

STEAM Academy Board Meeting Minutes

Date: Thursday, Jan 5th, 2023 – 6:00 PM

Meeting Address: Online Meeting using Zoom (Audio & Video)

Interested individuals from the public who would like to attend the meeting, should email: info@steamacademymn.org with their Name, email address and phone # by Noon on 01-05-2023.

Mission: STEAM Academy's mission is to provide a student-centered learning environment where all of its students, families, and communities apply the civic skills needed to wisely meet the common good through personal and public education. Our school strives to answer the question, "Why do I need to know this?" from diverse perspectives: culturally responsive, critical thinking, life-long learning, gender neutral, community informed, cross generational, and any other viewpoint that produces a greater public good.

Vision: STEAM Academy embraces a multidisciplinary curriculum with an emphasis on Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, and Mathematics (STEAM) to provide a learning-for-understanding environment which values personal and community accountability, creativity, diversity, critical thinking, and multiculturalism. We believe that schools can prepare their students for greater understanding of profound issues through collaboration, critical thinking and problem solving. We believe this is possible when learning is done with purpose.

Meeting Minutes:

- ❖ Present: 6:00 PM: Board Members: Makia Jama, Hamada Aboubakr, Sarah Chebli, Maryam Arab, and Mahdi Nur (6:04pm)
- ❖ Public: Magdy Rabeaa, Joseph Sovine, Luli Axhijaj, Tu Nguyen and Amina Adan
- ❖ Reading STEAM Academy Mission and Vision: Amina read the mission and vision out loud.
- ❖ Approval of Agenda. 6:10pm: motioned by Mahdi, seconded by Makia, motion passed unanimously
- ❖ Comments/Questions from the Public, 2 minutes per person: None
- ❖ Approval of previous meeting minutes for November 17th (6:13pm): motioned by Hamada, seconded by Makia, motion passes unanimously

- ❖ Conflict of Interest Check: None
- ❖ Financial Update Budget/Financial Update: Joseph Sovine (from EdFinMN) provided a summary of financial statement for November of 2022. Board members reviewed the check register and had no questions regarding expenditures. ED and Joseph provided explanation / clarification to expenditure questions. Lease Aid is not approved yet, we are waiting on the MDE to review the lease aid application after the changes were made per their request.
- ❖ Motion to accept November 2022 financials at 6:20pm: motioned by Hamada, seconded by Maryam, motion passed unanimously.
- ❖ Motion to approve new IOWA to be the Sarah Chebli at 6:25pm: motioned by Hamada, seconded by Mahdi, motion passed unanimously. Sarah will fill the form and email it to MDE for the IOWA changes.
- ❖ Motion to approve the amended CMO (SPS) contract at 6:29pm: motioned by Mahdi, seconded by Makia, motion passed unanimously. The amended contract agreement was discussed by the Board members.
- ❖ RFP for financial services from BerganKDV proposal, this was the only vendor that responded to our request for proposal. Luli presented the proposal to the board the proposal, services, and their history. Fee is similar to what the school pays currently to their financial vendor, there is a 90-day notice agreement for a cancelation for both parties. Start date might be March first depending on their onboarding availability after we approve the proposal.
- ❖ Motion to approve Contract Agreement for financial services with BerganKDV proposal at 6:37pm: motioned by Maryam, seconded by Makia, motion passed unanimously.
- ❖ Board Calendar for 2023: There was a discussion among the Board members to meet every other month rather monthly, first Thursday of every other month at 6:00pm as we have currently.
- ❖ Motioned to change the board meeting calendar at 6:42pm: motioned by Sarah, seconded by Hamada, motioned passed unanimously.
- ❖ ED updated the board on the school's progress and update about staffing progress. ED talked about marketing that has been happening and the new enrollments in the school. Staffing will be increased due to the increase of students with Special Education needs.
- ❖ Next meeting is scheduled for: March 2nd, 2023
- ❖ Adjourn Motioned by Makia, seconded by Sarah, motion passes unanimously at 6:52pm.