

### STEM Action Center Board Meeting Minutes

June 5, 2015 • 3:00pm

GOED: 60 East South Temple, 3<sup>rd</sup> floor, Salt Lake City

<b>Members Present:</b>	Jeffery Nelson, Gene Levinzon, Stan Lockhart, Norm LeClair, Blair Carruth, Brad Smith, Mark Huntsman,
<b>Members Absent:</b>	Bert VanderHeiden, Rich Nelson, Rob Brems, Tami Pyfer, Reza Jalili, Val Hale
<b>Staff:</b>	Tami Goetz, Sue Redington, Jenna Johnson, Kaitlin Felsted, Jackie Moynihan, Allison Spencer
<b>Visitors:</b>	Sarah Brasiel, Connie Ronburt, Melisa Stark

#### I. Welcome and Related Business

Jeff Nelson, STEM Action Center Board Chairman, called the meeting to order, and introduced and welcomed the group. Chairman Nelson then introduced Allison Spencer and Jackie Moynihan as the newest STEM Action Center Employees. A quorum was not present, so voting was withheld to approve minutes.

#### II. Board Discussion

Project Updates: Sue Redington, program director of the STEM Action Center, began the discussion by informing the board members about the process for year two of the math technology project. She also showed a document that presented the increase in usage in April and May for students who are currently using the math software. Sue expressed excitement about the usage and the amount of data being collected, and that there would be results sooner than December 2015. Sue then presented on the applied science grant which provided CTE tools and curriculum, stating that year two is underway and currently in the application process. Usage is expected rise through September and to provide positive data. Stan Lockhart, board member, raised a question that many school districts would like to participate but may not be able to since there is little funding for new applicants. The STEM Action Center staff responded that because of the overwhelming response of first-year applicants, funding is limited. Dr. Tamara Goetz, executive director of the STEM Action Center then opened the discussion for the professional learning grant and the positive feedback coming from the community and other education colleagues about the model being used.

DWS Liaison: Melisa Stark from the Department of Workforce Services (DWS) opened the discussion of a new liaison position at the STEM Action Center. Similar to the STEM – USOE liaison, the DWS liaison will fill the need for a workforce alignment connection. Melisa also stated that community grants, collaboration and federal funding can be improved by this position. Dr. Goetz also mentioned that a memorandum of understanding will be created between the organizations, along with defined outcomes for the position.

Utah State Board of Education Retreat: Dr. Brad Smith, State Superintendent of Schools, had spoken with Dr. Goetz about collaboration with the State Board of Education and the STEM

Action Center Board and staff. A plan has been created to have a retreat to further STEM education in the state through discussion and strategy. A two to five year strategic plan for STEM education will be an important discussion point. Mark Huntsman, State Board of Education member, stressed the importance preparing for this discussion and the of aligning the goals of the STEM Action Center and the goals of the Office of Education to prevent distraction and possible competition for funding.

STEM Best Practices Conference: Kaitlin Felsted spoke to the board about the upcoming conference for the STEM Action Center to provide information and collaboration with STEM educators and stakeholders across Utah. The conference will take place June 22-23, currently 200 individuals have registered. Legislators, industry, and educators will all be present to add to the discussion of solutions and what the best practices for STEM should be in Utah. Dr. Goetz also introduced the NDIA STEM Call to Action Forum taking place in August. This meeting will draw industry members to Utah and give Utah attention at the national level. Board members were invited to attend.

Legislative Site Visit Highlights: Gene Levinzon, board member, recapped the most recent site visit with legislators at a local school where legislators were able to watch students learn math concepts and use the software provided by the STEM Action Center. Gene expressed excitement about the legislators' reaction to the positive comments made by the teachers and the students, and Gene encouraged more of these visits.

### III. **Adjournment**

**NO MOTION TO ADJOURN DUE TO THERE BEING NO QUORUM.**