their mentorship and communication skills.

Community engagement: Schools aren't just classrooms. They're vibrant hubs where educators, students, and local businesses and organizations come together to spark creativity and support future STEM talent.

By supporting STEM School Designation, you're investing in:

- A pipeline of tomorrow's STEM workforce: You're equipping students with the skills and knowledge they need to succeed in high-tech careers.
- A stronger Idaho economy: A talented STEM workforce attracts and retains businesses, boosting economic growth and community prosperity.
- A vibrant learning environment: You're helping schools create engaging and enriching experiences that inspire students to pursue their passions and reach their full potential.
- Support for educators

STEM Pilot Programs & Best-Practices Leadership

STEM AC works with local schools, industry partners, and other government agencies (such as the State Board of Education, State Department of Education, and Division of Career-Technical Education) to identify innovative STEM education programs and field-test them to determine their potential for broader impact. We also coordinate opportunities for education partners at all levels to share vetted tools and best-practices in STEM education.





Regeneron International Science & Engineering Fair (ISEF)

Every spring, Idaho STEM Action Center, along with the Idaho STEM Ecosystem, empowers Idaho high school students (grades 9-12) to delve into the exciting world of STEM research through the Idaho Science & Engineering Fair (ISEF). Throughout the school year, students tackle original research projects, allowing them to explore their passions and gain hands-on experience with the same methods used by professional researchers. ISEF culminates in a showcase where students proudly present their findings to the public and a prestigious panel of judges. Each year, the fair honors exceptional projects with a range of awards and scholarships, recognizing the future stars of science and engineering.

Supporting ISEF will ensure that students excelling in their research projects get the opportunity to move on to the International Science and Engineering Fair, if qualified.

SPONSORSHIP LEVELS:



Silver: (\$10,000 - \$24,999)

- Logo placement on our website and program materials
- Social media recognition
- Recognition in newsletter



Gold: (\$25,000 – 49,999)

- All prior items
- Logo on all school-specific communication
- Logo on applicable training materials
- Check presentation opportunity
- Photo opportunities



Platinum: (\$50,000+)

- All prior items
- Logo on all presentation slides for presentations within Idaho at conferences and meetings
- Branded tablecloths, banners, and/or other branded materials (if provided) will be used for conference displays and trainings in Idaho
- 5 years @ \$5,000/year (STEM School Designation only)
- Virtual Zoom introduction phone call between funder & school to discuss details of STEM Designation program.

Become a Sponsor Today!

We invite you to partner with us and make a positive impact on the future of STEM education in Idaho. To learn more about our sponsorship opportunities, please contact us at foundation@stem.idaho.gov or visit our website at stem.idaho.gov.

Together, we can make a difference!



**IDAHO
STEM
ACTION CENTER**



SPARKING SUCCESS, BUILDING FUTURES

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

i-STEM, Educurious and Externships

Goals:

Cultivate a network of highly skilled, passionate STEM educators across Idaho. Spark an explosion of student enthusiasm and engagement in STEM fields. Empower a statewide learning community for continuous improvement in STEM education.

Objectives:

Equip educators with:

- Deep content knowledge across diverse STEM disciplines
- Innovative pedagogical skills for hands-on, project-based learning
- Leadership abilities to inspire students and champion STEM within their communities
- Build vibrant professional learning communities through:
- Collaborative learning environments where educators share best practices and ideas
- Targeted support for implementing STEM initiatives back in their own schools and districts
- Ongoing professional development opportunities beyond the summer institute

Ignite student passion for STEM by:

Equipping educators with the tools and strategies to create engaging, real-world learning experiences. Building awareness of STEM career possibilities and fostering aspirations for future innovators.

For example:

i-STEM: A transformative summer professional development program designed to empower Idaho educators. Participants dive into immersive strands focused on project-based learning within chosen STEM content areas, while also attending general sessions aligned with the leadership theme. Each educator receives a comprehensive kit of instructional materials specific to their strand, ready for immediate implementation in their classrooms or informal learning settings.

- 1 in 6 Idaho students impacted
- Over 20 topic strands expand educator skills and capacity in STEM and Computer Science
- 6 statewide locations to serve all regions

EDUCURIUS: Hands-on, project-based courses that employ the latest evidence-based learning methods to engage student's inquiring minds. Students explore answers to essential questions, collaborate, build contemporary skills, and practice problem-solving and critical thinking, while immersed in the core subject matter. All Educurious courses align to state and national standards, and are written on a foundation of research-based design principles for learning. Units are available as a full-year course or individually.

EXTERNSHIP: Connecting classrooms-to-careers through educator summer placements with Idaho employers. Externships provide educators with valuable insight into employer needs that they take back to their classrooms.





Collaboration & Sponsorship:

We actively seek partnerships with businesses and organizations committed to advancing STEM education in Idaho. Sponsorships play a crucial role in making i-STEM accessible to educators statewide, directly impacting student success and fostering a future workforce equipped with critical STEM skills.

