February 5, 2024

Members Present: Mauree Haage, Allysen Krull, Jared Brown, Melinda McGregor, Sara Nelson, Maria Morales, Kay Schmalen, Anne Tedore, Mike Pedersen, Dave Zrostlik, Yen Verhoeven, Allen Barrow, Matthew Stephan

Minutes:

- Welcome and Introductions
- Statewide Updates
  - STEM BEST
    - Tier 2 reviews have happened and Tanya Hunt is going to let us know when we can announce the awardees.
    - Very competitive this year which is a good thing but makes for tough decisions.
    - Priority given to new programs to help expand the reach of the program.
  - STEM Teacher of the Year Award
    - Mauree is working with Kemin and Strategic America to line up the details
    - It will be a surprise ceremony which is always a lot of fun!
  - Iowa Classrooms + Workplaces Summit
    - April 10, 2024
    - Iowa Event Center
    - More details to come
- Regional Announcements and Updates
  - Upcoming festivals
    - February 8 - Alden Family STEM Night
    - March 14 - Osage STEAM Family Night
      - 5-8 PM
      - Volunteers to exhibit? Mauree is out of town and unable to attend in person. If there is anyone who is able to exhibit on our STEM hub's behalf, Mauree is able to work with you to provide supplies and the activity just let her know.
    - April 17 - North Iowa STEM Festival
  - Scale-Up program from the regional lens
    - Scale-Up Menu
    - Regional promotion
      - Mauree has sent information out via social media, newsletter, and emails to administrators both superintendents and building principals
      - Virtual workshops are being held to help teachers navigate the new platform
  - Review Process
    - Iowa Grants accounts needed
    - All board members participate to help reduce the number of applications per reviewer
    - Reviews will happen between March 6-19, 2024
Final award decisions will be made at our March 22 meeting. This will be a hybrid meeting. Mauree is working on location details but it will be in Ames.

Priorities from last year - keep these in mind and think about how we might want to adjust this for this year based on regional needs

**Working Groups**
- Board members spent time working within their working groups
- Stakeholder resources
  - Goal: Create a resource/set of resources for disbursement to different stakeholders (educators, admin, industry)
  - Task: Identify action items, needed information
- STEM Festival resources
  - Goal: Create a resource for schools needing help creating a STEM event or wanting to expand what they currently do
  - Task: Identify action items, needed information
- Regional Needs (i.e. barriers, diversity, sustainability)
  - Goal: Identify needs and barriers of those in our region to better prepare us for STEM conversations and marketing of programs
  - Task: Identify action items, needed information

**Important Dates**
- February 29 - Scale-Up Application Deadline
- March 6 - Osage Family STEM Night
- March 22 - NC STEM Advisory Board Meeting (9:00 - 10:30 AM) in Ames/Zoom
- April 10 - STEM Summit
- April 17 - STEM Festival in Mason City from 4-7 PM

Meeting Adjourned