



Leadership Council Meeting

Oregon Coast STEM Hub

April 25, 2019 | 11:00am – 3:00pm

Georgia-Pacific, Toledo, OR

Link to handouts https://drive.google.com/file/d/1T-UFC5I6QsFzK9owGvusy_uS55VBqWR/view?usp=sharing

Attending IRL: Shelby Walker*, Larry Boles**, Dave Hansen**, Kerry Carlin-Morgan*, SueAnn Bottoms*, Kristi Foster*, Alix Lee**, Itchung Cheung**, Lisa Blank , Josh Jannusch , Ruth McDonald , Cait Goodwin , Tracy Crews , Kama Almasi

Zoom: Sarah Cunningham*

(*LC member **alternate LC member backbone staff)

Welcome

Minutes accepted from Aug and Dec

Leadership Council Elections

Slate: Chair – Itchung Cheung, Vice Chair – Kristi Foster (Slate approved by LC)

Shelby Walker steps down as Chair. Lisa Blank gives Shelby a plant as a thank you for her service.

Update on Funding

Scenario 1 – STEM Hub funded as in past (unlikely)

Scenario 2 – funded at much reduced rate

Scenario 3 – will not be funded at all

LC discussed the status of funding recommendations from ODE, responses from the Oregon State Legislature, and similarities and differences between STEM Hub funding and funding for CTE. For example, while STEM Hubs reach preK to 20, CTE is primarily focused on HS and community college level students. Unlike CTE, STEM Hubs are not a line item in the budget and do not have a lobbyist in the legislature or access to Perkins funds. At least some legislators do not know how STEM Hubs are funded. Senator Roblan feels strongly that STEM Hubs should be funded by their Partners and located in Education Service Districts (ESD).

However, Oregon's STEM Hubs were initially not supposed to align with ESDs. That has changed in recent years. Today's STEM Hubs are organized in a variety of different ways: Aligned with ESD, moving away from ESD, housed at community college or university, etc. Our Oregon Coast STEM Hub crosses over parts of several different ESDs.

No one thinks STEM Hubs do NOT have a benefit. Instead, it is a misunderstanding of what they do and how they are funded. A lot of people don't know that STEM Hubs are on the chopping block. They assume if they fund CTE measures they are also funding the STEM Hubs. Not true.

Takeaways:

1. Legislators are in support of STEM Hubs, but don't know much about how they work.
2. ODE is in support of CTE and STEM, but we're not sure about their plan for financially supporting STEM Hubs

How do we educate ODE admins and other about STEM Hubs?

STEM Hub Directors put together a PDF about STEM Hub impacts statewide. Lisa also put together one that is specific for the OCSH (2016-18). See handout.

Oregon Business Plan supports STEM Hubs as their #1 priority. But they don't have any money. They are working on impacting the narrative.

STEM Investment Council

If they get funding, their priorities for STEM Hubs will be to open RFPs for:

1. Engaging administration with STEM administrative leader grants
2. Teacher STEM leader grants
3. Equity – through PD, including scaling up projects they like (“Math in Real Life”, “STEM Beyond Schools”, “Digital Literacy..”, “Student Voice”)

It appears Oracle Funds have yet to be allocated in support of STEM Hubs, as was originally planned.

What is needed from OCSH LC?

1. Identify who we are, what change we are making, and how do we show impact
2. Devise a financial plan: Seeking as many STEM business and organizations to contribute financial resources so we don't have to depend on ODE
3. LC to meet more regularly to come up with specific areas on which to focus
4. Tell Partners about the funding situation for STEM Hub (give information) and suggest that if Partners would like, they could share their perspective with their representatives

ODE Continuous Improvement Process (CIP)

Lisa just received the plan for CIP yesterday; walks the LC through the process

Categories in the CIP: *Diverse Representation, Participatory Governance & Collaborative Leadership, Sustainability & Capacity, Partner Engagement, Data-led Continuous Improvement, Program/Strategic Alignment, Progress*

- Note that these priorities are different than ODE priorities in the past
- Also they are different from the STEM Investment Council priorities
- STEM Hub Directors would like to move away from external evaluation, as the current situation is inadequate and does not provide regular feedback

Lisa will complete and submit all related documentation for CIP per the state plan and engage the OCSH in *Project Impact* (see below).

LC Discussion about Possible Ways to Align Hub

- Should all STEM Hubs focus on P-8? Not great for the few Oregon STEM Hubs that focus on HS.
- “Maritime workforce” is 10-15% all along the coast. Biggest areas Coos Bay, Newport, Astoria. Should OCSH commit to grow this particular workforce sector? Maritime workforce: commercial fishing, processing, building ships, manufacturing and construction and food processing fishing, port operations, some sightseeing jobs like fishing tours, marine technology, and marine research.

LUNCH

Reimagining Hub Essential Governing Structures

Joined by Susan Patterson from Mid Valley STEM Hub. She asked how can our two Hubs partner with each other to leverage relationships, compliment skillsets, and share?

Strategic reasons for “partnering” – Sen Roblan wants to see more alignment with ESDs, so by working together we could be better aligned with the Benton/Linn/Lincoln ESD. May make us more competitive for grants. Interested in marrying STEM and CTE.

The LC raised concerns about a partnership that would place too much emphasis on the central portion of the OCSH, which is a concern as we strive to meet the needs of the entire coast.

During the discussion, the group realized that, In fact, the proposal from Susan is to *merge* our two Hubs. LC members discuss the pros and cons. Cons include the danger of diluting the capacity and characters of regional specificity. Our strong PD and SE is part of our Hub’s identity.

General Consensus: *After discussion, the OCSH reached consensus that we are not interested in changing our governance or merging Hubs with Mid Valley. However, we will continue to develop open communication, sharing, partnering on projects, etc.*

Lisa and Susan will continue to work together through the Mid Valley Mid Coast Partnership.

Executive Committee:

Members: Itchung Cheung, Kristi Foster, Tenneal Wetherell. CJ Drake has been invited to join and will consider it.

Area Coordinators:

Kama will be returning to the classroom.

Area Coordinators work best when they bring a strong STEM background and are part of a school community (e.g., teacher, TOSA, or principal).

Curry needs its own coordinator, since it’s hard to cover both Coos and Curry areas.

Josh gave his perspective about how Warrenton SD values the OCSH and is willing to help cover costs because of the support of the Superintendent.

Kristi points out that with Clair's retirement, there may be an opportunity to talk more about partnerships can grow in Tillamook. Lisa will reach out to Alix to discuss further.

Measuring and Communicating OCSH Impacts

Lisa, Kerry and Josh attended a *Project Impact* workshop to help develop evaluations for STEM Hubs. The OCSH focuses on: 1) Networking, 2) Student Experiences, and 3) Professional Development. Lisa shared the example of impact #1, and then small groups worked on the Impact Statements and Indicators for #2 and #3.

Rural Wi-Fi Discussion

\$10K available for OCSH from Impact Northwest to hold a coastal STEM event that highlights broadband. LC agrees to support Lisa as she investigates this proposal further.

Hub Activities Update

The LC reviewed the Updates provided in the handouts.

Future meeting dates

The LC will add monthly 1 hour Zoom meetings until funding situation is stabilized.

Next Steps

One hour LC meeting in May – Thursday May 23 at 10am

-Respectfully submitted, C. Goodwin