

STEM Committee Meeting Minutes

Ohio Department of Education
25 South Front Street,
Columbus, OH 43215
Conference Room 102
Mar 28, 2017

A meeting of the STEM Designation Committee established in Ohio Revised Code 3326.02 was held on March 28, 2017, at 9:00 a.m. at the offices of the Ohio Department of Education.

Committee members in attendance:

- Dr. Tom Schwieterman (Chair), VP, Clinical Affairs and Chief Medical Officer, Midmark Corporation, Appointed by the Ohio Senate.
- Mr. Paolo DeMaria, Superintendent of Public Instruction, Ohio Department of Education;
- Mr. Matt Peters, Assistant Director, Ohio Development Services Agency (designee for David Goodman);
- Ms. Jessica Mercerhill, Senior Director of Educator Preparation, Ohio Department of Higher Education (designee for John Carey);
- Mr. Stephen Lyons, EVP, The Columbus Partnership, Appointed by the Ohio House of Representatives.

Also present were:

- David Burns, Director, Battelle STEM Innovation Networks - Ohio STEM Learning Network;
- Dr. Steve Gratz, Senior Executive Director, Center for Student Support and Educational Options, Ohio Department of Education;
- Buddy Harris, Director, Office of Innovation, Ohio Department of Education;
- Holly Lavender, STEM Education Lead, Ohio Department of Education.
- Diane Lease, Chief Legal Counsel, Ohio Department of Education;
- Heather Sherman, Ohio STEM Learning Network;
- Stephanie Johnson, Ohio STEM Learning Network;
- Dustin Pyles, Vaza Consulting, LLC;
- Joanne LoPresti, Assumption Academy;
- Kristina Pressler, Assumption Academy;
- Laura Corcoran, Bishop Flaget School;
- Danielle McDaniel, Bishop Flaget School;
- Kelly Zywczyk, Canal Winchester Middle School;
- Jack Hunter, Chase STEMM Academy;
- Michele Timmons, EnvisionEd Plus;
- Roger Havens, Franklin Elementary School;
- Andy Hill; Wadsworth Schools;
- Lucy Iemmolo, Gesu Catholic School;
- Marjorie Gessner, Gesu Catholic School;
- Nick Guidera, Graham Middle School;
- Brian Coffey, Herbert Mills Elementary School;
- Kadee Anstadt, Hull Prairie Intermediate School;

- Joanie Klemens, Mater Dei Academy;
- Loretta Pilla, Mater Dei Academy;
- Dan White, Midview Local Schools;
- Dr. Bruce Willingham, Midview Local Schools;
- Melissa Durkin, Ranger High-Tech Academy;
- Edna Chapman, Springfield City Schools;
- Susie Samuels, Springfield City Schools;
- Karalee Lawrence, Springfield City Schools;
- Yvonne Shelburne, Springfield City Schools;
- Carrie Hanna, Springfield City Schools;
- Gabriel Costa, Springmill STEM Elementary School;
- Stephen Rizzo, Springmill STEM Elementary School;
- Meg Strong, Springmill STEM Elementary School;
- Terri Bucci, Springmill STEM Elementary School;
- Colleen Schager, St. Mary – Avon;
- Kristy Rospert, St. Mary – Avon;
- Bart Chatfield, St. Mary – Avon;
- Mary Petelin, St. Mary – Chardon;
- Amber Yeager, St. Mary – Chardon;
- Julie Fedak, St. Mary – Chardon;
- Edie Joyce, St. Mary – Chardon;
- Carla Solomon, St. Mary – Chardon;
- Lisa Cinadr, St. Ambrose School;
- Sheri Ricciardi, St. Ambrose School;
- Sandie Isabella, St. Sebastian Parish School;
- Kelly Gupta, St. Sebastian Parish School;
- Sharee Wells, Columbus City Schools;
- Alesia Gillison, Columbus City Schools;
- Duane Bland, Columbus City Schools;
- Thomie Timmons, Reynoldsburg City Schools;
- Cindy Giulino, Ranger High-Tech Academy;
- Melissa Drury, Summit STEM Academy;
- Heidi Leeds, Summit STEM Academy;
- Rob Kearns, Tallmadge Middle School;
- Brian Patrick, Willoughby-Eastlake School of Innovation
- Ellen Short, Office of U.S. Senator Sherrod Brown

I. Call to order:

Dr. Tom Schwieterman called the meeting to order at 9:01 a.m.
Minutes were recorded by Holly Lavender.

II. Welcome and introductions:

Buddy Harris and Mr. Paolo DeMaria welcomed all attendees, and the committee members introduced themselves.

