

GOVERNING BOARD MEETING
FOR THE JOHN C DUNHAM STEM PARTNERSHIP SCHOOL
Governing Board Minutes
August 20, 2019
1:00 pm

John C Dunham STEM Partnership School, Easley Education Center
405 S Gladstone Ave.
Aurora, Illinois 60506-4892

1. Call to Order

Dr. Sullivan called the meeting to order at 1:04 pm.

2. Roll Call

Present: Dr. Hichens, Dr. Craig, Dr. Sullivan and Dr. Sherrick.

Dr. Norrell arrived at 1:08 pm

Also present: Arin Carter, Dr. Patel and Ana Buenrostro.

3. Public Comment

No public comment

4. Consent Agenda

Dr. Sherrick motioned and Dr. Sullivan seconded to approve the consent agenda items 4.1, 4.2, 4.3 and 4.4.

Ayes: (5)

Nays: (0)

5. Action Item

5.1 Approval of Program Evaluator contract with Tawanda Gipson

Dr. Hichens motioned and Dr. Craig seconded to approve action item 5.1

Ayes: (5)

Nays: (0)

6. Information/Presentation/ Discussion

6.1 John C Dunham STEM Partnership School Report

6.1.1 2019 Preliminary IAR Data

Mrs. Carter shared with the Board that 71% of students met or exceeded in ELA, 78% met or exceeded in mat, she provided a break down by district.

6.1.2 Report on 2018-19 SIP Goals

Mrs. Carter explained to the Board that 91% of students show growth in the last year, she listed the field experiences the students had. There was a 100% growth in experiences like coding and other technology. Mrs. Carter shared the school is expanding coding with the use the Cospaces application.

The Teacher shadowing opportunities will continue. Last year, the school hosted teachers from Batavia Public Schools, Morris and Plano. East Aurora teachers from Magnet Academy came to STEM for a tour and to learn more about the resources available.

School district representatives and teachers are invited to partner meetings. The school continues to host Aurora University students in the positions of social work interns, nursing aides, and student supervisors.

Mrs. Carter also share she is adjusting the goals to the school as the school is actively changing and improving.

6.1.3 STEM Annual Report

Mrs. Carter shared the annual report with the board. This annual report is a way to share with the community the progress of the school.

6.1.4 STEM Video

Mrs. Carter share with the Board the STEM Video, which is available in the school website.

6.1.5 Enrollment Update

Mrs. Carter provided each Board member with an enrollment update with a break down by district. Board members requested a break down that provides more detailed data on students who chose to leave as opposing as students that move out of district and can no longer attend STEM. It was also mentioned the relevance of the data showing that students leaving are mostly from middle school grades.

Mrs. Carter shared that most of these students leaving want the middle school experience or leave for social reasons.

The Board engaged in a discussion of creating an informal goal attempting to retain middle school students. Some of the ways discussed were by inviting alumni to speak to current students about their experience at STEM. The target is to have them speak to 5th graders that may be thinking about going back to their home middle school. The alumni may share the success rate at the high school level and the benefits of staying in the STEM school until 8th grade. Some other ways the board suggested were by creating a mentorship program between the middle and elementary students, this will help build connections. The board also suggested that Mrs. Carter could share with parents what are the benefits of the 6-year experience at STEM.

TheBoard also suggested offering programs for students in middle school like e-sports. Mrs. Carter share with the board that she has been working with ITS for the past few months to see if this is something that can be implemented at STEM. The biggest challenges with e-sports and creating a league is finding age appropriate games the kids can play, since most of the video games have mature content.

6.1.6 Professional Learning Communities

The PLC meetings have been scheduled for twice a month. The meetings will be held early in the morning. Teams will be responsible for their own minutes and agendas.

6.1.7 E-learning days

Mrs. Carter brought the subject of e-learning days with the intention of exploring how the STEM school will implement e-learning days if some of the district implement it and others not. Dr. Sullivan is expected to approve e-learning days for her district next year. Dr. Craig is in the middle of a 1:1 device roll out. He may hold talks of e-learning days until after that. Dr. Hichens and Dr. Norrell do not have e-learning days in their agendas.

6.1.8 Government Agreement

Dr. Sherrick inquired about the possibility of opening the governing agreement. Dr. Norrell suggested that if changes need to be made the Board could do an addendum instead.

7. Adjourn

Dr. Sullivan motioned and Dr. Norrell seconded to adjourn.

Ayes: (5)

Nays: (0)

The meeting was adjourned at 1:59 pm.

Ana K Buenrostro
Administrative Assistant to the Director
John C. Dunham STEM Partnership School