

Effective 5/10/2016

63N-12-204 STEM Action Center Board -- Duties.

- (1) The board shall:
 - (a) establish a STEM Action Center to:
 - (i) coordinate STEM activities in the state among the following stakeholders:
 - (A) the State Board of Education;
 - (B) school districts and charter schools;
 - (C) the State Board of Regents;
 - (D) institutions of higher education;
 - (E) parents of home-schooled students;
 - (F) other state agencies; and
 - (G) business and industry representatives;
 - (ii) align public education STEM activities with higher education STEM activities; and
 - (iii) create and coordinate best practices among public education and higher education;
 - (b) with the consent of the Senate, appoint a director to oversee the administration of the STEM Action Center;
 - (c) select a physical location for the STEM Action Center;
 - (d) strategically engage industry and business entities to cooperate with the board:
 - (i) to support high quality professional development and provide other assistance for educators and students; and
 - (ii) to provide private funding and support for the STEM Action Center;
 - (e) give direction to the STEM Action Center and the providers selected through a request for proposals process pursuant to this part; and
 - (f) work to meet the following expectations:
 - (i) that at least 50 educators are implementing best practice learning tools in classrooms;
 - (ii) performance change in student achievement in each classroom participating in a STEM Action Center project; and
 - (iii) that students from at least 50 schools in the state participate in the STEM competitions, fairs, and camps described in Subsection 63N-12-205(2)(d).
- (2) The board may:
 - (a) enter into contracts for the purposes of this part;
 - (b) apply for, receive, and disburse funds, contributions, or grants from any source for the purposes set forth in this part;
 - (c) employ, compensate, and prescribe the duties and powers of individuals necessary to execute the duties and powers of the board;
 - (d) prescribe the duties and powers of the STEM Action Center providers; and
 - (e) in accordance with Title 63G, Chapter 3, Utah Administrative Rulemaking Act, make rules to administer this part.
- (3) The board may establish a foundation to assist in:
 - (a) the development and implementation of the programs authorized under this part to promote STEM education; and
 - (b) implementation of other STEM education objectives described in this part.
- (4) A foundation established by the board under Subsection (3):
 - (a) may solicit and receive contributions from a private organization for STEM education objectives described in this part;
 - (b) shall comply with Title 51, Chapter 7, State Money Management Act;
 - (c) does not have power or authority to incur contractual obligations or liabilities that constitute a claim against public funds;

- (d) may not exercise executive or administrative authority over the programs or other activities described in this part, except to the extent specifically authorized by the board;
 - (e) shall provide the board with information detailing transactions and balances of funds managed for the board; and
 - (f) may not:
 - (i) engage in lobbying activities;
 - (ii) attempt to influence legislation; or
 - (iii) participate in any campaign activity for or against:
 - (A) a political candidate; or
 - (B) an initiative, referendum, proposed constitutional amendment, bond, or any other ballot proposition submitted to the voters.
- (5) Money donated to a foundation established under Subsection (3) may be accounted for in an expendable special revenue fund.

Amended by Chapter 139, 2016 General Session