

STEM Investment Council, June 2023

FULL COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

Present: Stefan Bird, Ken Greenbaum, Kama Almasi, Karla Clark, Nickie Shira, Nikki Salenger, Jill Hubbard, Susan Shugerman, Tracy Willson-Scott, Herb Fricke, David Melville, Myronda Schiding, Sarah Whiteside, Beth Blumenstein, Jessica Howard, Alexa Pearson, Elizabeth Massa-Macleod.

Absent: Nagi Nathanathan, Marv Nelson, Rita Hansen, Katrina Hull, Kyle Ritchey-Knoll, Lisa Powell, Tong Zhang, Beth Alcouloumre, Marcelino Alvarez, Paul Stewart, Yolanda Coleman, Melissa Dubois, Preston Eagleheart, Andy Grzeskowiak, Jessica Howard, Lela Thieme.

Called to Order at 11:05 June 15, 2023 by Stefan Bird on Zoom.

STANDING BUSINESS

1.0 Preliminary and Organizational Business, Chair Bird [11:05]

1.1 Overview of Agenda and Welcoming Remarks [11:05]

More formal review will take place in July. We will be rearranging the agenda today slightly to accommodate ODE schedule.

2.0 Public Comment [11:07]

No public comments.

3.0 Consent Agenda [11:07]

Approve Previous STEM Investment Council Minutes

They are not available and there is no quorum today. Will be put onto July meeting schedule.

ALIGNMENT AND PARTNERSHIPS

4.0 [Process for 2023-25 STEM Innovation Grants](#), Ken Greenbaum/Alexa Pearson [11:08]

- ODE has been supporting GEER funding for computer science and backbone funding among other activities, to provide context for Ken and Alexa's involvement.
- Key dates shared via slides: preliminary ideas and feedback 6/15. Application submission and review/assistance from ODE from 6/25-7/5. Final applications to Council for preview by 7/6. Meeting for final recommendations and vote date TBD in mid-July.
- Notable changes: applications more closely aligned to criteria in statute, will be evaluated by ODE before final review, may be used to prioritize project selection if all application budgets exceed budget, and Hubs are identifying collective themes and areas of alignment.

5.0 STEM Hub Updates: Preliminary Ideas for Presentation Grants, Karla Clark [11:17]

- Turnaround timeline has been quite short, something to be aware of. Hubs are continuing to collaborate more. Shared collective impact work has been helpful, as has Oregon STEM's support.
- RFP requirement was lifted to only have 4 projects- directors have been moving in direction of trying to come together around 4 areas of projects. Shared link on system alignment: https://drive.google.com/file/d/1OBMWLA8LwrJiNXwxc5O_cZQ7Gu8YTyM7/view
- *First project area:* early STEAM and how it aligns to OARS, Education Pla, Governor's Priorities. There has been lots of turnover that makes it challenging. Aligning this work to CS work has been great, esp. Beebots projects.

- *Second area:* Community STEAM. Same alignment areas as above. How to empower communities through opportunity and call to action. For instance family nights, mobile makerspaces, career fairs. David Melville's example: <https://drive.google.com/file/d/1Vmborba4Y4I5kYrg7o0VSgbUR62Bf0pn/view?usp=sharing>
 - Mid-Valley Hub's Mobile Makerspace out in the field recently: <https://drive.google.com/file/d/1fkAXpo0TGKwyBC7Dmz4zerT2tMqEyNt8/view?usp=sharing>
 - *Third area:* Core STEM. Example providing PD to educators, integrating STEM into any classroom content area. Integrating SEL into daily classwork.
 - *Fourth area:* Pathways to STEM (CCL). Prepare students, spark interest, diversify programs and career sectors. YouScience platform is an example. Externships and internships.
- Q & A:
- If teachers are fearful of the tech, how are students reacting? Esp. underrepresented ones. [Fricke]
 - Finding teachers and community partners who are excited is really helpful. Kids get excited too and teacher can learn along with students. [Clark]
 - STEM network has been at center of lots of activity and engagement, what is root cause of challenge and path to help mitigate it? [Bird]
 - In third biennium now- keep hearing need for collective impact. Deb Bailey has helped them move in that direction, i.e. attending STEM Ecosystems meetings, collective impact training. [Clark]
 - Specific to Innovation grants, anything you're thinking about that would support those needs/impact? [Bird]
 - ODE's ask to consider staffing in funding. Also considering how they consolidate- fewer projects but going deeper (i.e. the 4 areas presented here). [Clark]
 - Can you share a good source for this critical data/research? [Shugerman]
 - Statewide report from Youscience data.
 - It may be worthwhile to ensure this presentation is seen before July. Or share recording. [Bird]

