

STEM Subcommittee Meeting Minutes

May 21, 2015, 9 a.m.
Conference Room B-001

A meeting of the subcommittee of the STEM committee established in Ohio Revised Code Section 3326.02 was held on May 21, 2015, at 9 a.m. at the offices of the Ohio Department of Education.

Subcommittee Members in Attendance:

- Ryan Burgess, Assistant Director, Ohio Development Services Agency
- Dr. Tom Schwieterman, Medical Director, Midmark Corporation, Designee for Ohio Senate
- Dr. Lonny Rivera, Associate Superintendent, Ohio Department of Education
- Briana Herve, Ohio Board of Regents

Not Present:

- Stephen Lyons, EVP, The Columbus Partnership, Designee for Ohio House of Representatives

Also Present Were:

- Dustin Pyles, Battelle Education, Ohio STEM Learning Network
- Bill Bussey, Director, Ohio Department of Education
- Tiffany Cartier, Administrative Professional, Ohio Department of Education
- Suzanne Allen, STEM Geauga Early College High School
- Matthew Galemmo, STEM Geauga Early College High School
- Trista Warren, STEM Geauga Early College High School
- Steve Dodgion, Collins Career Center
- Andrea Zaph, Collins Career Center
- Jamie Chafin, Collins Career Center
- Marcy Raymond, OSLN, New Albany, Director of Curriculum and Innovation
- Kimberly Shepard, New Hope Christian Academy
- Dr. Frank L. Martin, New Hope Christian Academy
- Bill Dingus, LEDC, Tri-State STEM
- Chad Wyen, Mad River Local Schools
- Tina Simpson, Mad River Local Schools
- Jesse Maxfield, Mad River Local Schools
- Krista Wagner, Mad River Local Schools
- Maria Meeker, St. Vincent de Paul
- Jason Johnson, West High School
- Meka Pace, Metro Institute of Technology
- Michelle Timmons
- Elaine Taylor
- Craig Lautenschleger
- Kenneth Taylor

(1) Call to Order:

Bill Bussey called the meeting to order at 9:05 a.m., and Tiffany Cartier recorded the minutes.

(2) Introductions:

All attendees introduced themselves.

(3) Presentation of the STEM Proposal Process - Dr. Lonny Rivera

(4) The minutes from April 10, 2014, were approved by general consent.

(5) Concerns, information from OSLN, updates - Dustin Pyles

- There were 30 groups of schools statewide that showed interest in designation and were provided with technical assistance.
- More than 300 groups toured or visited Ohio's existing STEM schools.
- Committee is encouraged to consider OSLN's recommendations.
 - OSLN serves as an Ohio-based nonprofit enterprise to support STEM operations.
- Changes to ORC 3326, via HB 362, authorizing OSLN to provide technical assistance to the Ohio STEM subcommittee and allowing community schools and chartered nonpublic schools to seek a "STEM School Designation Equivalent."
- Updates on seven STEM schools designated by the committee during previous school year.
- Nine applications received for review and recommendations.
- All nine applications were reviewed and scored by at least four STEM leaders and OSLN experts in addition to the Ohio STEM subcommittee members.
- Two firsts: (1) an application from a career-technical center; and (2) applications from two chartered nonpublic (private) schools.
- Overview of recommendations for approval, approval with conditions or not approved, based on OSLN reviewers comments and scores.

(6) Resolutions to approve, approve with conditions or disapprove STEM proposals

A. Collins Career Center

Recommendations (Dustin Pyles): Committee encouraged to review admission criteria specifically related to utilizing academic obtainment for selection or admission and advised to keep a clear separation from career-tech, academic standards and STEM programs. Committee encouraged to consider funding sources. Collins Career Center encouraged to collaborate with Tri-State due to location. Approval with conditions recommended.

Conditions:

- Clarification needed of background on separation of STEM school from Tri-State, due to them both being in Lawrence County. Collaborate with Tri-State and confirm, in writing, the intent to pursue a positive relationship.
- Improve efforts, in writing, on how to increase business and industry partnerships, along with verifiable commitments from partners to support the mission and activities of the proposed STEM school.
- Clarification needed on how the proposed STEM school will design, develop and implement meaningfully interdisciplinary teaching and learning.
- Clarification on the governing board structure and how the members will be selected.

- Clarification on if the proposed STEM school will be a separate school from Collins Career Center or a “school within a school” model with shared faculty and facilities, under the governing board of the Collins Career Center. If a “school within a school,” what steps will the governing board; faculty and leadership take to ensure the resources are appropriately and purposefully directed to support designated STEM school activities. In addition, if proposed STEM school is separate from or within the Collins Career Center, greater clarifications of budgetary sustainability and verifiable commitments need to be demonstrated.
- Revision of proposed STEM school “student admission” guidelines and procedures, aligned with 3326 stipulations.
- Articulation and evidence on how the proposed STEM school will attract and hire school leaders and educators who support the STEM principles and mission of the proposed school.
- Improve efforts articulating how students and faculty will benefit from projected higher education partnerships with the proposed STEM school.

