Idaho EcosySTEM
New Member Orientation

October 30, 2020
9 a.m. - 10 a.m. MT
Agenda

- Welcome
- Ice-breaker
- What is a STEM EcosySTEM?
- Why Idaho STEM EcosySTEM?
- Who is involved?
- How to engage?
- Q & A
What region of Idaho are you based in?

- Southwestern
- Eastern
- South-Central
- Northern
- Central
- Outside Idaho

Join us at www.slido.com
Type in #85238
Who do you represent?

- PreK-12
- Higher Education
- Out-of-School Organization
- Non-Profit
- Industry Partner
- State Agency
- Legislator
- The Governor’s Office
- Organization
- Association

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What are you most looking forward to in 2021?

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What is a STEM EcosySTEM?

- STEM Learning Ecosystems provides architecture for cross-sector learning offering all young people access to STEM-rich learning environments so they can develop important skills and engagement in STEM throughout preK-16.
- A large international community of practice that includes:
  - 89 ecosystems
  - 5 countries
  - 33 million students
  - 1,200 out-of-school partners
  - 4,350 philanthropic, business and industry organizations

[https://stemecosystems.org/](https://stemecosystems.org/)
Idaho EcosySTEM Timeline & Overview

- **Summer 2019**: STEM AC applied to become an internationally recognized STEM ecosystem
- **Oct. 2019**: STEM AC was awarded STEM ecosystem status
- **Nov. 2019**: First statewide Idaho EcosySTEM Convening
- **Jan. 2020**: Working groups aligned to strategic priorities meeting regularly
- **Feb. - Present**: Received NSF INCLUDES Planning Grant to focus on EcosySTEM goals, metrics, communication, & leadership
- **May 2020**: EcosySTEM Survey released
- **Aug. 2020**: Discussion of survey results & regional group work
- **Sept. 2020**: Whole group convening, discussion & next steps
- **Today**: Working groups aligned to strategic priorities meeting regularly
Why Idaho STEM EcosySTEM?

A group of partners that work together to design and implement a comprehensive vision of STEM learning for all and to further develop clear STEM career pathways for Idaho’s youth through a **collective impact**

Together, we will focus on:

- Broadening STEM **equity**
- Promoting **access to, alignment with, and awareness of**, STEM education and careers
- Creating successful **metrics** for STEM education and programming
- Building **STEM momentum** within the state and nationally
Guiding Aspirational Statement

The Idaho EcosySTEM fosters the integration of STEM experiences for Idahoans, creating problem-solvers and critical thinkers who will sustain and lead our economy.
What are the benefits an EcosySTEM?

- Network with partners from across the state
- Connect with current and new partners to support STEM programs
- Be recognized as a leader in STEM for Idaho
- Develop the Idaho STEM workforce of today and tomorrow
- Shape Idaho’s future
Idaho STEM Action Center as the backbone agency
Legislated Goals of STEM AC

• GOAL #1: Advance equitable access to high-quality STEM+CS opportunities for educators, students, and communities

• GOAL #2: Align STEM education and workforce needs throughout Idaho

• GOAL #3: Increase awareness of the importance of STEM throughout Idaho
As a state agency we can:

- **Support**: Have paid full-time employees
- **Fund**: Support the ecosystem with funding and resources through ongoing appropriation and secure new funding and partners
- **Connect**: Connect ecosystem partners from throughout the state in education and industry
- **Communicate**: Support statewide and regional communication efforts (website, emails, newsletters, convenings, etc.)
- **Research**: Conduct needs assessment and focus groups; evaluate and report results
- **Guide**: Support working groups and host regional and statewide convenings
- **Sustain**: Mandated into statute allows for consistency in staffing and funding/programs
A STEM ecosystem provides the structure for cross-sector partnerships to improve STEM literacy, ensuring a strong workforce and global competitiveness for all.
Who is in Idaho EcosySTEM?

Our members include a diverse group of engaged statewide partners ranging from:

- PreK-12
- Higher Education
- Industry Partners
- State Agencies
- Legislators
- Organizations (i.e. Non-Profits, Out-of-School)
- Associations
Engage

- Lead Change
- Empower People
- Leadership
- Shared Vision
- Inspire People
Strategic Priorities and the Formation of Working Groups

1. Educator Preparation, Training & Support – Focusing on finding new and better ways to prepare and support PreK-20 educators in STEM education. Building a database of available professional development opportunities for formal and informal educators in Idaho and working on developing materials to showcase the value of implementing STEM education in all disciplines.

2. Career Pathways & Exposure – Focusing on further developing clear STEM career pathways for Idaho’s youth. Building a database of resources to broaden awareness and assist in career pathways and exposure. The intent is to share the database with the larger asset mapping project.

3. Outreach & Communications – Focused on external communication mechanisms. Provides guidance and insight on newsletter and website as primary mechanism for communication to partners. Provided feedback bright spots to highlight members. Reviewed and provided guidance on survey data.

4. Access and Equity – Recently completed an educator survey to develop “persona mapping” of underserved student populations. Launching survey shortly and will share out results. Our goal is to identify barriers to access and develop strategies to overcome.
Other ways to Engage! (continued)

- Who is missing? Invite someone who you think should be involved in Idaho EcosySTEM!

- Take/share this survey to assess Idaho’s needs!

- Stay informed by checking out our Ecosystem website and subscribing to the Ecosystem newsletter
Contact Us

STEM AC EcosySTEM Support Team

John McFarlane
Partnerships & Community Outreach

Dr. Kaitlin Maguire
Grant Writing & Fundraising

Erica Compton
Ecosystem Lead

Finia Dinh
Career & Workforce Development

Teresa Vail
Support & Planning

Dr. Angela Hemingway
Strategic Planning & Communications

Crispin Gravatt
Metrics & Evaluation
Q & A Time!
See you in the main convening!