

STEAM Academy Special Board Meeting Minutes

Date: Thursday, March 12, 2026 – 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 03-12-2026.

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:

- ❖ Call to Order: The Board Chair (Sarah Chebli) called the meeting to order at 6:02pm.
- ❖ Present:
 - Board Members: Sarah Chebli, Maria Azizi, Mahdi Nur, and Santa Fe Patawaran
 - Public: Luli, Abdinasser Ahmed (Ex-Oficio), Wendy, Tu, and Adam (NEO Authorizer)
- ❖ Reading STEAM Academy Mission and Vision: Sarah (Board Chair) read the mission and vision.
- ❖ Conflict of Interest Check by Sarah (Board Chair): None
- ❖ Comments/Questions from the Public, 2 minutes per person: None

- ❖ Agenda - Approval of Agenda - Motioned by Maria Azizi and seconded by Mahdi Nur, motion passed unanimously by a roll call.

- STEAM/NEO - Framework Presentation. Sarah invited the NEO Authorizer to present the STEAM/NEO Performance Framework. Wendy thanked the Board members for the opportunity to join the Board meeting and present the NEO-STEAM Academy Performance Framework. Then, Tu walked the Board through the Performance Framework and results of the first four years. Clearly the summary of the Performance Framework shows that School is Performing at 100% in the area of School Operation, and 100% in the area of School Finance, but it is not performing at or above 56% in the area of School Academics Achievement due to some of the goals that were not met during the first four years.
The Board discussed and concluded that Sarah (Board Chair) will send an email today to Wendy (NEO) and the Board stating that STEAM Academy is requesting to have an informal hearing meeting to provide Supplemental Information to the Performance Framework.
As per requirements, the school and NEO Authorizer will post on their websites about the hearing: STEAM Academy's Presentation of Supplemental Information for Consideration in Contract Renewal Decision in Accordance with Minnesota Statutes 124E.10 Subd. 4.
Then, STEAM Academy Board discussed that the Board has already taken appropriate proactive steps this school year (2025-2026) by hiring a new school leader who is a multi-lingual learner with two current MN Teaching licenses, also STEAM Academy has Implemented PLC with fidelity, and this year's assessments results show a great improvement compare to the past four years in Math and Reading.

- ❖ Other Suggested Agenda Items – There are no other Agenda items or business to discuss.

- ❖ Adjourn – Maria Azizi made the motion to adjourn the meeting at 6:46pm and Santa Fe seconded it and motion passed unanimously by a roll call to adjourn the Board meeting.