

STEM Action Center Board Meeting Minutes

August 30, 2023 at 2pm

Zoom Meeting

Members Present:	Vance Checketts, Brittney Cummins, Sarah Reale, Jill Love, Sydnee Dickson, Aniza Brown, Nate McDonald
Members Absent:	Jamie Morningstar, Mark Sunday, Chiao-ih Hui, Andrea Ibanez Kuntz
Staff:	Tami Goetz, Sue Redington, Lynn Reichert, Emma Casey, Julianne Bailey, Allison Spencer, Kellie Yates, Gina Muhlestein, Emmett Speed, Shelby Averett, Clarence Ames, Jana Alexander, Becca Robison, Viena Zeitler
Visitors:	Janelle Johnson and Josh Kumon

I. Welcome and Related Business

- a. Approve May meeting minutes
Vance Checketts called the meeting to order at 2:05pm. Due to lack of quorum, Vance Checketts pushed the approval of minutes to next meeting. **The minutes of the May 16, 2023, August 30, 2023, and October 17, 2023 meetings have all been distributed previously via email. There being no corrections, the minutes were unanimously approved on November 7, 2023.**
- b. Introduce new board member – Aniza Brown
Vance Checketts introduced Aniza Brown’s appointment to the Board and gave a little of their background.
- c. Board Member STEM share out & introductions
Superintendent Dickson put AI initiatives on the radar for the Board. This will need to be a topic at a future meeting. Sarah Reale has been working on a mini-documentary on teaching math in a new way that increases engagement. Reale will bring the mini-documentary to a future meeting to show the Board.
- d. Budget overview
Redington gave an overview of the budget from last fiscal year close out, answering questions on the line items and totals.

II. Board Discussion

- a. Colorado STEM Ecosystem Janelle Johnson/Josh Kumon
Tami Goetz introduced Janelle Johnson from the Wild West STEM Ecosystem. Johnson platform that is an ecosystem visualization tool. The tool shows the connections and collaborations between industry and education. Janelle Johnson gave the background of this grassroots tool development to map the network of connections, and answered many questions regarding the uses of the tool and its strengths/weaknesses. Checketts offered that this could be a tool to easily populate with our current connections. Dickson reflected on the failure of the STEM Match app but wanted to know what the internal controls would be. The Board recommended to pursue and follow up at a smaller scale, like the Innovation Hub Network as a pilot.
- b. Week of STEM & STEM Fest updates Shelby Averett/Tami Goetz
Week of STEM updates were given by Tami Goetz. Goetz talked about the theme “Maker, Innovator, Inventor” and highlights our Resource Library and Design Challenge “Makers

for Equity” using the bioindustrial manufacturing sector, in partnership with Checkerspot and the Schools for the Deaf and Blind. Will also launch Invention Convention, focusing on the design process, which will start in the Spring 2024. Will also introduce our own Maker Coins. Lastly, we introduce the Inventors coloring book.

Shelby Averett gave the Board the information for this year’s STEM Fest.

c. Pop Up Maker Faires

Lynn Reichert/Emma Casey

Lynn Reichert and Emma Casey presented on the Pop Up Makers Faires, which were funded by bioMerieux in the form of a 3-year YMFI grant to bring STEM resources where they are less accessible. The presentation highlights the 4 locations we have had Pop Up Faires, as well as looking forward to ways to improve and build upon the existing stations and activities and adding new stations. Reichert answered questions from the Board regarding funding and ideas for the next 2 years.

d. Utah STEM Foundation update

Allison Spencer

Allison Spencer gave the Board an update on the Foundation year-end, just short of \$600,000. Highlights included the interns this summer, new Foundation Board member, Josh Brown, and things to look forward to – pre-K with MILO math, El Rancho Market is excited to work with us, and over \$20,000 for Tinker Totes for underserved communities.

Spencer announced to the Board that Tami Goetz received a grant from Talent Ready Utah in partnership with bioindustry.

Vance Checketts would like one of the next Board meetings to be a shared meeting with the Foundation Board.

III. Meeting Adjourned at 4:00pm.

The next Board meeting is Tuesday, October 17 at 2pm.