



**Capital Area STEM Network Center
@ LSU Cain Center
Advisory Board Meeting Notes
September 30, 2021**

Advisory Board Members Present:

Mary Stein – East Baton Rouge Parish Library; Spencer Roby – Cain Center; Cate Heroman – Knock Knock Children’s Museum; Dixie Gautreaux – FRANU; Ben Necaie – East Baton Rouge Parish Schools; Summer Dann – EBRPSS C-TEC Center; Kim Canezaro – Point Coupee Parish Schools; Tonnisha Ellis – Greater Baton Rouge Area Chamber; Frank Neubrandner – Cain Center; Kristen Edson – East Baton Rouge Parish Library; Dustin Lafont – Front Yard Bikes; Kim Fossey – Cain Center and Capital Area STEM

AGENDA

- Member News
- Status of Year 2 CEA (Creative Endeavor Agreement)
 - Budget for YR 2
- Year 2 SMART Goals
 - Need for Business and Industry Engagement Strategy
 - Workforce Gap Analysis and Clear Messaging/Advising for Students
 - Data Collection
- 4th Annual Summit – February 8th at the Raising Cane Center
 - Need for panelists and breakouts
 - Other Events
 - LaSTEM Center Director Retreat – November 11
 - MWM Summit (featuring Senator Hewitt)
- Next Steps

I. Member News

Members shared STEM news in their sector - What’s Working Highlights and new Assets

- **Spencer Roby (Cain Center):** QSM teacher grant deadline extended until Nov 15
- **Mary Miller (BRCC):**
 - Paid internships for Mentorship Academy (2 students) both fall and spring
 - K James is connection for Mentorship
 - Outreach at Glen Oaks (130 microscopes)
 - BRCC student mentoring high school students
- Cate Heroman (KK Children’s Museum)
 - National Making Spaces Grant (8 school sites and 1 library) went well and is starting up this year with leadership team and administrator cohort
 - ADF will host an EBR grant for up to 10K. Deadline Nov 1
- Ben Necaie: (EBRPSS)
 - Bright Futures Pathway model being implemented in EBRPSS in high-demand pathways like tech, construction, IT. Designed to better align pathways they are using for the dual credit towards credential or associate’s degree
 - Mentioned BRAC’s TAC program – seeking feedback on soft skills and developing internship and apprenticeship programs

- Tonnisha Ellis: (BR Area Chamber)
 - Focus on soft skill framework
 - Use of Handshake for students to find internships
 - 8 CEOs serve on an advisory
- Mary Stein: (EBRP Library System)
 - Partners key such as BREC park in Zachary
 - Key STEM initiatives
 - Franklin Into Science program
 - GIS Day at downtown branch
 - Science Saturdays will return (Target audience high/middle school)
 - Maker Faire - lasting October 18 - 23, will celebrate makers, library makerspaces, & folks with a passion to learn new skills through interactive workshops, grab & go crafts, an outdoor maker market, a showcase of robotics excellence, and a celebration of terrible robots fighting sumo style (Hebocon)
 - Amazing Agenda: <https://batonrouge.makerfaire.com/2021/09/14/8th-annual-baton-rouge-mini-maker-faire-schedule/>
- Dixie Gautreaux: (FRANU)
 - FranU doing outreaching/mentoring to Dutchtown
 - Focus on healthcare awareness and careers; ie Opiate use
- Fernando Alegre: (LSU Cain Center)
 - LSU STEM Pathways & BR BYTES are delivering high-quality teacher PD and student STEM Pathway courses (Over 6,000 seats - Pathways and 3,600 seats – BRBYTES)
- Nastassia Jones: (SU)
 - Teacher grant for innovative use of 360VR field trips
 - Key topics – Wetlands with La Coastal Fellows and Special Needs students
- Kristen Edson: (EBRP Library System – older students/young adults)
 - Utilizing a “Badge” system whereby students 12 and above learn how to use Maker Spaces technology and equipment
 - New Recording Studio at downtown branch
 - Game console and working with Electronic Arts
 - Career speed dating will continue
- Frank Neubrandner: (LSU)
 - New remedial/foundational mathematics courses
 - LSU A and E in partnership with main campus for Dual Enrollment
 - New esports Design Pathway
- Dustin Lafont: (Front Yard Bikes)
 - New Bike mechanic lab
 - New grant that shares location with other organizations such as Big Buddy, Humanities Amped, Line for Line
 - Special focus on integrating soft skills and SEL support

II. CEA and Updates

There has been some minor changes and an extra 70K was given to centers. Goal for the group is to help refine the quarterly performance reporting tool and well as addressing of overall impact metrics. Two directors (Northeastern’s Center and us) took a stab at drafting a set of metrics.

III. Review of 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

IV. Role of Communications

We discussed the important role communications can serve to promote opportunities far and wide.