Subcommittee Members Comments:

- Collins Career Center advised to give a clear background on separation from Tri-State, due to them both being located in Lawrence County (Ryan Burgess).
- Collins Career Center encouraged to strengthen business partnerships (Briana Hervet).

*Dr. Tom Schwieterman moved and Ryan Burgess seconded the motion to **Approve with Conditions** the STEM application from Collins Career Technical Center. The motion carried.*

B. iSTEM Geauga Early College High School

Recommendations (Dustin Pyles): A strong case was presented around need for a STEM school in the community. A strong articulation of board structure and partnership also proposed. Approval recommended.

Subcommittee Members Comments:

- There was an organized template for readability of proposal (Dr. Lonny Rivera).
- Model Application containing impressive specifications on programs presented (Dr. Tom Schwieterman).
- A good mix of partnerships displayed (Briana Hervet).

*Ryan Burgess moved and Dr. Tom Schwieterman seconded the motion to **Approve** the STEM application from iSTEM Geauga Early College High School. The motion carried.*

C. Linden McKinley STEM Academy

Recommendations (Dustin Pyles): Application missing important components. Application displays opportunities for improvement and growth. More specifics are needed on professional development and partnerships. Application needs focused context on what STEM program will include. Applicant is encouraged to resubmit next year. Disapproval recommended.

Subcommittee Members Comments:

- Great ambition displayed, encouraged to create a clear mission (Dr. Tom Schwieterman).
- Applicant encouraged to review other proposals for specifications and encouraged to resubmit next year (Dr. Lonny Rivera).

*Dr. Tom Schwieterman moved and Ryan Burgess seconded the motion to **Disapprove** the STEM application from Linden McKinley Academy. The motion carried.*

D. Metro Institute of Technology

Recommendations (Dustin Pyles): Distinguished application submitted and stands apart from other central Ohio schools. The proposal was easy to read, specifically the arts and humanities section. Approval recommended.

Subcommittee Member Comments:

- Distinct proposal submitted, specifically expectations and best practices (Briana Hervet).
- Impressive curriculum proposed (Dr. Tom Schwieterman).

*Briana Hervet moved and Ryan Burgess seconded the motion to **Approve** the STEM application from Metro Institute of Technology. The motion carried.*

E. New Hope Christian Academy

Recommendations (Dustin Pyles): Proposal serves as a trailblazer to opening of STEM school for chartered nonpublic schools in Ohio. A stellar example of a STEM school proposed but needs more specifics on partnerships. Great job on creating a case/need for STEM school in the community proposed. **Approval** for “STEM School Designation Equivalent” status recommended.

Subcommittee Member Comments:

- Great description of programs to be provided (Dr. Tom Schwieterman).

*Briana Hervet moved and Dr. Tom Schwieterman seconded the motion to **Approve** the STEM School Designation Equivalent application from New Hope Christian Academy. The motion carried.*

F. St. Vincent de Paul

Recommendations (Dustin Pyles): Proposal contained strong factors to consider. Certain aspects of the application, such as which grade levels are being proposed for consideration, are unclear. There is a strong emphasis on curriculum development with robust partnerships being provided but not enough articulation and momentum stated. St. Vincent de Paul is encouraged to resubmit next year. Disapproval for “STEM School Designation Equivalent” status recommended.

Subcommittee Member Comments:

- Proposal was close to being approved but needs more fiscal documentation. Great start (Dr. Tom Schwieterman).

*Ryan Burgess moved and Dr. Tom Schwieterman seconded the motion to **Disapprove** the STEM School Designation Equivalent application from St. Vincent de Paul. The motion carried.*

G. Stebbins High School Career Tech Academy

Recommendations (Dustin Pyles): Strong components within proposal presented, specifically program articulation. Robust programming presented but distinction is needed on the separation of career-tech and courses from STEM programs. The proposal needs more evidence of partnerships and more evidence on proof of professional development for teachers and students. Clarity is needed on how to attract innovative leaders, development of the budget and STEM curriculum. Question: How will governing board be structured? Approval with conditions recommended.

Conditions:

- Clarification needed on relation of other STEM schools in the Dayton area.
- Clarification needed on how governing board will be structured.
- Clarification needed on distinction between career-tech programs and proposed STEM programs and how coursework will be interconnected and cross-disciplinary both for students and educators.

