

STEM Action Center Board Meeting Minutes

January 15, 2020 • 2:00pm

STEM Action Center, 60 E. South Temple, Suite 850, Salt Lake City

Members Present: Vance Checketts, Kerri Nakamura (for Jill Love), Sarah Lehman, Tami Pyfer, Blair Caruth, Mark Sunday, Tim Miller, Scott Hansen, Scotty Nowlin, Syd Dickson

Members Absent: Nate McDonald, Jared Haines, Jill Love

Staff: Tami Goetz, Sue Redington, Lynn Purdin, Kellie Yates, Melanie Shepherd, Clarence Ames, Julienne Bailey, David Wicai

Visitors: Scott Cheney, Tyson Grover

I. Welcome and Related Business

Vance Checketts called the meeting to order and welcomed everyone. Vance Checketts commented that we have two sets of meeting minutes to approve.

Scott Hansen made a motion to approve the minutes, Tim Miller seconded the motion. The vote to approve the minutes was unanimous.

II. Share Out:

Blair Caruth commented that the CTE report was just published and commented that it was another strong year. There were over 70,000 post-secondary students and over 6,100 CTE credentials. ROI to CTE graduates, additional amount they would earn with certificates, 2 billion dollars in added income.

Sarah Lehman commented that she has partnered up with Cotipaxi on a "Girl Up" event. WTC will also get involved. The event is October 10, 2020. Syd Dickson commented that dual-immersion conference is that same day. Sarah Lehman asked for any help on venues that could host 1,000 participants.

Scotty Nowlin commented that Junior Achievement is starting. Scotty Nowlin commented that he was sad to hear that Hill Air Force Base pulled its funding. He also commented that NorthRup Drummin has major growth in Northern Utah, lots of opportunities for STEM growth. Tami Goetz commented on the Hill Air Force Base funding, that they did not feel they were getting their money's worth.

Syd Dickson commented that she was finishing up a four year tour of school districts & charter schools. She commented she was proud of the STEM programs and of educators getting endorsements & training. She commented on West Lake Junior High's program of students creating gaming products. She commented that funding has come from many sources including: Talent Ready Utah, STEM Action Center and the governor's office. She is proud of the educators getting endorsements. She commented that we are not quite there as a state, but making huge strides. Mark Sunday asked if we are behind. Syd Dickson commented that Virginia is ahead of Utah and California is ahead with Tech. She

commented that with silicone slopes hopefully this comes along. NAPE has Utah in the top 10. Vance Checketts asked what she will do after the four years are up, if she will revisit the schools. Syd Dickson commented that she will target schools to visit and that many schools have invited her to come visit.

Vance Checketts commented that the University of Utah has a STEM program. Three women that made contributions were Gayle Miller (Community Engagement), Pat Child (Health & Wellness) and Heather Collard (STEM). Mark Sunday commented that the buildings are 1,000 person dorms. The STEM program they are offering in this will also integrate STEM into the other fields of study, and they are looking to get students placed into internships in STEM. Mark Sunday commented that it will be starting in the fall of 2020.

III. Board Discussion

Vance Checketts recognized Bert Vanderheiden and showed the award for Bert's years of support on the STEM Action Center board. He was not in attendance, but we will get the award to him. Tami Goetz commented that Bert would like to teach physics now that he has retired.

Kellie Yates introduced Tyson Grover, who runs a team of people who support STEM across 90 buildings with 75,000 students. Tyson went through his powerpoint presentation of the Davis County School District's professional learning program and provided handouts. The district's goal: Every Student, Every School, Every Day engaged. Tyson Grover explained the tools they have used to train their teachers. Tyson gave an overview of the district's math program. Tyson explained the district's STEM Centered Learning. Tyson commented that the district was behind in computer science, so they mandated 30 minutes of computer science in elementary school per week and told that now 100% of students have computer science in elementary schools. Tyson commented on the district's enrichment programs so kids can engage (afterschool programs, including Robotics Teams). Tim Miller asked how STEM Action Center helped their district and asked what more could STEM Action Center do. Tyson answered that STEM Action Center took risks on their proposals and were open to their ideas. The money from STEM Action Center's grant paid for Subs, stipends, material costs, training. Syd Dickson asked what amount of STEM Action Center money was spent and on what. Tyson answered that \$300,000 was spent for teacher stipends. He commented that the district was at the end of their grant so they will have to cut back on trainings and site-based trainings. Tami Pyfer asked if the district's professional learning money goes away, what will happen? Tyson answered that training would still take place with district money, but it will be slower. Sarah Lehman asked if rather than site-visits – could they use technology for webinars to cut costs? Tyson answered that they already do those, but less bang for their buck than with on-site trainings. Scott Hansen asked about the disadvantaged learners. Tyson answered that their program is inclusive to all learners. Scott Hansen commented that he likes the way they pulled problem solving out of STEM and applied it to other subjects.

Tami Goetz commented that she would like to promote Davis County School District's Solvent Conference June 17 & 18, 2020.

Tami Goetz commented that we now have a signed lease for our new space. The base price of the space is low warehouse price. The apartments are finished and now they will be working on the main level spaces. The building is full with STEM Action Center, Next Works (they help train individuals on the spectrum) and AutoCon (they help train employers how to work with people on the spectrum). A discussion took place about the maker space, possible tech partners and a ribbon cutting date (to be determined).

Tami Goetz commented on getting a facilitator to help with the strategic plan for the next 3-5 years. One person we are considering is Kilo Zimora (from the University of Utah). He would be available to work with STEM AC starting in February. Syd Dickson commented that when STEM Action Center was formed we had money without a plan, now we need a plan/mission to close those gaps to know the needs. The facilitator will work with stakeholders to get a clear mission for STEM Action Center.

Vance Checketts commented he would rather speed up the time to get board member slots filled so we can have their input on strategic planning. Tami Pyfer commented to get those board member recommendations in to the governor, 2-3 suggestions for each of the two slots that are open. A discussion took place of possible names for board members. Scott Hansen will follow up with Mark Jenkins, Vance Checketts will follow up with Women's Tech Council and Tami Goetz will follow up with Utah Manufacturers Association. Tami Goetz suggested to get the suggested names finished next week and then give the names to Jill Love.

The legislative session will be starting on January 27th. Tami Goetz commented that \$3.8 million is in the governor's budget for STEM Action Center for Professional Learning. It will permanently be put over to DHA. Kerri Nakamura thanked Syd Dickson's staff for getting the money over to DHA.

Vance Checketts commented that Clarence Ames could go over math, but we have little time left in the meeting. Clarence Ames talked about parents teaching their young children math in everyday things such as cooking, playing, etc. Clarence Ames passed out a handout for the board to refer to.

Lynn Purdin went over her grant program and commented that applications are currently in the process.

Vance Checketts commented that we should adjourn the board meeting.

Tami Goetz commented that congressman Ben McAdams will be in our office on Friday – January 24th from 4-5 pm for the “congressional app”.

IV. Meeting Adjourned at 4:10 pm