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LOUISIANA SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY, ENGINEERING, and MATHEMATICS

ADVISORY COUNCIL

Tuesday, November 28, 2017

The Louisiana Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (LaSTEM) Advisory Council met at 10:00 a.m. on Tuesday, November 28, 2017, at the Claiborne Building, Thomas Jefferson Room 1-136, 1201 North Third Street, Baton Rouge, Louisiana. Dr. Joseph Rallo, Commissioner of Higher Education called the meeting to order. Vernon Dunn, Program Manager, called the roll and a quorum was established.

Committee Members Present

Jada Lewis
Joseph Rallo
Ken Bradford (John White)
Susana Schowen
Carrick Inabnett
Tom Yura
Ken Tucker
Mahyar Amouzegar
Kristen Reeves
Jaime Williams
Stephanie Hilferty
Crystal Gordon
Stanton McNeely
Patty Glaser
Tricia Miller
William Wainwright

Janet Pope
Nathan Cotton
Sharon Hewitt
Rachel Finley
Jeanine Kahn
Kenneth Burnell (Ava Dejoie)
Randy Duran
Laura Younger
Larry Carter
Kellie Taylor-White

Committee Members Absent

Michael Gaudet
Calvin Mackie
Jaime Williams
Scott Stevens

Opening Remarks were made by Dr. Joseph Rallo.

LaSTEM Council Vote

The Council did not have revisions for the LaSTEM vision. The Council requested the following revisions to the LaSTEM goals:

- Add people with special needs to the goal – “expand access to high quality STEM education and employment opportunities for women, rural populations, under-represented communities and targeted populations.”
- Add inclusion of industry engagement and sector driven strategies to the goal – “improve the size, alignment, level of mastery, and diversity of the pipeline of workers well-qualified for specific high-priority STEM jobs.”
- Add a goal of removing barriers that prevent educational systems from recognizing STEM coursework from requirements, postsecondary opportunities, and responding to emerging STEM needs.

On the motion of Dr. Wainwright, seconded by Ms. Reeves, the Louisiana STEM Advisory Council voted unanimously to approve revisions of the Louisiana’s STEM vision and goals with the requested revisions.

LaSTEM Council Discussion & Vote

The Council made revisions to the STEM definition and the STEM literacy definition. For the STEM definition, the Council would like to encompass all of the sciences by substituting the biological sciences, chemistry, and physics terms with natural sciences. For the STEM literacy definition, the Council would like to add the terms resiliency, duration, and innovation.

On the motion of Mr. Yura, seconded by Mr. Carter, the Louisiana STEM Advisory Council voted unanimously to approve the Louisiana’s STEM definition and Louisiana’s STEM literacy definition with requested revisions.

PK-12 Workgroup Update & Discussion

Dr. Burns presented to the Council the progress of the PK-12 Workgroup. The PK-12 group has identified questions needing answers regarding STEM and PK-12 education, added questions needing answers based upon input from PK-12 Visionary Group, created 3 smaller subgroups, and provided a timeline for their outcomes.

STEM Showcase

Representatives from CSRA, Louisiana Tech University, Bossier Parish Community College, and Northwestern State University provided information on their efforts in Northern Louisiana. Senator Hewitt shared her sentiments on the STEM work that is being done in Northern Louisiana and thanked the representatives for their attendance.

Capacity Building & Sustainability Efforts

Dr. Rallo provided the Council with information regarding fundraising and the importance of financial contributions to the Council's efforts.

Other Business, Wrap-Up & Next Steps

Mr. Dunn encouraged everyone to sign-up for the different workgroups and provide input and strategies that they deem beneficial. Mr. Medina presented information on the VEX Robotics Grant Opportunity.

Adjournment

There being no further business regarding LaSTEM Advisory Council. Dr. Joseph Rallo adjourned the meeting at 12:00 p.m.

NAME

Sandra Partain
Esperanza Zenon
Curtis Penrod
Carrie Robison
Seth Stevens
Stacia Andricai
Chris Rue
Claire Lukart
Patrick Stewart
Phoebe Rouse
Linda Thompson
Luis Medina
Deborah Marshall
Les Guice
Kevin Notten
Kim Fossey
Jeanne Daboval
Eric Pani
Chris Roe
Alex Appeaning
Bonnie Hymel

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