

STEAM Academy Board Meeting Minutes

Date: Thursday, May 2, 2024 – 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 05-02-2024.

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 called the meeting to order at 6:03pm.
- ❖ Present:
 - Board Members: Sarah Chebli, Mahdi Nur, Hamada Aboubakr, Abdallah Mohammed, and Amir Mahmud
 - Public: Magdy Rabeaa, Luli Axhijaj, Kelly Rimpila (Creative Planning) and Wendy Swanson-Choi (NEO Authorizer).
- ❖ Reading STEAM Academy Mission and Vision: Sarah Chebli read the mission and vision.
- ❖ Conflict of Interest Check by Sarah Chebli (Board Chair): None
- ❖ Comments/Questions from the Public, 2 minutes per person: Wendy Swanson-Choi from NEO Authorizer thanked all the Board members for their great job and invited them to the NEO Celebration of Leading and Learning.
- ❖ Agenda

- Approval of Agenda. 6:10pm: motioned by Hamada, seconded by Mahdi, motion passed unanimously.
- ❖ Previous Meeting Minutes: The Board reviewed the meeting minutes from March's Board meeting, the minutes look very good.
 - Approval of previous meeting minutes from March 7, 2024 at 6:14pm: motioned by Mahdi, seconded by Hamada, motion passed unanimously.
- ❖ Financial Update Approval: Kelly went over and presented the financial reports for March 2024. There is a surplus on the March financials. The Board had a chance to review before and they discussed them at the meeting.
 - Motion to approve the March's financial reports at 6:29pm: motioned by Mahdi, seconded by Hamada, motion passed unanimously.
- ❖ Approve the 2023-2024 Budget Revision (Working Budget) at 6:47pm- motion by Hamada and second by Abdallah, motion for 2023-2024 budget revision passed unanimously.
- ❖ Approve the 2024-2025 Budget at 6:55pm – Kelly went over the budget for 2024-2025 and there is an increase in student's enrollment and few more staff and everything else is very similar to this year's. Motion by Mahdi and seconded by Abdallah to approve the 2024-2025 budget. The motion passed unanimously.
- ❖ Approve the 2024-2025 Calendar at 7:10pm – motion by Hamada and second by Mahdi. The motion passed unanimously to approve the 2024-2025 School Calendar as presented.
- ❖ Lease aid Application update at 7:15pm – Luli gave an update that the lease aid applications was approved by Minnesota Department of Education (MDE). The Board thanked the school leadership for the hard work.
- ❖ Operations and Academic updates at 7:20pm - An Operations and Academic update was provided by Magdy. Things are going well; the staff are working really hard. The MCA Testing is about to be finished. The school is scheduling some of the end of the year field trips for students and staff. The Professional Development opportunities are still provided to the teachers on Friday afternoons.
- ❖ Board Election update at 7:26pm – Luli gave an update on Board election process and documents that were sent to all and posted on the school's website for public access.
 - Other Suggested items at 7:28 - The next Board meeting is scheduled for July 18th, 2024.
- ❖ Adjourn the meeting - Motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:29pm: motioned by Sarah, seconded by Mahdi, motion passed unanimously.