SC STEM Hub Virtual Meeting Minutes

June 16, 2020, 1-2PM

Present: Mohr, Gomez, McCarthy, Garrett, Williams, Weld

Absent: Cox, Eysink, Ford, Haage. Hanson. Holmen, Myerholtz, Pargmann, Payne, Williams

1. Hub News
2. Centerville STEM Festival Overview  
   Thanks to the three members offered to help with videos: Mohr, Gomez, McCarthy
3. Dr. Jeff Weld: STEM Council Update
4. Thanks to members for volunteering time.
5. STEM reaches about 100,000 kids each year for the past 9 years, which is almost a million kids. Plus teachers, parents, community members.
6. Discussion of legislative appropriations
7. Teachable Moments update
8. Twitter Chat
9. Would like to attract more participants
10. July 9 – topic is K-12 STEM and the Workforce
11. Podcasts—this week meet Emily Wilkerson, ISU engineering student
12. Virtual PD in July/August
13. Overview of 5 working groups: teacher prep, career guidance, equity, school district role models, STEM to STEAM
14. Equity updates
15. African-American and Latino kids are closing the gap.
16. Iowa is hosting an equity workshop June 18-19; full with waiting list.
17. U of IA was hired early spring to conduct interviews with African-American parents on how to bring equity to STEM.
18. #ShutdownSTEM participation
19. Seeking diverse candidates for boards
20. Action Items
21. What barriers exist in STEM and how can we move forward?
22. A barrier to math, as people come in without background knowledge and no real way to catch up.
23. Schools have created summer bridge programs to help minority students be successful freshmen.
24. Few minority students want to become STEM educators; they see themselves in other roles.
25. How can we convince minority students to become educators?
26. Change the narrative
27. Create a perpetual campaign to recruit
28. Take diverse college students to diverse middle schools and let them connect with kids. Convince those middle schoolers to prepare and go to college.
29. Find business people to work with more minority students.
30. Weld suggested creating a program that did take diverse college students to pair up with diverse middle school students.
31. Barrier to agricultural innovation exists, also.
32. Discussion on how to invite diverse participation. Tips:
33. Find functional groups that align to STEM.
34. Create a mass list of groups that align.
35. Reach out to go to their group to present
36. Instead of looking at top layers, look to potential leaders. Tap them for STEM.
37. Make the invite within the group that you’re looking for a diverse person.
38. Make a specific ask of someone who is diverse to consider joining your group.
39. Meeting adjourned.

Derry will contact members with future meeting times.