

STEAM Academy Board Meeting Minutes

Date: Thursday, April 10, 2025 – 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 4-10-2025.

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:

- ❖ Motion for Vice Chair to lead the Board meeting - Motion by Mahdi at 6:02 pm and seconded by Abdallah, motion passed unanimously for Hamada (Vice Chair) to run the Board meeting in absence of the Board Chair (Sarah Chebli).
- ❖ Call to Order: The Vice Board Chair called the meeting to order at 6:02pm.
- ❖ Present:
 - Board Members: Hamada Aboubakr, Mahdi Nur, Abdallah Mohammed, and Amir Mahmud
 - Public: Magdy Rabeaa, Luli Axhijaj, and Jean Neuman (NEO Authorizer)
- ❖ Reading STEAM Academy Mission and Vision: Hamada (Vice Chair) read the mission and vision.
- ❖ Conflict of Interest Check by Hamada (Vice Chair): None
- ❖ Comments/Questions from the Public, 2 minutes per person: No public comments.
- ❖ Agenda

- Approval of Agenda at 6:06 pm - Motioned by Abdallah, seconded by Amir, motion passed unanimously.
- ❖ Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes: The Board reviewed and discussed the previous meeting minutes from January 2025.
 - Approval of January meeting's minutes - Motioned by Mahdi at 6:12 pm, seconded by Amir, motion passed unanimously.
- ❖ Approval of the Financial Reports
 - Luli presented the financial reports for December 2024, January 2025, and February 2025. The Board had an opportunity to review the financial reports, asked questions, and discussed the financial reports as presented. The financial reports and the cash flow look really strong. Motion to approve the financial reports as presented: Motioned by Abdallah at 6:39 pm, seconded by Mahdi, motion passed unanimously by a roll call.
- ❖ Form 990 Review and Approval
 - The Board had an opportunity to review the Form 990. Mahdi made the motion at 6:43 pm to approve the Form 990 as presented, Amir seconded and motion passed unanimously by a roll call.
- ❖ Board Training / Board Development Plan
 - Marcy Myers attended the Board meeting to do another Board training for this year. The topics of the trainings were: Maintaining Authorizer relations and contract, Navigating Governance - Management relationship, and evaluate the school leader. The Board members took the quiz on three topics at the end of the training.
- ❖ 2025-2026 School Calendar
 - Luli presented the 2025-2026 School Calendar. Motion made by Mahdi at 7:06 pm and seconded by Abdallah to approve the 2025-2026 School Calendar, the motion passed unanimously.
- ❖ Operations and Academic Update
 - Magdy provided the Executive Director's Report / Update: Enrollment is good at around 81.5ADM, staffing is stable and planning for next year. The WIDA Assessment has been completed. We are in the process of preparing for MCA testing starting on April 22, doing items samplers and preparations in Grades 3-8 and science in 5th, PLC meetings every week, CAREIALL training, field trips, had a spirit week during the month January, we had a maple syrup done with the help from someone from the UofM, had culture night in February 20th, we continue with the monthly assembly the theme for this month is Fairness, we had the snake discovery field trip in the school and the pictures in the Facebook page, fieldtrip with MNDOT bridge building, another field trip 3rd to 6th grade in St. Paul and pilots will come with

airplanes and fly with them, planning to do a school garden and grow it even bigger compare to last year.

❖ Policies to approve

- Mahdi made the motion at 7:16 pm to approve the two policies and Amir seconded it, motion passes unanimously by a roll call to approve the STEAM Student Cell Phone & Electronic Devices Policy and the STEAM Student Journalism Policy.

❖ Contracts and RFPs

- Because of the procurement policy we are in the process of doing a RFPs for contracted services like: Transportation, Special Education Services related, Food & Nutrition Services, IT & Operations/Compliance Services, CMO, and other services. The goal is to get the contracts proposals signed before the end of school year according to RFP.

❖ Board members

- Motion made by Amir at 7:26 pm and seconded by Abdallah to approve Santa Fe as the new teacher board member, the motion passed unanimously by a roll call. She will do the training as required before being seated.

❖ Other Suggested items at 7:27pm: No other suggested items.

❖ Adjourn the meeting - Motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:28 pm: motioned by Mahdi, seconded by Hamada, motion passed unanimously.