Examples this quarter include:

NEWSLETTERS/WEBSITE

- 355 Subscribers
- Almost 50% Open Rate
- 50% MWM
- 37% Capital Area STEM

EVENT PROMOTION – MWM Olay Event

- 74 Louisiana Girls attended from 25 high schools
- Mostly from our region

New SCHOOL DISTRICT VISITS

- Ascension, East Feliciana, Iberville, Pointe Coupee

V. Review of Goals (Infrastructure and General Goals)

Highlighted items were reinforced.

Year 2 Infrastructure Goals (based on CEA)

- Implement STEM programs throughout the region to meet the regional demands of the workforce.
- Maintain updated financial records and prepare financial reports
- Communicate Regional STEM activities and updates regularly to the region
- Convene the Regional STEM Advisory Committee at least six times per year
- Establish working relationships with ALL sectors - STEM-related business and industry, workforce, education, community and create a database
- Lead planning, partnering, and publicity to organize family/community STEM events.
- Provide leadership to the LaSTEM Advisory Council by serving the broader state mission beyond the Regional STEM Director's region. Examples include Summit Planning; Selection of Metrics to Measure Impact state-wide; Tool Sharing

Year 2 General Goals

STUDENTS: Participation and Achievement	HS students participating in/completing STEM Pathways or JumpStart programs and/or courses (regular STEM and/or DE). Elem/Middle students participating in STEM programming/courses. PK-12 participating in afterschool or summer STEM activities and clubs	Framework Planning Process Self Assessment Tool Visits Prof Development Coaching Newsletters School Tours Summit	Number of Youth Courses/Programs
EDUCATORS: Learning Opportunities for all types of staff as well as Formal/informal)	Teachers who have received training in STEM pathway courses (LSU or others), attained micro-credentials, and/or participated in externships programs. Schools or districts beginning to strategically plan for STEM integration	Summit MWM State-wide Campaign Mentoring Playbook	Number of teachers or leaders Number of schools/districts
BUSINESS/INDUSTRY: Opportunities to be engaged in PK-16 workforce development	Businesses and organizations committed to mentoring and offering internships and/or externships Business and industry partners attend Summit and assisting with clear messaging Methods of reaching business/industry; WF Development member	Attendees to Summit or webinar Pledges to mentor Use of Playbook	
COMMUNITY & FAMILY: Learning Opportunities	Public organizations offering STEM awareness activities such as libraries Dissemination of learning opportunities, STEM providers and resources	Events Database for STEM providers and resources such as lessons	Number of events and participants Number of resources Traffic/Clicks on site

VI. Overview of Annual LaSTEM Summit Agenda (February 8)

4 th Annual LaSTEM Summit (February 8 th)					Working TOGETHER for a future that works		#LaSTEMSTRONG
Time	Topic	LIVE Panels [60 - 75 min]		Breakouts + OnDemand	Topics for Breakouts (45m) /STEM Chats (20m)		
8:30 [20m]	Opening Welcome Address - Coleman, Hunter-Reed, Hewitt				<ul style="list-style-type: none">•Partner engagement (volunteering and mentoring)•General Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Efforts•Career pathways and STEM specialty schools•Workforce awareness and engagement• Integrating and leading STEM engagement PK-16•Informal and Family STEM•Vendor Solutions•Industry Spotlights		
9:00 [60m]	LIVE Panel #1	Listening to the Employers Gain deeper insight on industry needs to better innovate and grow their organizations. Moderator: Dr Davy Norris (Chief Innovation Officer, LaTech)	Breakout Sessions				
10:30 [60m]	LIVE Panel #2	Promoting Women and Girls in STEM Moderator: Hunter-Reed OR Hewitt	Breakout Sessions				
11:45 [60m]	LIVE Lunch and Learn Critical Thinking Expert, Steven Pearlman - Talk + Q & A						
1:00 [60m]	LIVE Panel #3	Responding to Workforce Trends Gain deeper understanding the ever-changing career landscape, 4- and 5- Star jobs and programming, partnerships, & messaging in place for increased successful entry Moderator: Alison Bordelon (LCTCS)	Breakout Sessions				
2:15 [20m]	Closing - Call to Action						

VII. Promotion of Events

- General Regional Data Collection
 - Establishing a Baseline
 - Tracking Progress
- Communications
 - Forward newsletter
- Register for Events
 - MWM Summit (Oct 13)
 - STEM Center Director's Retreat (Nov 11)
 - LaSTEM Summit (Feb 8)

NEXT Steps:

- Regional Workforce Gap Analysis – Get this completed with BRAC's help
- Workforce Development Member for Board
- View our new website: CapitalAreaSTEM.org
 - Ways we have started a database for STEM Providers and Resources
- Next meeting: Thursday, Dec 2 @ 1pm