

Ohio STEM Committee Meeting Minutes

February 25, 2022

10:39am – 11:50am

Global Impact STEM Academy

700 S Limestone Street B, Springfield, OH 45505

Committee Members Attending in-person:

Dr. Tom Schwieterman, VP of Clinical Affairs and Chief Medical Officer at Midmark Corporation, STEM Committee Chair appointed by the Ohio State Senate

Andrew L. Aichele, Senior Director of Engagement & Education at COSI

Krista Maxson, Associate Vice Chancellor, P-16 Initiatives, Ohio Department of Higher Education, Designee for the Chancellor of the Department of Higher Education

Scott Ryan, Executive Director of the Ohio Third Frontier, Ohio Development Services Agency, Designee for the Director of Development

Committee Members Attending Virtually:

Dr. Melissa Weber-Mayrer, Ph.D., Director of the Office of Approaches to Teaching and Professional Learning at The Ohio Department of Education, Designee for the Interim Superintendent of Public Instruction

Ellen Marrison, Content Strategist, The State Science & Technology Institute, appointed by the Governor

Jeff Polesovsky, Vice President of Public Policy, Columbus Partnership, appointed by the Speaker of the Ohio House of Representatives

Committee Members Absent:

All committee members were present.

Ohio Department of Education (ODE) Attending:

Dr. Teresa Dempsey, Ph.D., Assistant Director for Personalized Learning

Johana Coronado, STEM Program Administrator 1

Janna Mino, STEM Education Program Specialist

Ohio STEM Learning Network (OSLN) Attending:

Kelly Gaier Evans, OSLN Director

Others Attending:

Robin Fisher, Superintendent and Chief Administrative Officer of Dayton Regional STEM School

Josh Jennings, Founding Director and Superintendent of Global Impact STEM Academy

Ohio Department of Education (ODE) Staff Recording Meeting Minutes:

Johana Coronado, STEM Program Administrator 1

Janna Mino, STEM Education Program Specialist

Opening:

Dr. Tom Schwieterman called the committee meeting to order at **10:39am**.

Welcome and Introductions

Dr. Tom Schwieterman introduced fellow committee members Andrew L. Aichele, Krista Maxson, and Scott Ryan, as well as Dr. Teresa Dempsey from ODE, and Kelly Gaier Evans from OSLN.

Kelly Gaier Evans mentioned two new OSLN/Battelle staff members who are not in attendance at this meeting.

Approval of Agenda

Motion made to approve this meeting's agenda made by Krista Maxson, seconded by Scott Ryan. No opposed. Motion approved.

Approval of October 29, 2021, Meeting Minutes

Motion made to approve the October 29, 2021, Meeting Minutes made by Krista Maxson, seconded by Andrew L. Aichele. No opposed. Motion approved.

Discussion Item: Five-Year STEM Redesignation Process

OSLN STEM Designation and Redesignation Overview:

Kelly Gaier Evans presented to the group with [slides](#) and provided background information on the history of the STEM Designation process since 2008 to provide context for the decisions made in the Redesignation Process. This presentation included an analysis of the geographical regions, some demographic data, and timeline of STEM-designated schools.

Dr. Tom Schwieterman asked if the committee could address geographical gaps in STEM School offerings. Kelly Gaier Evans responded that OSLN and ODE are tasked with looking into availability and accessibility of STEM Schools for all regions of the state.

Kelly Gaier Evans provided an overview of the role of the STEM Committee in this process as is detailed in [Ohio Law](#). A summary of the tasks of the committee includes determining criteria for proposals for STEM Schools, establishing submission of proposals for STEM Schools, accepting, evaluating, and approving proposals for STEM Schools, considering diverse geographic regions of the state to make sure all students have access to STEM Schools, and seeking and considering technical assistance and recommendations from OSLN throughout these processes.

Kelly Gaier Evans then explained that OSLN reached out to current STEM-designated schools to ask if they wanted to be on either the Redesignation Task Force (to determine the process) or on the Pilot schools list. 13 taskforce members and pilot schools were selected from the volunteers.

Dr. Tom Schwieterman asked the STEM School Leaders present at the meeting if the redesignation process is feasible. Josh Jennings of Global Impact STEM Academy, one of the schools piloting the Redesignation Process, answered that their school could easily provide the evidence and artifacts required.

Krista Maxson suggested that moving forward, STEM Schools that are one or two years away from the Redesignation Process could be mentored by already-redesignated STEM Schools to help prepare them for the process. Kelly Gaier Evans responded that this is a priority of the Redesignation Task Force and similar efforts are being considered by OSLN for the initial STEM Designation Process for new STEM Schools.

Draft of Proposal to Modify Current STEM or STEAM Designated Grade Levels:

Kelly Gaier Evans told the group that as STEM Schools grow, a recurring issue is that there is no formalized process for STEM Schools to include more grade levels in their STEM Designation. She explained that the OSLN and ODE team created a template that simplifies this process for STEM Schools interested in adding a grade level to their Designation. The committee was asked to comment on the draft of this proposal, of which they received printed copies.

Dr. Tom Schwieterman commented that he finds the document to be clear and simple and provided no further input for improvements at this time. However, he then suggested that the committee members read thoroughly offline and provide any feedback over email. Kelly Gaier Evans proposed that the meeting to approve any changes and voting on a final version could be done through a virtual meeting.

Open Q&A from the STEM Committee to OSLN:

Dr. Tom Schwieterman asked the group if it would be helpful to move the STEM School Designation voting and STEM School Redesignation voting to the fall meeting instead of the spring or summer. Kelly Gaier Evans responded that OSLN will provide a schedule of when Designation and Redesignation voting occurs currently to the committee at the next meeting.

Dr. Tom Schwieterman asked the group if anyone has reached out to Intel for sponsorship or collaboration. Jeff Polesovsky (virtual attendee) answered that they and Scott Ryan are tasked with this work and will continue reaching out and would report to the committee any updates.

Dr. Tom Schwieterman thanked Kelly Gaier Evans and her team at OSLN for the effort involved in today's presentation and thanked the Global Impact STEM Academy representatives for hosting today's meeting.

Public comments:

No additional public comments were made.

Adjournment:

Motion made by Andrew L. Aichele, seconded by Scott Ryan. No opposed.

Dr. Tom Schwieterman adjourned the committee meeting at **11:50am**.