6.0 Oregon Department of Education Updates, Ken Greenbaum/Kama Almasi [11:52]

- Clarifying that ODE support of Council is temporary. Discussions of who will support will continue beyond the July meeting.
 - *Science standards and instructional materials:* they are being evaluated. Right now by a panel.
 - *Computer Science Initiative:* Governor's directive is underway; implementation plan is being developed for September 2023. We would love Council feedback on the plan and opportunities for this will be coming.
 - *Legislative session:* We have given Hubs last biennium funding levels for planning purposes; legislative session budget decisions TBA.
- Q & A
- Regarding the lack of a central director for the Hubs- has it been a barrier to accomplishing goals? [Bird]
 - It has been a point of confusion, given the layers of reporting, new directors, etc. [Clark]
 - It might be helpful to get feedback on what works on this process. [Bird]
 - We want to continue listening and engaging on this. [Greenbaum]

7.0 Update from Oregon STEM, Deb Mumm-Hill [12:05]

- Previously discussed developing a statewide strategic plan. It is currently being implemented with 4 pillars: Measure What Matters, Systems Alignment, Awareness Campaign, Hub Partnerships (last one will be discussed next time).

- Overarching objective is to create pathways to opportunity for students (education, career awareness, workforce development).
- WRAC Committee: adopt a supply chain perspective for 2024 talent assessment report.
- The skills/accessibility gap is widening, even before COVID. Oregon does not have a talent pool problem however- an opportunity.
- Postsecondary career exploration is most common but also highest cost; moving this into earlier years via CTE, student aptitude tests, more. See attachment from Deb re: awareness gap, esp around computers/technology.
- Washington STEM created CORI tool; reached out to work w Oregon
- Future Ready Oregon: round 2 of pursuing grants.
- Seeking aggregated data to inform strategies, system alignment and investment. Have the data, DHS is looking at how to bring agency data sets together.
- Future Calls for More Training Post High School: HECC data. Shows postsecondary credentials being route to liveable wages.
- CCL: is a gateway to career awareness/addressing gaps. Personalized Career Pathway Plans via YouScience (being beta tested by Hubs) part of this.
- Would like to get to a single system across state for industry to use. Post Secondary Employment Outcomes Tool from Census Bureau another useful tool for this.
- Reminder of ratio of degree: licensed positions [1 MA: 2 BA: 7 licensed]
- Governor Priorities for Improving Education: see ten priorities; Hubs work aligns to 6 of them.
- Funding Opportunities: CHIPS and Science Act is a rare opportunity for funding. Future Ready Oregon, Innovation Grants, and more.
- Semi.Org Semiconductor career tool. One of many opportunities to connect dots.

Q&A

- "I emailed Ken and Kama the currently refined Career Connected Learning framework with scope and sequence to share in the meeting notes. This framework with scope and sequence clearly identifies the 4 domains of 'awareness, exploration, preparation and training including work based learning' paired with examples of how we can do this work as early as elementary." [Clark]
- Funding braiding is often challenging with the usage expectations; is this challenging for Hubs? [Salenger]
 - Yes- need collective internship coordinators since there is so much red tape. How can we do system building? Building data models for reporting, etc. Encouraging Hubs to build staffing hours into their grants/models. FTE funding is challenging. [Mumm-Hill]
- Am in the semiconductor industry so please reach out if you'd like network/help. [Salenger]
- Oregon's approach is different from Texas- more 'anti system', local control. Example schools set up systems using resources it already had, but they seem limiting (i.e. cosmetology)- disconnected from what community colleges are actually doing. Need more systems collaborations between schools. [Howard]
 - This is where the CORI too could be useful. [Mumm-Hill]
- Would like more connection between Community Colleges and Hubs. [Howard]

BREAK [1:04 PM]

8.0 Review of 2021-2023 Biennium, Kama Almasi [1:10]

- Oregon Math Project review. K-14 work to align and make equitable with cornerstones of focus, engagement, pathways and belonging.
Mathways Grants: regional grants to 6 Hubs. Inc. 4 summer math institutes.
Higher Ed Alignment
Educator PD

Communication Toolkit, coming July

There is another \$2 million in the budget to continue this work so more will be coming.

- **Current Innovation Grants:**

21-23 biennium grant work wrapping up. 13 collaborative current projects (see list in slide).

Highlights: mobile maker labs, esp. for rural communities. Onsite lending libraries. Trilingual health science programs.

Data and impact: impact increased in most categories i.e. student participation. Decreased in some: i.e. PD time.

Lessons learned: focus within Grants, collaboration, data and deliverables, coordination and timing, and fiscal agents' roles.

9.0 Q & A [1:36 PM]

No further questions or comments.

Adjournment

Meeting was adjourned at 1:36 PM by Stefan Bird. The next meeting will be in July with precise dates forthcoming. Minutes prepared by Elizabeth Massa-MacLeod.