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LOUISIANA SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY, ENGINEERING, and MATHEMATICS

ADVISORY COUNCIL

Wednesday, December 13, 2017

The Louisiana Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (LaSTEM) Advisory Council met at 10:03 a.m. on Wednesday, December 13, 2017, at the Claiborne Building, Thomas Jefferson Room 1-136, 1201 North Third Street, Baton Rouge, Louisiana. Dr. Joseph Rallo, Commissioner of Higher Education, called the meeting to order. Mr. Vernon Dunn, Program Manager, called the roll and a quorum was established.

Committee Members Present

Nikki Landry (Jada Lewis)
Joseph Rallo
Ken Bradford (John White)
Susana Schowen
Carrick Inabnett
Sarah Haneline (Tom Yura)
Ken Tucker
Kristen Reeves
Jaime Williams
William Rafferty (Stephanie Hilferty)
Crystal Gordon
Stanton McNeely
Kassie Cusachs (Patty Glaser)
Tricia Miller
Dr. Daniel Roberts (Williams Wainwright)
Todd McDonald
Scott Stevens

Calvin Mackie
Janet Pope
Susannah Craig (Nathan Cotten)
Sharon Hewitt
Rachel Finley
Jim Henderson
Kenneth Burnell (Ava Dejoie)
Randy Duran
Laura Younger
Larry Carter
Kellie Taylor-White

Committee Members Absent

Michael Gaudet
Tricia Miller
Mahyar Amouzegar
Stanton McNeely
Jaime Williams

Opening Remarks were made by Dr. Joseph Rallo and Senator Sharon Hewitt.

LaSTEM Council Follow-up

Mr. Dunn presented the Council with a Vex update. Vex Robotics Team wants to provide one robot for ten high schools in Louisiana. The Department of Education will request that school districts nominate a school from the criteria developed by the Council. A proposal to the criteria is that 50% of the robotics team needs to be female and must have minority representation. There will be one public school Vex grant recipient for each district. Additionally, there will be one charter school Vex recipient for the state. VEX will provide free training for teachers that will be coaching teams during the week of January 16, 2018. Teams will compete in the state competition on March 3, 2018 in Covington. VEX and teams will present the results at the LaSTEM meeting in the Spring 2018.

LaSTEM Discussion

Ms. Susanna Schowen provided a review of STEM goals, definition, and literacy that were discussed the previous month. Mr. Dunn presented information on composing SMART goals and the timeline for finalization of the goals. Dr. Rallo expressed the importance of the work the STEM Council is doing, and the impact it will have on the future.

LaSTEM Report to Senate and House Committees on Education

Mr. Dunn informed the group of the January 30, 2018 deadline. A draft of the report will be presented at the January meeting.

Higher Education Workgroup Update & Discussion

Dr. Lamadrid provided the Council with the progress of the Higher Education Workgroup. The Higher Education Workgroup group has identified impacted populations, present shortcomings of higher education, opportunities that can be pursued, and potential action items to improve the group's outcomes.

STEM Showcase

Representatives from Cyber Innovation Center presented the Council with progress being made in the Bossier area. Senator Hewitt invited the Chairs of the Workgroups to visit the Cyber Innovation Center.

Other Business, Wrap-Up & Next Steps

The next meeting will be held on Wednesday, January 10, 2018, at 9:00 a.m.

Adjournment

There being no further business regarding the LaSTEM Advisory Council, Dr. Rallo adjourned the meeting at 12:07 p.m.

NAME

Sandra Partain
Esperanza Zenon
Curtis Penrod
Carrie Robison
Seth Stevens
Stacia Andricai
Chris Rue
Claire Lukart
Patrick Stewart
Phoebe Rouse
Linda Thompson
Luis Medina
Deborah Marshall
Les Guice
Kevin Notten
Kim Fossey
Jeanne Daboval
Eric Pani
Chris Roe
Alex Appeaning
Bonnie Hymel

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