

STEM Action Center Board Meeting Minutes

June 23, 2021 • 2:00 PM

In Person and Zoom Meeting

Members Present:	Vance Checketts, Jill Love, Jamie Morningstar, Mark Sunday, Brittney Cummins, Sarah Lehman, Scott Hansen, Nate McDonald
Members Absent:	Sydnee Dickson, Scott Nowlin, Jessica Gilmore
Staff:	Tami Goetz, Sue Redington, Jack Markman, Becca Robison, Colleen Fisher, Lynn Purdin, Julianne Bailey, David Wicai, Allison Spencer, Kellie Yates, Clarence Ames, Yousuf Haidari, Nathan Flores
Visitors:	Ashley Wendt, Alison Sturgeon, Austin Baxten, Trish Baker, Melisa Stark, Katherine Potter

I. Welcome and Related Business

Vance Checketts called the meeting to order. Introductions were made. Introduced the Bank of America interns: Yousuf and Nathan. Vance Checketts requested approval of minutes from May 2021. Mark Sunday motioned to approve the minutes. Nate McDonald seconded the motion to approve the minutes. The minutes were unanimously approved.

II. Share Out:

Vance Checketts asked if anybody would like to share any updates. Vance Checketts shared that he has started working with Artemis Health. Jill Love share some highlights regarding CCE. The state library just received a 3 year grant to digitize library resources and extend WIFI access. The Division of History completed events surrounding National History Day recently and sent 50 kids to Nationals. UServe is setting up programming for 150 AmeriCorps members to participate in mentoring during the summer. Katherine Potter spoke about Thrive125. Nate McDonald shared updates about Utah's unemployment rate (2.6% job growth). He also spoke about labor shortages throughout Utah.

III. Board Discussion

Sue Redington presented a budget review. Normally we spend around 1.5M each year. This year we had about 1.7M to spend. Fiscal year ends June 30, 2021. \$269,046.78 left to spend FY21 as of this moment. We have the authority to move forward 1.4 mil. There is leftover money in Math Personalized Learning (but there is one more vendor to pay out), Professional Learning (contracts and grants), and Computing Initiative. Budget for the year is set the first day of the FY. Over 50%-70% of the budget is committed before the start of the new Fiscal Year.

Vance Checketts moved the meeting to the scheduled presentations. Colleen Fisher began with an update regarding Green Our Planet Hydroponics. Two different pathways are available for hydroponics: schools pathway and community pathway. She

also introduced the At-Home Kits for hydroponics. Lynn Purdin spoke briefly on the STEM Spots. The first STEM Spot and Green Our Planet Hydroponics library system will be installed in Parowan, Utah. Lynn Purdin estimates that each STEM Spot will cost about \$500-\$600. New potential partnerships are being explored.

Tami Goetz and Vance Checketts discussed the meeting agenda and moved things around as time allowed.

Becca Robison presented a quick Innovation Hub update. The Innovation Hub hosted kids for the first time. Field trip focus: engineering design process. Ages 5-15. Students have expressed ongoing interest. Partners are lined up: GSU, Skill Struck, and Promise SSL. Working on online opportunities to work in conjunction with the Innovation Hub. Introduced STEM Artist in Residence program. Robotics teams slotted to use space. Makers for Equity program already in the works.

Tami Goetz quickly went over expiring/expired board positions. The individuals considered are in STEM related industries. The following are candidates considered: Greg Bell, Tina Larsen, Ashok Khandkar, Chiao-ih Hui and Andrea Ibanez. We hope to have two new board members by the next board meeting.

Julienne Bailey introduced the upcoming podcast, "How'd you think of that?" with Temple Grandin. Temple Grandin is a professor, public speaker, and author. The podcast will have Temple Grandin interview people in the STEM world. The interviews have already begun to take place. A series of 6 episodes is planned. The show will be pitched to public radio and NPR for support.

David Wicai shared information about the STEM Best Practices Conference event that was virtual this year. This event is geared towards educators K-12. Around 500 people/educators were registered for the event. The theme this year was "You Get What You Play For." The concept was about using games and play to introduce learning. Roughly 300 people were engaging throughout the day. Five different time slots with four sessions in each. What we saw was a little bit more engagement with this type of platform. Everything was pre-recorded. The attendees were actively engaging throughout the whole event. Attendees were able to enter contests to win prizes for completing event activities. This resource will be available for an entire year. 90% of the people reported that the platform was easy to use. 91% said they would go back in and use the resources again throughout the upcoming year. The majority of attendees are asking for another virtual event next year. A lot of attendees were able to attend from rural areas and areas all over the state. Overall, the event was a success.

Allison Spencer spoke briefly about how the STEM Foundation was able to support STEM Best Practices Conference this year. Allison gave a shout-out to Comcast, Micron, HAFB, and Dominion for donating all of the equipment in the Innovation Hub. We received our interns through a grant from Bank of America. STEM Artist in Residence, Hydroponics, the STEM podcast – if anybody knows anybody that might support these areas, please reach out. An Eagle Scout, Rowan Burnett, chose to raise money for STEM kits for a low income area. He worked with Allison to write a grant to raise money for the project. So far he has raised \$3,500.00.

Tami Goetz briefly mentioned starting up a new Industry Coalition. Lots of positive reaction from our partners.

Vance Checketts reminded everybody that we will have a Temple Grandin event in August and another board meeting. Tami Goetz will share a link to a FOX 13 news story that covers our To Learn Early Math Series.

IV. Meeting Adjourned at 4:05pm.