

STEM Investment Council

2/25/25 Meeting Minutes

Location: In-Person (OHSU South Waterfront) and Online (WebEx)
OHSU - Rood Family Pavilion, Room B. 3410 S. Bond Ave., Portland OR and
<https://ohsu.webex.com/ohsu/j.php?MTID=md417de5f38630f35df7ddbbe478a38f9>

Duration: 4 hours

Introductions 1:00 PM

Adrienne Pierce, ODE Well-Rounded, Integrated and Digital Learning Director

Introduction from Adrienne Pierce

What is it about STEM that excites you? Group share

K S Venkatraman, STEM Investment Council Chair

Welcome and meeting focus, expectations.

Roll Call

Elizabeth Massa-MacLeod, ODE Administrative Specialist

Enough voting Council members are present for a quorum.

Venkat introduces Dr. Jarrod Lockhart, who will be joining as an advisory member.

Approval of previous minute meetings. Rita Hansen approves motion, Nikki Salenger seconds. No objections or abstention; approved.

No public comments brought forth.

Survey Review 1:25 PM

Deb Bailey, ODE STEM Education Specialist

Survey Results Graphed

Small group discussion of results including whether we track what math curriculum every school is using (no). Discussion includes focus on educator PD. Time and secondarily money seem to be the biggest barriers to PD.

Systematic challenges include lack of good data, students opting out of testing, and lack of a baseline. State assessment data that identifies which specific standards students struggle with would be helpful in focusing efforts.

Break 1:55

Mathways Presentation 2:05

Mark Freed, ODE Math Education Specialist

Review cornerstones, [Oregon Math Project](#): Focus, engagement, pathways, belonging.

Coherent structural framework will be released next aiming for next fall/winter; ODE is working with WestEd.

High school 2+1 course pathways for student choice launched. 2+1 followed a cohort of students and saw they do not actually follow assumed course progression. 60% of students observed not following the standard track and this decreases sense of belonging.

Mathway Grants, first for HS then for K-8 as well also a priority.

Q&A [abridged]

Deb Mumm-Hill: Any concern/data about students not challenging themselves in 2+1? Could effect STEM workforce

MF: Always a concern - but we have to give them some credit and honor their dreams. Buildon hopes

and dreams. But a lot of them don't know. Universities say what is missing in incoming students is K-8 and algebra I content. Can build anything off of that. Could stand to do more work on what math is required for certain careers/majors.

Gabriel Gellon: pathways need to be same level high quality and open different career paths.

MF: Key message/call to action for COuncil is that there's a lot of work to do. The math community is not associated enough with STEM - tends to isolate itself. Exploring how to teach math in an engaging way (part of framework). Teachers need help with this and in expanding horizons. We have to ask, what doesn't work?

OHSU Connection 2:44

Mike Walsh, Assistant Provost for Student Affairs

Mr. Walsh welcomes Council and introduces himself. OHSU is partnering with OR for 30/30/30 initiative to increase grad rates 30% in relevant areas, and increase diversity 30% by 2030. Students will cover all aspects of STEM inc math

Q&A

DMH: I'm not as well versed in OHSU pathways/trajectory. Would this be helpful to Hubs?

MW: I'd love to look at this. Undergrad options in school of nursing, radiation therapy, technician programs (partner with SU, PSU and OIT)

Innovation Grant Process 2:54

Deb Bailey & Adrienne Pierce, STEM Hub representatives

The meeting breaks into small group discussions in which Council members can meet one on one with Hub representatives and review their [primary projects and innovation grant applications](#). The Council agrees that they have further discussion needed amongst themselves before reaching a decision on recommendations.

Q&A

Nikki S: why the move back to individual hub foci rather than collab?

Deb B: still thematic, bucketing work - strategic areas - but no longer require them to work with at least one other hub. But they are working together anyway.

NS: It would be helpful to see what hubs are already doing. Also how much risk hubs are facing due to potential cuts and shutdowns.

AP: I propose that the Council have a small workgroup for follow-up work around the questions you still have. ODE can create a space to gather and field these.

Also this is earlier in the year than usual that we are asking for this from Hubs to get procurement for summer activities in time. So some wiggle room on hard deadlines.

Biennium starts July 1 so ideally applications complete within a month.

KH: Recruiting teachers in July is impossible so earlier is better for funding. Mid-May is ideal.

DB: Gov budget technically not even signed until October so fluid until then. We use these numbers as an estimate- agreements can be amended.

DB: Procurement is trying to stagger agreements now, but it may be a rocky start. Continuous service levels at the moment. We are waiting to see what Governor's budget recommends. Backbone funding is set though and already in procurement.

Rita: Concerns over how potential Medicaid cuts could affect budget?

Venkat: The Council has remaining questions on their next steps and what they should be examining closely as they review applications.

DB: There should be less focus on budget breakdowns and more on impact measures; the Hubs will be using the PARE tool this year for these.

Other Hub Updates 4:56

Adrienne Pierce

ODE will send a follow-up with some information on these in consideration of the time.

Legislative Updates 4:57

Adrienne Pierce

3 different bills are in session at the moment, including adjusting language for funding STEM Hubs that ensures it goes to Hubs specifically. There are two CS bills, competitive tech activities like Robotics First

and we may involve Council in looking at these standards in the future.

Q&A

DMH: Talk to your representatives. We are connecting with Solman and Ruiz soon.

Karla: other bills asking for new funding as well (HB2580), so please talk to everyone you can to advocate for us

Closing 5:00

Adrienne Pierce and Venkat