

**STEM Committee Meeting Minutes**

Ohio Department of Education

Microsoft Teams Live

May 22nd, 2020 10-12 pm

A meeting of the STEM Designation Committee established in Ohio Revised Code 3326.02 was held on May 22nd, at 10:00 a.m. via Microsoft Teams Live hosted by the Ohio Department of Education

**Committee members in attendance (quorum):**

- Mr. Paolo DeMaria, Superintendent of Public Instruction, Ohio Department of Education
- Dr. Tom Schwieterman, VP, Clinical Affairs and Chief Medical Office, Midmark Corporation, Appointed by the Ohio Senate
- Dr. Krista Maxson, Associate Vice Chancellor, P-16 Initiatives Ohio Department of Higher Education, Chancellor of the Department of Higher Education (Designee)
- Ellen Marrison, Content Strategist, SSTI, Appointed by the Governor of Ohio
- Mr. Stephen White, Esq, VP External Affairs, Strategic Initiatives, and Business Development, COSI, Appointed by the Governor of Ohio
- Jonathan Gormley Assistant Chief of Policy and Communication- Ohio Development Services Agency, Director of Development (Designee)

**Not present:**

- Mr. Stephen Lyons, EVP, The Columbus Partnerships, Appointed by the Ohio House of Representatives

**Also present were:**

- Rob Evans, Ohio STEM Learning Network
- Heather Sherman, Ohio STEM Learning Network
- Melissa Weber-Mayrer, Director of the Office of Approaches to Teaching and Professional Learning, Ohio Department of Education
- Shaun Yoder, Chief Strategy Officer, Ohio Department of Education

**I. Call to order**

Dr. Tom Schwieterman called the meeting to order at 10:05 am.

Minutes were recorded by Leslie Yenkin.

**II. Welcome and Introductions**

Dr. Tom Schwieterman started committee-wide introductions.

**III. Approval of Agenda**

Dr. Tom Schwieterman discussed the agenda with the committee and guest attendees present. Dr. Tom Schwieterman, STEM Committee Chair motioned to **Approve** the agenda. Motion was **Approved Unanimously** by the committee.

**IV. Approval of September 20, 2019 minutes**

Minutes from the September 20, 2019, meeting were sent to the committee for review prior to the meeting.

Dr. Tom Schwieterman moved to **Approve** the minutes from the September 20, 2019, meeting of the STEM Committee, seconded by Paolo DeMaria.

The **motion carried**.

**V. Northeast Ohio Impact Academy- Kimberly Bell and Heather Sherman**

## a. November 19th Visit-

Kimberly Bell and Heather Sherman conducted the site visit. During the site visit, Northeast Ohio Impact Academy was operating under the expectations listed. Observations included activities such as students coding and students engaged in a vigorous debate on mining. It was recommended that Northeast Ohio Impact Academy move forward to full designation.

- b. Full Approval of STEM Designation (approved with conditions in April 2019)  
Superintendent DeMaria motioned to **Approve** the full designation, seconded by Ellen Marrison. The motion was **Approved Unanimously**. The **motion carried**.

## VII. Updates and Reflection on the 2020 STEM Designation Process

- a. STEM Designation Learning Sessions
- b. STEM Application and Site Visits
- c. Data on the 2020 STEM Designation

Heather Sherman presented about the relationship between STEM education and preparation for college and the workplace; the role the College Credit Plus and internship programs play in preparing students for college and career; STEM network growth from the Metro School in 2006 to the STEMx network of 19 states that currently exists; and the Ohio STEM Learning Network regional hubs that provide support to STEM designated schools.

Heather Sherman and Kimberly Bell provided information about the STEM designation process. Heather Sherman presented information about the collaboration between the Ohio STEM Learning Network and the Ohio Department of Education and the roles of each in the STEM designation process. Kimberly Bell provided an overview of the STEM designation process and changes made to the process. To meet district needs, the application period began earlier and a rubric was provided. Site visits by representatives of the Ohio STEM Learning Network (Heather Sherman) and the Ohio Department of Education (Kimberly Bell) were also added to the process. Some site visits were conducted virtually due to COVID-19 restrictions. Other steps in the designation process included STEM designation meetings with interested schools and technical assistance to applicants provided by the Ohio STEM Learning Network. Statistics related to the STEM designation process were presented. There were 200 attendees from 69 schools and districts at the STEM designation meetings and 40 letters of intent submitted to the Ohio Department of Education. Twenty-eight schools applied for a STEM designation and 21 site visits were conducted.