- Clarification of what the focus or STEM-related context will be/is for the proposed STEM school.
- Clarifications, in writing, on recruitment strategy and plan for students within and outside Mad River Local Schools – what are the attributes of a student who will be successful at the proposed STEM school?
- More evidence of business and higher education partnerships and verifiable commitments to be submitted.
- Evidence needed on professional development and purposeful interdisciplinary instruction and learning among teachers/students.
- Clarification needed on how innovative leaders are being attracted for sustainability.
- Clarification needed on the development of the budget and projected sustainability.
- Clarification needed on development and implementation of the STEM curriculum and its integration of business, community and higher education partners throughout the curriculum's design.
- Clarification needed on a recruitment plan to attract innovative teachers and leaders, to include attributes of a successful candidate.
- Specifics are needed on how the proposed STEM school plans to capture best practices and serve as an education R&D and member of the Ohio STEM Learning Network.
- Stronger examples and specifics on how the proposed STEM school plans to engage higher education partners and leverage those relationships for improving instruction and learning.

Subcommittee Member Comments:

- There is an enormous potential for a STEM school (Dr. Tom Schwieterman).

*Dr. Tom Schwieterman moved and Briana Hervet seconded the motion to **Approve with Conditions** the STEM application from Stebbins High School Career Tech Academy. The motion carried.*

H. Tri-State STEM-M School Collaborative

Recommendations (Dustin Pyles): A unique proposal with intriguing concept submitted. The development of programs is well thought out and there are strong partnerships included.

Question: How will Tri-State STEM-M School Collaborative recruit kids for sustainability due to its location? Also, what legislation is being enacted to address specific prohibitions in ORC 3326.10(A)(2) on out-of-state student enrollment, as well as ORC 3326.50 on not charging tuition for any student enrolled in the school? Approved with Conditions recommended.

Conditions:

- Clarification needed on how Tri-State will recruit students for sustainability.
- Clarification needed on discussions surrounding STEM designation as it relates to the Tri-State area.
- Clarification needed on students attending from Kentucky and/or West Virginia.
 - To include clarification on funding for students from Kentucky and/or West Virginia – specifically how the proposed school will address ORC 3326.10 (A)(2) and 3326.50 in regards to sustainability of the school's operations.
- A letter of clarification is needed to confirm Ohio's students will be offered the opportunity to attend the STEM school (for legislative purposes).
 - This letter will serve as an addendum to originally submitted STEM proposal.
- Clarification needed on the sustainability in community as it relates to the population.
- Articulation, in writing, on how the proposed Tri-State STEM-M School will collaborate, work with and/or partner with Collins Career Center which also is seeking STEM School Designation.

Subcommittee Member Comments:

- How is STEM designation being discussed with the board due to its location in the Tri-State area (Dr. Tom Schwieterman)?
- Regarding sustainability, are student attending from Kentucky and West Virginia, if so, will Kentucky and West Virginia be providing funding for their respective students (Dr. Lonny Rivera)?
- Is there enough population in the Lawrence County area for sustainability (Dr. Tom Schwieterman)?
- More specifics are needed on Ohio as a standalone STEM school (Ryan Burgess).
- A letter of clarification is to confirm Ohio's students will be offered the opportunity to attend the STEM school. This letter of clarification will be an addendum to the proposal in an effort to address any legislative concerns in the Tri-State area (Dr. Lonny Rivera).

*Ryan Burgess moved and Dr. Tom Schwieterman seconded the motion to **Approve with Conditions** the STEM application from for Tri-State STEM-M School Collaborative. The motion carried.*

I. West High School

Recommendations (Dustin Pyles): Proposal was robust and contained distinct examples on development of curriculum. Great partnerships are established, specifically with AEP and their investment in the College for Credits Program. West High School is encouraged to seek more partnerships. Clarity is needed on how the STEM school will meet the needs of the workforce in the community, as well as defined clarity needed on future leadership for sustainability. Approval recommended.

Subcommittee Member Comments:

- What is the plan on the humanities/arts program (Dr. Tom Schwieterman)?
- Clarification is needed on what sets West High School, as a STEM school, apart from other central Ohio STEM schools (Dr. Tom Schwieterman).

*Dr. Lonny Rivera moved and Dr. Tom Schwieterman seconded the motion to **Approve** the STEM application from West High School. The motion carried.*

(7) Next steps:

- All proposals that have been **Approved with Conditions** will address conditions by July 1, 2015.

(8) Final discussions among subcommittee members:

- Past approved STEM schools continue to be monitored to ensure criteria for approval is continuously met (Dr. Tom Schwieterman).
- Integrity of STEM schools must be maintained and measurements of success, as a STEM school and for students within those schools, should be determined (Dr. Lonny Rivera).
- Request made for a standard format for receiving budgetary information within the proposals in the future (Mr. Ryan Burgess).
- Request for that an "executive summary" be included as a requirement for future applications/proposals (i.e., grade levels, new or existing school, etc.) (Mr. Ryan Burgess).
- Technical assistance remains available for all schools (Dustin Pyles).

Dr. Lonny Rivera moved and Ryan Burgess seconded a motion to receive responses of conditions and members vote to approve condition responses via email messages to Lonny and Tiffany.

Meeting adjourned at 10:30 a.m.