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**LOUISIANA SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY, ENGINEERING, and MATHEMATICS**

**ADVISORY COUNCIL**

**Tuesday, March 13, 2018**

The Louisiana Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (LaSTEM) Advisory Council met at 9:07 a.m. on Tuesday, March 13, 2018, at the Claiborne Building, Thomas Jefferson 1-136, 1201 North Third St, Baton Rouge, Louisiana. Mr. Vernon Dunn, Program Manager, called the meeting to order. Mr. Dunn called the roll and a quorum was established.

**Committee Members Present**

Randy Duran  
Michael Gaudet  
Crystal Gordon  
Sharon Hewitt  
Jeff Holcomb  
Carrick Inabnett  
Jada Lewis (Kim Tripeaux)  
Calvin Mackie  
Stanton McNeely  
Susana Schowen  
Scott Stevens  
Ken Tucker  
Rachel Vincent-Finley  
William Wainwright (David LaFarge)

John White (Ken Bradford)  
Tom Yura

**Committee Members Absent**

Joseph Rallo  
Larry Carter, Jr.  
Kellie Taylor-White  
Patty Glaser  
Jim Henderson  
Stephanie Hilferty  
Tricia Miller  
Janet Pope  
Kristen Reeves  
Jaime Williams  
Laura Younger

## **Fundraising Updates & LaSTEM Website Launch**

Mr. Dunn informed the Council that there will be a soft launch of the website following the meeting. The Council members are to review the website and provide their feedback. The website is scheduled to be launched publicly on Monday, March 19<sup>th</sup>.

## **STEM Showcase: Project Lead the Way**

Project Lead the Way (PLTW) is a national non-profit that offers curricular pathways for K-12 students in the areas of biomedical, computer science and engineering. PLTW currently partners with 80 schools in 20 parishes serving a total of 3,000 students in Louisiana. PLTW informed the Council of its' partnerships with industry leaders and gave testimonials from students and teachers.

## **Subcommittees' Report Out and Discussions**

- PK-12 Workgroup- Dr. Jeanne Burns reported that the PK-12 workgroup will expand its' stakeholders by involving families and communities to a greater extent than originally planned. Dr. Burns will set up meetings with representatives from Louisiana Department of Education (LDOE) and Board of Elementary and Secondary Education. The workgroup will prepare a revised version of the objectives before the next Council meeting. The workgroup has set a goal to identify strategies to demystify STEM and implement two of them by the end of summer 2018. The workgroup has set-up timelines for its' other objectives. Most of the objectives will be completed by the end of summer 2018.
- High school- Post secondary Workgroup – Mr. Dunn reported that there will be a centralized source for STEM careers, where industry jobs can be posted for review by teachers, parents and students. The students would also have access to watch videos or interact with people in their desired fields. In an effort to have a STEM endorsed diploma, the workgroup will work with LDOE to use programs that are already in place and reward the student by adding a STEM sticker to their diploma.
- Workforce Workgroup- Dr. Lisa Vosper reported that the Workforce Workgroup will send out updates and plans to strategize by engaging the partners of business and industry. Ms. Susana Schowen expressed a need to broaden the sector partnerships by understanding on a regional basis where the business partnerships exist, where they are too many, and where they lack. Ms. Schowen expressed a need for an access map to identify businesses and industries across the state. The workgroup will define and establish standards of quality with the best programs receiving a STEM Council endorsement. The workgroup will be a focus on work based learning to keep K-12 partners heavily engaged.

## **Other Business, Wrap-up & Next Steps**

Senator Hewitt expressed her gratitude of the work the Council has done and encouraged them to continue their efforts. Senator Hewitt committed to being engaged in the work of STEM for

years to come. She announced there are plans to move forward with the regional STEM centers. The centers will be geographically aligned to directly fill the need of the workforce for that area.

### **Adjournment**

There being no further business regarding the LaSTEM Advisory Council, Ms. Schowen adjourned the meeting at 11:40 a.m.