Dr. Tom Schwieterman and Ellen Marrison commended Kimberly Bell and Heather Sherman for their work involving the STEM Designation Process. Superintendent DeMaria expressed his appreciation to Kimberly Bell and Heather Sherman for their work and for the partnership between the Ohio Department of Education and the Ohio STEM Learning Network. Superintendent DeMaria stated that sharing the approaches that STEM schools are taking will benefit both the STEM and broader community and will be useful when school resumes in the fall.

Heather Sherman provided an overview of the requirements of STEM designated schools. She discussed the need for the school to offer STEM education to all students with a focus on culture, curriculum and connections. Heather Sherman also discussed the characteristics of the schools recommended for a STEM designation. The site visits were able to provide a picture of how schools were meeting these characteristics. Receiving a recommendation for STEM designation is the culmination of years of work.

## VIII. Discussion and Resolutions of Proposals for STEM or STEAM designation: Heather Sherman, OSLN Recommended for Designation

- Revere Schools Bath Elementary School- Daniel Fry, Principal
- Ashland Christian Academy- Beth Szijarto, STEM Director
- Kinder Garden Schools- Trudi Simpson, Principal
- Steubenville City Schools McKinley STEM Academy (Steubenville) Dr. Shana Wydra, STEM Director and Deanna Beall, Principal
- Toledo City Schools McKinley STEMM Academy- Christina Ramsey, Principal
- Noble Local
  - o Shenandoah Elementary- Chad Miller, Principal
  - o Shenandoah High School- Justin Denius, Principal
- St. Paul School (Salem)- David Pancurak, Principal
- Springfield Schools (Toledo) Dorr Elementary- Cheri Copeland-Shull, Principal

- Fairview Park City Schools Fairview High School- Melanie Wightman, Director, Teaching & Learning and Chris Vicha, Principal

**The following schools will not be recommended for designation.**

- Forest Hills School District Anderson High School- Rob Fellows, Principal
- Toledo City Schools
  - o Hawkins STEMM Academy- Elizabeth Stretavski, Principal
  - o Marshall STEMM Academy- Douglas Bell, Principal
- Kent City Schools Holden Elementary - Todd Poole
- Springfield Schools (Toledo) Springfield Middle School - Jeffrey Pendry, Principal
- London City Schools Lou Kramer, Superintendent
  - o London High School
  - o London Middle School
- Sleek Academy- Abby Youngpeter, Curriculum Coordinator
- Berkshire Local Schools- Dawn Fleming, Director of Pupil Services
  - o Berkshire Jr/Sr High
  - o Burton Elementary
  - o Ledgemont Elementary
- Crestview Local Schools Crestview Elementary School- Matt Manley, Superintendent
- Foxfire Intermediate School- Bob Grayson
- Lake Catholic High School Richard Smith, Director of Technology and Innovation
- Milford City Schools Milford Junior High School- Misty Goetz, Principal
- Steubenville City Schools Steubenville High School- Dr. Shana Wydra and Ted Gorman
- Immaculate Conception School- Rick Logue

**IX. Discussion of STEM Designation Celebration**

Heather Sherman stated that the STEM designation celebration will take place when it is safe to gather together, possibly in the fall. The date of the celebration will be determined when there is a clearer understanding of when it will be safe to assemble.

**X. Closing Remarks**

Kimberly Bell thanked the committee for all the work done across the State. Dr. Tom Schwieterman commented on the Ohio STEM Learning Network's clear intent to help schools reach STEM designation. Superintendent DeMaria commended the commitment of all who participated to quality STEM education. He urged the applicants who were not recommended for STEM designation to continue to work towards this important goal. They will be supported in the process. Dr. Tom Schwieterman closed by saying that the STEM world is driving innovation that can help address issues related to the pandemic.

**VI. Adjourn**

Dr. Tom Schwieterman, Committee Chair, motioned to adjourn seconded by Paolo DeMaria.

The meeting adjourned at 10:51 a.m.

