

STEM School

Board of Directors Meeting

January 5, 2021
5:30pm – 7:00pm

Minutes

I. Call to Order: 5:35 PM MST

i Roll Call: conducted by Rudy Lukez

Board Members Present: Nicole Smith, Roy Martinez, and Rudy Lukez

Staff present: Penny Eucker, Nicole Bostel, Karen Johnson

ii Pledge of Allegiance lead by Roy Martinez

II. Reciting of the Mission Statement by Nicole Smith

Agenda Item updates

Adding Nate Angell to our board.

STEM student Anjali, and Nicole Kegel, Forbes Ignite, to present a new idea to us about teacher development

Robert Hoornstra's report regarding winter break facilities activities was added to the board book

III. Review and approval of previous board meeting minutes:

Motion: Approval of the previous board minutes with no corrections

Motioned to approve: Roy Martinez

Seconded by: Nicole Smith

All directors approved, and motion passed

IV. Student leadership report: 5:40 PM MST

There were no Student Leadership members in the audience tonight.

Anjali Rao and Nicole Kegel (Forbes Ignite) were promoted to speak about Teacher Development

Development/ Empathy Shark Tank

Empathy Shark Tank promotes collective efficacy and forming empathy within staff members. Forbes Ignite is a separate company from Forbes Media. They work to bring together interdisciplinary thinkers from around the world, to come up with solutions to drive positive changes in the world.

Empathy Shark Tank Mission

Team building session to develop empathy, innovative ideas and Professional Development goals that leadership can start to engage in, aligning under the umbrella of collective efficacy and solidifies staff relationships.

Implementation and Results

The session was 1 hour during the PD day to pilot the session. Staff members were paired off and provided with a template to use while interviewing each other to come up with a list of 2-3 ideas that would be great to implement in classrooms or the school as a whole. Essentially, there was a high relevance to the work they were doing and they were satisfied with the session.

Questions

Q: Nicole Smith asks: are there specific teachers groups or grade levels where this would be the most effective?

A: The most impact was between intergrade levels (i.e. merging staff from k-5 with high school teachers who wouldn't ordinarily have the opportunity to merge and collaborate.)

Q: Roy asked to have copies of the slides.

Q: Rudy asks where does Nicole Kegel see this going at this point, and how does she plug in in terms of working with Anjali.

A: We do plan to release this to the public, and we appreciate STEM allowing us to prototype this and collect all possible feedback that we can at this stage.

V. Public comment 5:55-6:05

Nicole Churchill-Jones: spoke on her son's loss of teachers in 2019-2020 and his attending Arapahoe Community College to receive credits.

VI. Executive Director's Report 6:05-6:25

Success Report

Anjali Rao is the world's most famous student after being awarded Time's Kid of the year, which is very positive for STEM. Over winter break, we were notified that STEM received almost \$80,000 in reimbursements for our high level, industry standard certifications. This allows STEM to offer certifications to students that are usually only accessible to college students and graduates.

Our Staff have the opportunity to be vaccinated starting this week under the 1B classification.

Opportunity for Growth and Adjustments

We allow our middle school students to take high school credits, and if they have an A it will be on their high school credit transcript. If continuing middle schools transfer outside of STEM, these credits are usually erased from their records. The problem is CE is weighted differently than the credits earned in Middle school making the previously earned A's could bring down their GPA 5.0 vs. 4.0.

Should we create an internal policy that allows students and their parents to decide if they want their middle school grades to be on their high school transcript or not?

Rudy Lukez: We should draft a policy to be reviewed prior to the February BOD Meeting, and move forward with approval in February.

Board Addition

Nate Angell is networked throughout the state and nationally through the Morgridge Foundation. By bringing him on board, we can utilize his talents and perspective while we are also part to his network for maximum impact to round out our board. Rudy Lukez wants to move forward with the vote to have Nate Angell added to the board as a Class B member.

Questions

Q: Roy Martinez wonders if he is here for the full three years.

A: Rudy Lukez: We will have to sort that out and leave it as TBD

Motion: Motion to approve Nate Angell to our board and a Class B Director.

Motioned to approve: Roy Martinez

Seconded by: Nicole Smith

All directors approved, and motion passed unanimously

VII. Adjourn public session 6:45

There is no reason to go to the executive session tonight, there are a couple items from the legal committee to address and they will be addressed in the next meeting.

Motion: motion to conclude the public meeting tonight
Moted to approve: Roy Martinez
Secoded by: Nicole Smith
All directors approved, and motion passed