



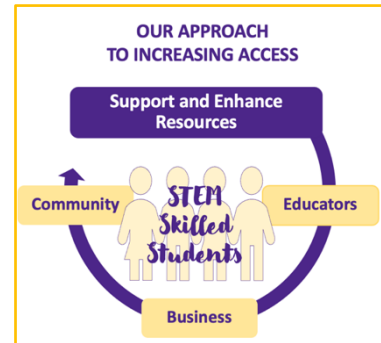
Building STEM Capital in Region 2  
CapitalAreaSTEM.org

Capital Area STEM Network Center  
@ LSU Cain Center  
Advisory Board Meeting  
November 18, 2021

### Theory of Change for Center

If we can enhance practices of all stakeholders who influence the learning of children, youth, and young adults we can increase access to high-quality and inspiring STEM and college and career readiness opportunities and pathways.

- Convene sector-specific communities
- Catalyze innovative projects
- Communicate opportunities
- Connect partners within and across sectors
- Champion accomplishments



**Attendees:** Tonnisha Ellis, Cate Heroman, Stephen Loy, Frank Neubrandner, Kristen Edson, Mary Stein, Mary Miller, Kim Fossey

### AGENDA

- I. Member News
  - Dr. Frank Neubrandner (LSU Cain Center) reported great participation statistics in both STEM Pathways (state participation at 6,600 and EBRPSS at 3,600) and Dual Enrollment course enrollment at 7,000) sponsored by the Cain Center. Continuing regional challenge in lack of students demonstrating readiness for either community or technical college mathematics. LSU is developing a course that hopes to better prepare students, in light of new initiatives such as EBRPSS Bright Futures and Fast Forward.
  - Dr. Mary Miller (BRCC) reported that BRCC's first cohort with Glen Oaks started with 75 students taking courses.
  - Kristen Edson & Mary Stein (EBR Public Library) reported almost 600 participants attended the community Mini-Maker Faire. Other highlights include hosting of the GIS Day event (which is a part of the EBR Mayor's Office Digital Government Open Data project). Interesting projects featured analysis of flood maps, remote sensing, dropout rates, etc. Science Saturdays at the library are continuing. EBRPL just applied for participation in a University of Illinois at Chicago and Chicago Public Library grant that will build the library's capacity to evaluate their makerspaces by addressing four inter-related performance measures: outcomes of makerspace participation, relevance of those outcomes to individual participants (i.e., makers' perceived benefits of participation), makerspace access (i.e., participation by and barriers to participation for different populations), and makers' experience of the makerspace climate. Finally, the LaSTEM Summit will feature tours to new River Center Library's maker space and digital media lab.
  - Cate Heroman – Continued work with national Maker Ed community and successful grant to introduce maker spaces in schools and libraries.

- Kim Fossey mentioned the success of Energize Your Destiny event, sponsored by LCTCS that featured full-day of energy industry panels and advice for women pursuing a career in the energy industry. Great event!

II. Status of Year 2 CEA (Creative Endeavor Agreement)

- Agreement has been executed and fully signed.

III. Workforce/Economic Development - Tonnisha Ellis presented on the following:

- Policy work on Computer Science
- Talent Action Collaborative work being done along with partners: EBRPSS, Mayor's Office, BRAF
- Region 2's most pressing workforce needs:

CONSTRUCTION & MANUFACTURING	HEALTH & MEDICAL/BIO	LIBERAL ARTS & MANAGEMENT	TECHNOLOGY	LOGISTICS, TRADE & AUTOMOTIVE
Industrial & Commercial Construction; Chem/Petro & Light, Non-industrial Manufacturing	Hospitals, clinics, specialty centers, research, biomed companies	Banking, finance, small business, engineering, accounting, legal, & HQ back-office	IT Services, Software, Industrial Tech Telecom, eCommerce, cybersecurity, Tech Startups	Warehouses, maritime, automotive, logistics, trucking and transport

- What foundational (or future of work) skills are key? Communications, management, problem solving, technology, etc.
- How can we better engage business to help educators meet these needs and build these skills? More career exposure for students at all levels through job shadowing, internships, apprenticeships, etc. Externships for their teachers to better understand different industries. Continue Pathways to Prosperity program.

IV. Interim Director update on goals and activities - Kim Fossey

<b>STUDENTS:</b> Participation and Achievement	Esports Discussions – Great representation in EBRPSS Hackathon (for HS girls)
<b>EDUCATORS:</b> Learning Opportunities	District visits – Sharing DIY Plan for Integrating STEM and Foundational Skills STEMTalks – Sharing latest information and opportunities + Office Hours Code.Org Workshop in January Teacher Preparation Workgroup
<b>COMMUNITY &amp; FAMILY:</b> Learning Opportunities	Maker Faire Participation Code.Org workshop for librarians
<b>GENERAL NETWORK:</b>	Summit's Agenda & Retreat Assisting with Goal Setting & Metrics
<b>BUSINESS/INDUSTRY:</b> Opportunities to be engaged in PK-16 workforce development	Business focus for Summit – Panels and Key Speakers MWM State-wide Campaign to increase Equity and Access for Women Mentoring Playbook Participation in Region 2 Workforce Ecosystem

V. Promotion of Upcoming Events/Tasks

- LaSTEM Summit, February 8<sup>th</sup>.
  - #LASTEMStrong
  - Want to attend or present?
  - <https://lp.constantcontactpages.com/cu/CGsWN2g/LaSTEM>

- b. High School Girls Hackathon (state-wide with MWM-LA)
  - i. Mid-March
- c. Please continue to forward newsletter to colleagues to build membership

VI. Next Meeting

- a. January 19<sup>th</sup> (TBA)