

Sumter STEAM Charter: A School of Inquiry, Innovation, & Impact Founding Committee Meeting \sim December 16, 2019 \sim 11:00 am-1:00 pm

Mission: Sumter STEAM Charter works to provide all students with equal access to a world class K-12 education in an academically rigorous & student-centered learning environment, creating graduates who will be thoughtful and engaged citizens prepared to take on the leadership challenges of the 21st century.

Vision: In partnership with our families and the community, our vision is to provide real-world interdisciplinary, personalized, and project-based learning experiences through a STEAM-based academic program where graduates become the next generation of leaders, employers, and employees who contribute to the economic well-being of their communities and families.

AGENDA

- 1. Welcome, Introductions, and Chew n' Chat
- 2. Convening as a Corporation Officers, AOI, By Laws
- 3. Community Needs Assessment Update
 - a. Feedback Survey
 - b. Scholar Enrollment Interest
 - c. Hopes & Dreams Listening Tour
 - i. One-on-One Sessions
 - ii. Focus Groups
 - d. Letters of Support & Partnership
 - e. Community Awareness Sessions
- 4. Strategy Planning
 - a. Mission, Vision, Core Beliefs, Core Values, Core Competencies
 - b. Learner Profile of the Sumter STEAM Charter School Graduate
- 5. Marketing
 - a. Social Media, Fliers around Town, Other
- 6. Operations
 - a. Enrollment Tables, Class Size, Teacher Staffing
- 7. Financial
 - a. Non-Profit Status Update, Budget Modeling, Salaries
- 8. Upcoming Events
 - a. SCPCSD Pre-Applicant Workshop
 - b. January Planning Committee Meeting
 - c. February Capacity Interview Training



Sumter STEAM Charter Planning Committee December 16, 2019 Meeting Minutes

The planning committee assembled on December 16, 2019 at 11:30 am in the third floor conference room of Thompson Headquarters located at 100 North Main Street in Sumter. Attending members of the planning committee included Greg Thompson, Dr. Trevor Ivey, Rev. Dr. Marion Newton, Kimberly Rauschenbach, David Loadholt, Steve Creech, Ben Griffith, Bronwyn McElveen, and Cammy Chandler.

Mr. Thompson began the meeting off by sharing remarks of appreciation for each member present and answering the call to serve on the charter school planning committee. Mr. Thompson reviewed his call to action for the proposed charter school by reiterating his desire to see an additional educational option available that will help to address the educational outcomes from the local public school district, local workforce development dilemma, and our local military base. Mr. Thompson went around the table to talk specifically about each member of the planning committee and the skillset/expertise they bring to the group's focus. Afterwards, Mr. Thompson turned it over to Dr. Ivey to introduce the agenda, objectives, and outcomes for the meeting which is primarily focused on increasing awareness of the members of the planning committee surrounding the application process.

Dr. Ivey reviewed with the planning committee that articles of incorporation have been successfully filed with the SC Secretary of State and received an EIN from the Internal Revenue Service. He shared with the planning committee that they would need to convene as a new nonprofit corporation. In doing so, a written waiver of notice was displayed and signed by all directors to be filed with the minutes and corporate officers were selected with unanimous approval from all directors: Mr. Thompson (chairperson), Dr. Ivey (secretary), and Ms. Rauschenbach (treasurer). There was a brief discussion led by Ms. McElveen on the proposed bylaws circulated by Dr. Ivey centered around the structure of the governing board for the proposed charter school. Mr. Thompson suggested that a subcommittee be appointed and work through the suggested changes to amend and bring back to the full planning committee in January. Members appointed include both attorneys – Ms. McElveen and Ms. Chandler, as well as Dr. Ivey and Mr. Thompson.

Dr. Ivey then updated the planning committee on the evidence of need section of the application to include the following: an overwhelmingly positive response from the community needs assessment survey (644 responses to date), 112 student interest enrollment applications to date, 51 letters of support/partnership, 67 one-on-one/small group presentations as part of the "Hopes and Dreams Listening Tour." Dr. Ivey stated that notification letters to the superintendent, city council, county council, and our legislative delegation have been sent and that, in many cases, one-on-one conversations have taken place regarding the proposed school's story, mission, and model. Chairman Thompson stated that further dialogue is taking place with members of our legislative delegation. Dr. Ivey will be meeting with our local elected officials after the Christmas Holidays to answer any final questions of clarification.

In addition, Dr. Ivey stated he has facilitated five focus groups with parents, educators, and members of the community and the plans for later this week to host 24 community awareness sessions at eight venues across the county: Shaw AFB, YMCA, Trinity Missionary Baptist Church, Jehovah Missionary Baptist). Dr. Ivey stated that the first section of three in the application (evidence of need/support, academic, and goals/objectives/assessments) is complete and has been sent out to the full planning committee for feedback. Dr. Ivey also shared strategy planning documents for brief discussion to include the SSC Learner Profile and SSC Pathways to Success. Dr. Ivey also updated the committee on the social media campaign with active accounts on all three major platforms — Facebook with 650+ followers, Twitter with over 100 followers, and about 80 followers on Instagram. Chairman Thompson shared with the committee that Dr. Ivey is working with a marketing company to design a website that should go live by the next committee meeting.

A draft version of the budget was shared with the committee. Chairman Thompson stated that it is still being flushed out and would be presented to the full committee at the next meeting. A brief overview of the post-application submission process was shared with the committee to include capacity interviews and the public hearing.

Chairman Thompson shared with the committee that Dr. Ivey will send out meeting documents a few days ahead of our next scheduled meeting on January 10 and to read through the documents. The application deadline is February 1. He also asked for any available members of the committee to participate in the SCPCSD pre-applicant work session scheduled for December 17 in Columbia. Dr. Ivey verified that our committee had six confirmed attendees.

With there being no further business before the committee and unanimous approval, Chairman Thompson adjourned the meeting at 12:35 pm and invited everyone to remain for lunch.

pbmitted by the Planning Committee Secretary for approval on January 8, 2019.

Greg A. Thompson, Planning Committee Chair

Dr. Trevor Ivey, Planning Committee Secretary