Benefits of Sponsorship:

Direct investment in building a pipeline of talented STEM professionals
Enhanced brand visibility and community recognition
Opportunities to connect with and engage passionate STEM educators
Participation in shaping the future of STEM education in Idaho

SPONSORSHIP LEVELS:



Silver: (\$7,500 - \$19,999)

- Logo on sign-up page
- Logo on main i-STEM or Educurious page
- Social media recognition
- Recognition in newsletter
- Logo on general "thank you" slide during STEM AC presentation



Gold: (\$20,000 - \$49,999)

- All prior items
- Logo/special "thank you slide" during STEM AC presentation at each site
- Speaking opportunities at training site (i-STEM)
- Logo on program materials



Platinum: (\$50,000+)

- All prior items
- Logo on presentation slides for presentations within Idaho at conferences and meetings
- Speaking opportunity at i-STEM

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Together, we can make a difference!



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Annual Fundraising Plan FY25 (July 1st, 2024 – June 30th, 2025)

I. Executive Summary

A. Mission and Vision

Advancing innovative opportunities for educators, students, communities, and industry to build a competitive Idaho workforce and economy through STEM and computer science education.

A diverse STEM-literate Idaho workforce to support the long-term economic prosperity of Idaho.

B. Fundraising Goals FY2025

- Total annual fundraising: \$363,075
 - Corporate Goal: \$91,575
 - Individual Goal: \$3,000
 - Foundation: \$195,750
 - Federal: \$40,000
- Idaho Gives FY24: \$15,000
- Giving Tuesday FY25: \$2,500
- Year End Giving FY25: \$10,000
- Other FY25: \$5,250

II. Situation Analysis

A. Needs Assessment – Goals:

- Unrestricted (Area of Greatest Need)
- Professional Development
 - I-STEM, Externship, Educurious,
- Student Support
 - Learning Blade, STEM Diploma, Regeneron International Science & Engineering Fair (ISEF)
- STEM Coordination and Leadership
 - STEM School Designation, Sawtooth STEM Ed Awards, Pilot Programs

B. Partner Analysis

- Identify key partners, including potential donors, and community influencers

- Assess their level of interest and potential contribution

C. SWOT Analysis

- Perform SWOT with team (by June board meeting)

III. Fundraising Strategies

A. Annual Giving Campaign

- Comms develop the message and case for support
- Implement email and online appeals
 - Content, video, visuals
- Mail letters signed by ED (is this impactful?)
- Text campaign(SMS??)

B. Corporate Partnerships

- Identify current and potential corporate sponsors. Prioritize A, B,C...
- Sponsorship Menu (completed 4/10/24)
- Ongoing donor development with FDN board
- Work with comms to develop messaging for consistent, non-transactional communication
- Prospecting

C. Grant Writing

- Research and identify relevant grants for STEM education
- Work with team to develop program-specific budgets
- Develop a grant application calendar (by July 1, 2024)

D. Events and Campaigns

- Giving Tuesday - November
- Idaho Gives – April/May
- STEM Matters Month - March
- STEMmy's
- Cybersecurity Month - October
- CS Ed Week - December
- Work with Comms to leverage social media campaigns to raise awareness and funds

E. Major Gifts Program

- Identify major donors and philanthropists
- Develop personalized cultivation and solicitation plans

F. In-Kind Donations

- Encourage donations of goods or services relevant to STEM education
 - Volunteer program
 - Food:
 - STEM Matters Month Kickoff
 - Donor appreciation happy hour

- STEMmy's
- Idaho Gives
- Idaho Pizza Co
- Dutch Bros
- Local/emerging businesses

IV. Donor Stewardship

A. Recognition and Acknowledgment

- Develop a donor recognition program
- Ensure timely and personalized acknowledgment of donations
- Tracking of acknowledgement, photos, activities (STEM Sch Des): how do we do this? Who does this?

B. Impact Reporting (Amplifund)

- Communicate the impact of donations. Work with Comms here
- Provide regular updates on STEM programs and success stories (what is the template for this?).

C. Cultivation and Engagement

- Develop strategies to engage donors beyond fundraising
 - Board donor development plan here
- Foster a sense of community among donors
 - Annual donor appreciation gala happy hour?

V. Budget and Financial Management

A. Budgeting

- Outline the budget for the fundraising plan
- Allocate funds to different strategies based on priority

B. Financial Controls

- Implement financial tracking and reporting systems for internal team and foundation board of directors.
 - In progress
- Ensure transparency in financial transactions
 - This is solid and we have regular meetings with finance committee

VI. Monitoring and Evaluation

A. Key Performance Indicators (KPIs)

- Identify KPIs for each fundraising strategy
- Regularly assess and adjust strategies based on performance

B. Feedback and Learning

- Establish mechanisms for feedback from donors and stakeholders
- Use feedback to continuously improve fundraising efforts

VII. Timeline and Milestones

A. Develop a comprehensive timeline for the fundraising plan

- Break down activities into manageable milestones
- Set deadlines for key deliverables

DRAFT