

STEAM Academy Board Meeting Minutes

Date: Thursday, July 6, 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 07-6-2023.

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, Maryam Arab, Sarah Chebli, Mahdi Nur (6:12), and Hamada Aboubakr (6:15).
 - Public: Magdy Rabeaa and Luli Axbijaj
- ❖ Reading STEAM Academy Mission and Vision: Maryam read the mission and vision.
- ❖ Conflict of Interest Check: None
- ❖ Comments/Questions from the Public, 2 minutes per person: No comments made.
- ❖ Agenda
 - Approval of Agenda. 6:07pm: motioned by Sarah, seconded by Maryam, motion passed unanimously.
- ❖ Previous Meeting Minutes: Make one change on who read the mission and vision.

- Approval of previous meeting minutes for May 4, 2023 (6:08pm): motioned by Maryam, seconded by Makia, motion passed unanimously.
- ❖ Financial Update/Budget Approval: Luli spoke on behalf of BerganKDV and stated that Bergan KDV will not attend all the Board meetings, they will be able to attend four meetings only through the year. The financial reports are similar to the May, only numbers are different. The annual report is only until 2022, which was approved in the fall or towards the end of the year in 2022. Last year we had a budget of 122 ADM, which was an over projection, this was changed in the last board meeting to update the financials to meet the number of students attending. The report includes summaries of the budget as it was adopted and the ending of the year, this also includes percentages of the budget used through the school year. The projected fund balance is 17%.
 - Motion to accept April and May 2023 financials at 6:19pm: motioned by Maryam, seconded by Mahdi, motion passed unanimously.
- ❖ CSP Grant Update
 - STEAM Academy Finished the CSP Implementation 2, so everything with the grant is finished.
- ❖ 2023-2024 Lease agreement: The building that STEAM was in during 2022-2023 school year had a one-year lease agreement that has ended, so they are considering moving to a building in Inver Grove Heights. This new building fits the needs and space requirements for STEM Academy. The Board Chair would like get the approval by the Board to help STEAM Academy negotiate and sign the lease with the new building.
 - Motion made for Sarah Chebli, Board Chair, to represent the school board to negotiate and sign the lease at 6:28pm: Motioned by Hamada, seconded by Maryam, motioned passed unanimously.
- ❖ Operations and Academic updates: STEAM academy was able to finish the school year and testing in good terms. The students were able to go on some fun filed trips at the end of the year. The school conducted Kindergarten and 5th grade graduations. They did staff and parent surveys and got positive feedback.
- ❖ Suggested items: Comments on meeting before the school year, on August 3rd, 2023.
- ❖ Adjourn the meeting - Motion to adjourn meeting at 6:23pm: motioned by Sarah, seconded by Hamada, motion passed unanimously.