

STEAM Academy Board Meeting Minutes

Date: Thursday, May 4, 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 05-4-2023.

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:
 - Board Members: Makia Jama, Hamada Aboubakr, Sarah Chebli, (6:07pm), and Mahdi Nur
 - Public: Magdy Rabeaa, Luli Axhijaj, Nick and Tommi (BerganKDV), and Tu Nguyen (NEO)
- ❖ Reading STEAM Academy Mission and Vision: Sarah read the mission and vision.
- ❖ Conflict of Interest Check: None
- ❖ Comments/Questions from the Public, 2 minutes per person: Comments from Tu Nguyen on later agenda items – NEO-Steam Framework. Comment from Magdy that he would like to address the Board a little later in regards to staffing update.
- ❖ Agenda

- Approval of Agenda. 6:13pm: motioned by Mahdi, seconded by Makia, motion passed unanimously.
- ❖ Previous Meeting Minutes: No comments on previous meeting minutes, everything looks good.
 - Approval of previous meeting minutes for March 16th, 2023 (6:11pm): motioned by Hamada, seconded by Mahdi, motion passed unanimously.
- ❖ Financial Update Budget/Financial Update: Nick from BerganKDV thanked the opportunity to work with school and Luli and Magdy and the rest of the team. Nick also introduced the Tommi who will be the main controller for STEAM Academy going forward. Due to the timing, we are presenting the previous months in this case would be the March since the Aprils were just finished. Nick went over the March financials, the budget was for 120ADM, but the working budget was in place. The Projected Debt Service Coverage Ratio at fiscal year-end is 1.02 and Nick said that anything above 1.0 is very good. The total revenue received is 72.4%. Nick mentioned that the ADM was updated with the MDE as Luli worked on it with the MDE staff. Then Nick went on to explain the charts and some of the money that is delayed in payments from MDE like the hold back, SPED expenditures which are in forms of reimbursements. Then Nick went through balance sheet which is a snapshot in time. He went through the statement of revenues and expenditures which looks pretty good and pretty close to what's in total. The Sped shows a higher percentage of expenditures but it will be reimbursed and balanced. Food program shows a transfer from general ed funds which is normal.
- ❖ Motion to accept March 2023 financials at 6:18pm: motioned by Mahdi, seconded by Hamada, motion passed unanimously.
- ❖ Budget for 2023-2024; Nick explained that he met with Luli to plan the Budget the for 2023-204. This is a high level so we can approve the budget before the end of this year per requirements. If we find any significant changes then we can revise and approve it again any time before the end of the year. The enrollment includes the enrollment breakdown by grades, K, 1-3, 4-6. We wanted to keep the student numbers at around 76 even though the intention is much higher and with the 4% increase to the Gen Ed which the senate and the house approved and most likely it is going through. The budget is based on assumptions and funding streams and compensatory revenues, lease aid, increase in Special ed, and ELL projection.
- ❖ Approval of Budget 2023-2024; After the discussion Sarah made the motion and Madi seconded and the motion passed unanimously.
- ❖ Approval calendar 2023-2024: The board had a discussion towards the calendar and some questions. Motion made by Hamada and Seconded by Mahdi, motions passed unanimously.

- ❖ Operations and Academic updates: The parent surveys have been given to parents to and will be collected back and the same for staff intent to return. The student enrollment has increased to about 13 students that Mr. Hassan has been working hard. We have a new student who started today also. The KG teacher went on maternity leave, we have another teacher covering the KG. We are about to finish the MCA testing for Math and Reading this week and Science next week. Then we will start the NWEA testing and we will be finishing the school year.
- ❖ Then the Board asked questions in regards to school documents and access to the documents. Also, they asked for the invitation of NEO for celebration of leading and learning that the board members received.
- ❖ Adjourn the meeting - Motion to adjourn meeting at 7:26pm: motioned by Sarah, seconded by Mahdi, motion passed unanimously.