Buddy Harris provided a brief overview of the purpose of the meeting, and provided information about an upcoming news release in celebration of STEM.

III. Approval of minutes:

Minutes from the January 23, 2017, meeting were sent to committee prior to the meeting.

Mr. Paolo DeMaria moved to **Approve** the minutes from the January 23, 2017, meeting of the STEM Committee, seconded by Mr. Matt Peters.

The **motion carried**.

IV. Review of Linden McKinley progress toward meeting conditions for approval:

At the June 6, 2016 meeting to designate new STEM schools, Linden McKinley STEM Academy was approved with conditions. These conditions outlined a review of specific curriculum items, conducted by the Ohio STEM Learning Network and scheduled at 3 month intervals, and stated that OSLN would report back to the committee following each review.

David Burns from the Ohio STEM Learning Network (OSLN) provided an update on the progress of Linden McKinley. Representatives from Columbus City Schools also spoke to the committee. Because of a shooting that took place at the school earlier in the year, work toward curriculum development was temporarily suspended in order to focus on student support. The school does plan to move forward in order to fully meet the designation requirements, and is applying for an NEA STEM planning grant along with two other high schools in the district. OSLN is recommending that Linden McKinley have an additional year to meet the requirements for approval with conditions.

Dr. Schwieterman stated that the committee will revisit the Linden McKinley approval with conditions and take a vote at the next meeting.

V. Process Overview for STEM Designation:

David Burns gave a brief slide presentation with an explanation of the process OSLN used to arrive at their recommendations for STEM designation. Mr. Lyons asked if there were any success metrics to determine what is working. Mr. Burns stated that there were no metrics at this time, but would be recommended, perhaps also consider a review of designated schools every few years. Dr. Schwieterman stated that we're no longer just proving the concept, we're living the concept, so reviews of applications for designation are now a little more rigorous. Dr. Schwieterman recommended to applicant schools that any not approved for designation at the present meeting should reach out to OSLN; that there would be no "denials," but schools should consider an opportunity to come back to the committee again with a new application.

VI. Discussion and Resolution on proposals for STEM Designation:

1. *Assumption Academy (Cuyahoga County)*

Recommendation from OSLN (David Burns): Professional Development and partnerships are on the right track. Whole school approach is there. A "medical" focus is mentioned but is not seen throughout the application. Did not see cross-curricular integration, would like to see more integration of programs.

Approval not recommended at this time.

Mr. Paolo DeMaria moved and Mr. Matt Peters seconded the motion to **Return** the application to the school for further development, with the support of the Ohio STEM Learning Network.

The **motion carried**.

2. *Bishop Flaget School (Ross County)*

Recommendation from OSLN (David Burns): Need to see more evidence of curriculum connections. The school has all of the pieces, but would like to see it more integrated across the whole school. For example – How does it look in social studies?

Approval not recommended at this time.

Mr. Paolo DeMaria moved and Ms. Jessica Mercerhill seconded the motion to **Return** the application to the school for further development, with the support of the Ohio STEM Learning Network.

The **motion carried**.

3. *Canal Winchester Middle School (Franklin County)*

Recommendation from OSLN (David Burns): Would like assurances that the curriculum described in the application will be implemented.

Recommend approval with conditions, contingent upon a site visit in the fall from OSLN to see the curriculum fully implemented.

Mr. Matt Peters moved and Mr. Paolo DeMaria seconded the motion to **Approve** the application **with conditions**, contingent upon a satisfactory site visit from OSLN, and that OSLN will report back the committee on the outcome of the site visit.

The **motion carried**.

4. *Chase STEMM Academy (Lucas County)*

Recommendation from OSLN (David Burns): Evidence of PBL and engineering projects, needed more information about the governing body. The STEM curriculum is not clearly holistic. Applaud the work with Toledo Public Schools, however more specific examples are needed. For example, need to see involvement of all teachers rather than focus on one teacher.

Approval not recommended at this time.

Ms. Jessica Mercerhill moved and Mr. Steve Lyons seconded the motion to **Return** the application to the school for further development, with the support of the Ohio STEM Learning Network.

The **motion carried**.

5. *Franklin Elementary School (Medina County)*

Recommendation from OSLN (David Burns): Partnerships do not appear to be robust enough.

The pieces are there, but not seeing integration. Approval not recommended at this time.

Mr. Matt Peters moved and Mr. Paolo DeMaria seconded the motion to **Return** the application to the school for further development, with the support of the Ohio STEM Learning Network.

The **motion carried**.

