

STEM School
Board of Directors Meeting
December 7, 2021
5:30pm – 7:00pm
High School Commons
Minutes

I. Call to Order: 5:35 PM

- i. **Roll Call** conducted by Roy Martinez
Directors Present: Roy Martinez, Carla Gustafson, Rudy Lukez, Kelly Reyna, Michelle Horne, Ramesh Thatavarthi (via phone), and Nate Angell (via phone)
- ii. **Pledge of Allegiance** lead by Kelly Reyna

II. Reciting of the Mission Statement by Carla Gustafson

III. Review and approval of previous board meeting minutes:

Motion: Approval of the previous board minutes with no changes.

Motioned to approve: Carla Gustafson

Seconded by: Rudy Lukez

All directors approved, and motion passed

IV. Student leadership report: 5:36 PM

- i. **Student Government:** John Masulit and Tjaden Litwiler presented a powerpoint presentation on the events that the student government have conducted so far and upcoming events.
- ii. **National Honor Society:** Tavin Turner presented a powerpoint. Wish week is approaching and the NHS has established a goal of \$15,000 this year. This would fund 3 wishes.

V. Auditor report: 5:45 PM

- i. **Jim Hinkle** of Hinkle and Co. is a CPA who has conducted the STEM financial audit. He reports his findings to the board regarding the recently completed audit.
- ii. **Financial Statements:** Unmodified (clean) opinion regarding STEM financial statements.
- iii. **Transparency/ Prior Communication Letter:** H&C had nothing to report, no disagreements with management, no suggestions, or evidence of other auditors. Auditors felt that they were handled with total transparency.
- iv. **Final Report:** Good Report with no recommendations.

Board Question: Roy Martinez wanted to know what the changes made to PERA entailed and how the effects were felt. Jim said that nothing changed for STEM with contributions, and that the changes would not affect STEM staff monetarily.

VI. Compliance and replication Report: presented by Dr. Stewart 5:55 PM

- i. **Grievance Reporting:** You can now file a formal grievance or complaint directly to Dr. Stewart at compliance@stemk12.org. She will conduct necessary interviews, develop solutions, and conduct necessary follow up and closure reports.
- ii. **Approaching Sessions:** There will be two informative sessions coming up on December 8, 2021 at 3-3:45 PM in the HS Commons and December 9 from 3-3:45 PM in Tami Brooks Classroom for staff. The future two sessions will be for parents and community members.
- iii. **Road to Replication-** right now we are gathering community interests like we did on December 2, 2021. The next step is to develop recurring informational sessions within the community, then we will develop our team within the organization. The letter of intent is due March 1, 2022 and Application is due March 15, 2022.

iv. Question and Answer:

Student question: There are some students that feel uncomfortable about replication. How do students handle a complaint or grievance?

Answer: The first thing to do is to talk to a teacher, then to the teacher's supervisor if resolution has not been reached. If you need to file a complaint, you can also use this resource.

Kelly Reyna: We have a communication pathway that needs to be followed before they get to Dr. Stewart.

Student: How can we be assured that anonymity will be assured for students?

Answer: Student anonymity is protected by law. We can't investigate who has filed an anonymous complaint.

Community question: Who are the experts who will go to Sterling Ranch for the next information session?

Answer: Our expert on finance is Star Ake and our expert on curriculum is Dr. Johnson. This is not our complete list of experts, but we will be addressing questions from these categories.

VII. Executive Director's Report: Dr. Eucker- staffing, COVID, and STEM events 6:20 PM

i. COVID-104 student and 11 staff infections. All students are now in a low risk status. We have a virtual contingency plan in place in case it is needed in the second semester.

ii. There is a month-long staff wide holiday activity occurring now. Additional activities include Veterans Day, Junior Achievement Stock Market Challenge at DU, the staff/board Holiday Party, and ongoing CHSAA Gym remodel.

VIII. Student Support Services: Christina Wu 6:30 PM

i. District crisis team came to STEM and worked with us regarding the recent tragedies in our area and the school tragedy out of state last week. We are grateful for these supports and are developing a greater community and capacity for mental health resources in our school.

Board Question: Carla Gustafson: Is there any thought about the reduced student numbers and PBL specialists and have there been discussions to consider that planning time?

Answer: We have teachers who are trained in PBL to help out where they need, but we are definitely interested in more classroom help with this identified need.

ii. **Mask Mandates:** Douglas County School District is meeting tonight to discuss if they will keep the mask mandate in schools. The board discusses the merits and defects of vaccine mandates for staff. The decision is to see how our community feels on this and whether they will want this discussion in a future meeting.

IX. Public comment 6:37 PM

Public comment: 1 minute extension- anonymous submission through a student present.

-Public comment was closed due to the refusal to respect the expressed guidelines of public comment session.

XI. Adjourn Public Session 6:44 PM

Motion to adjourn the December 7, 2021 Board Meeting

Motioned by: Roy Martinez

Seconded by: Kelly Reyna

All directors approved, and motion passes

Board Meeting Officially Adjourned at 6:44 PM