6. *Gesu Catholic School (Cuyahoga County)*

Recommendation from OSLN (David Burns): The pieces are there – student choice, good partners. Did not see a lot about inquiry, see after-school programs but not clearly integrated. Integration needs to be seen throughout – it looks like professional development is there but is not fully implemented yet. Would like to see maturation of the STEM identity, perhaps needs just one more year.

Dr. Schwieterman commented that he'd spent a lot of time reviewing this particular application, and that it was very close.

Approval not recommended at this time.

Ms. Jessica Mercerhill moved and Mr. Matt Peters seconded the motion to **Return** the application to the school for further development, with the support of the Ohio STEM Learning Network.

The **motion carried**.

7. *Hayward Middle School (Clark County)*

Recommendation from OSLN (David Burns): Great opportunities to leverage higher education are seen. Did not see full integration throughout. Global Impact STEM Academy, Metro Early College High School, Metro Institute of Technology, Dayton Early College Academy, and Dayton Regional STEM School would be good models to visit. Approval not recommended at this time.

Mr. DeMaria commented that it would be good to make available a few applications that demonstrated consistency and coherence.

Mr. Matt Peters moved and Mr. Steve Lyons seconded the motion to **Return** the application to the school for further development, with the support of the Ohio STEM Learning Network.

The **motion carried**.

8. *Roosevelt Middle School (Clark County)*

Recommendation from OSLN (David Burns): Evidence of PBL and a good vision of increasing STEM literacy for all. Did not see a school-wide approach.

Approval not recommended at this time.

Mr. Matt Peters moved and Ms. Jessica Mercerhill seconded the motion to **Return** the application to the school for further development, with the support of the Ohio STEM Learning Network.

The **motion carried**.

9. *Herbert Mills Elementary School (Franklin County)*

Recommendation from OSLN (David Burns): Very strong application, recommend approval with no conditions. This would be a good model application. The committee noted that Herbert Mills was the first elementary school to be designated in Ohio.

Ms. Jessica Mercerhill moved and Mr. Matt Peters seconded the motion to **Approve** the application for STEM designation for Herbert Mills STEM Elementary School.

The **motion carried**.

10. *Summit STEM Elementary School (Licking County)*

Recommendation from OSLN (David Burns): Strong application, recommend approval with no conditions.

The committee encouraged the school to open its doors for visits.

Mr. Matt Peters moved and Ms. Jessica Mercerhill seconded the motion to **Approve** the application for STEM designation for Summit STEM Elementary School.

The **motion carried**.

11. *Hull Prairie Intermediate School (Wood County)*

Recommendation from OSLN (David Burns): The application meets all criteria. The school is not open yet. Recommend approval, contingent upon a site visit to the school after it opens to ensure implementation.

Mr. Matt Peters moved and Mr. Paolo DeMaria seconded the motion to **Approve** the application **with conditions**, contingent upon a satisfactory site visit from OSLN after the school opens, and that OSLN will report back the committee on the outcome of the site visit.

The **motion carried**.

12. *Mater Dei Academy (Lake County)*

Recommendation from OSLN (David Burns): Strong application, recommend approval with no conditions.

Mr. Paolo DeMaria moved and Mr. Steve Lyons seconded the motion to **Approve** the application for STEM designation equivalent for Mater Dei Academy.

The **motion carried**.

13. *Midview Local Schools (Wood County – Includes Midview High School, Midview Middle School, Midview East Intermediate School, Midview North Elementary School, and Midview West Elementary School – the district applied for designation of all five schools. The committee considered all five applications together, and made a single motion for all five schools.)*

Recommendation from OSLN (David Burns): It may be a huge lift for the district to do all of its schools at once. The pieces are there, but did not see personalized learning for all students. How does Project Lead The Way integrate throughout the whole school? Approval not recommended at this time.

Mr. Lyons commented that he appreciated the district's aspiration – to consider refining and to get something going as a foundation.

Mr. Paolo DeMaria moved and Mr. Steve Lyons seconded the motion to **Return** the applications to the district for further development, with the support of the Ohio STEM Learning Network.

The **motion carried**.

18. *New Hope Christian Academy (Pickaway County – amendment to add grades K-5 to existing designation)*

Recommendation from OSLN (David Burns): The school does a great job. Recommend approval of the extension with no reservations.

Ms. Jessica Mercerhill moved and Mr. Matt Peters seconded the motion to **Approve** the amendment from New Hope Christian Academy to extend the school's existing STEM designation equivalent to its K – 5 grade levels.

The **motion carried**.

19. *Ranger High-Tech Academy (Lorain County)*
Recommendation from OSLN (David Burns): The school is not open yet. Recommend approval, contingent upon a site visit to the school after it opens to ensure implementation.
Mr. Paolo DeMaria moved and Mr. Steve Lyons seconded the motion to **Approve** the application **with conditions**, contingent upon a satisfactory site visit from OSLN after the school opens, and that OSLN will report back the committee on the outcome of the site visit.
The **motion carried**.
20. *Springmill STEM Elementary (Richland County)*
Recommendation from OSLN (David Burns): Recommend approval with no conditions.
Mr. Steve Lyons moved and Mr. Matt Peters seconded the motion to **Approve** the application for STEM designation for Springmill STEM Elementary.
The **motion carried**.
21. *St. Ambrose School (Medina County)*
Recommendation from OSLN (David Burns): There is just enough in the application to see integration. Recommend approval, contingent upon a site visit to the school to confirm integration is being implemented.
Mr. Matt Peters moved and Mr. Steve Lyons seconded the motion to **Approve** the application **with conditions**, contingent upon a satisfactory site visit from OSLN to confirm integration, and that OSLN will report back the committee on the outcome of the site visit.
The **motion carried**.
22. *St. Mary of the Immaculate Conception - Avon (Lorain County)*
Recommendation from OSLN (David Burns): Strong application, recommend approval with no conditions.
Mr. Matt Peters moved and Mr. Paolo DeMaria seconded the motion to **Approve** the application for STEM designation equivalent for St. Mary of the Immaculate Conception (Avon).
The **motion carried**.
23. *St. Mary School - Chardon (Geauga County)*
Recommendation from OSLN (David Burns): Evidence of leadership and good use of design principles. Would like to see more evidence that the curriculum is integrated and inquiry-based. Recommend additional information documenting evidence of inquiry-based instruction be brought back and provided to the committee at their next meeting (in early June). Dr. Schwieterman commented that the elements appeared to be there but it was not 100% clear – recommend that OSLN visit the school to observe.
Mr. Paolo DeMaria moved and Mr. Matt Peters seconded the motion to **Return** the application, and that the school compile the requested **additional evidence** and **bring it back** with the application **for further consideration** at the next committee meeting.
The **motion carried**.
24. *St. Sebastian Parish School (Summit County)*
Recommendation from OSLN (David Burns): Recommend approval with no conditions.
Mr. Steve Lyons moved and Ms. Jessica Mercerhill seconded the motion to **Approve** the application for STEM designation equivalent for St. Sebastian Parish School.
The **motion carried**.
25. *St. Vincent – St. Mary High School (Summit County)*
Recommendation from OSLN (David Burns): The application is right on the border. Would like to see more evidence and examples that the curriculum is fully integrated. Recommend additional information be brought back and provided to the committee at their next meeting

Mr. Steve Lyons moved and Mr. Matt Peters seconded the motion to **Return** the application, and that the school compile the requested **additional evidence** and **bring it back** with the application for **further consideration** at the next committee meeting.
The **motion carried**.

26. *Tallmadge Middle School (Summit County)*

Recommendation from OSLN (David Burns): The curriculum is not integrated throughout the school. The application needs more discussion about the school leadership.

Approval not recommended at this time.

Ms. Jessica Mercerhill moved and Mr. Matt Peters seconded the motion to **Return** the application to the school for further development, with the support of the Ohio STEM Learning Network.

The **motion carried**.

27. *Willoughby-Eastlake School of Innovation (Lake County)*

Recommendation from OSLN (David Burns): Recommend approval with no conditions.

Mr. Paolo DeMaria moved and Mr. Matt Peters seconded the motion to **Approve** the application for STEM designation for the Willoughby-Eastlake School of Innovation.

The **motion carried**.

28. *St. Hilary School (Summit County)*

Recommendation from OSLN (David Burns): The application is on the right track, but didn't quite see everything needed. Goals were identified, so would like to see the school move forward on these goals for next year.

Approval not recommended at this time.

Mr. Matt Peters moved and Mr. Paolo DeMaria seconded the motion to **Return** the application to the school for further development, with the support of the Ohio STEM Learning Network.

The **motion carried**.

29. *Northwestern Elementary School (Wayne County)*

Recommendation from OSLN (David Burns): Strong application; Recommend approval with no conditions.

Mr. Matt Peters moved and Mr. Steve Lyons seconded the motion to **Approve** the application for STEM designation for the Northwestern Elementary School.

The **motion carried**.

VII. Closing Remarks

Representatives from OSLN made a few brief comments about the OSLN regional hubs and opportunities for support that are available through the hubs.

VIII. Adjourn

Mr. Paolo DeMaria moved to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Mr. Matt Peters.

The meeting adjourned at 10:26 a.m.