



Anne Hornickel <ahornick@umn.edu>

Summer Newsletter

SciMathMN/MN STEM Network <SciMathMNMN_STEM_Network@mail.vresp.com>

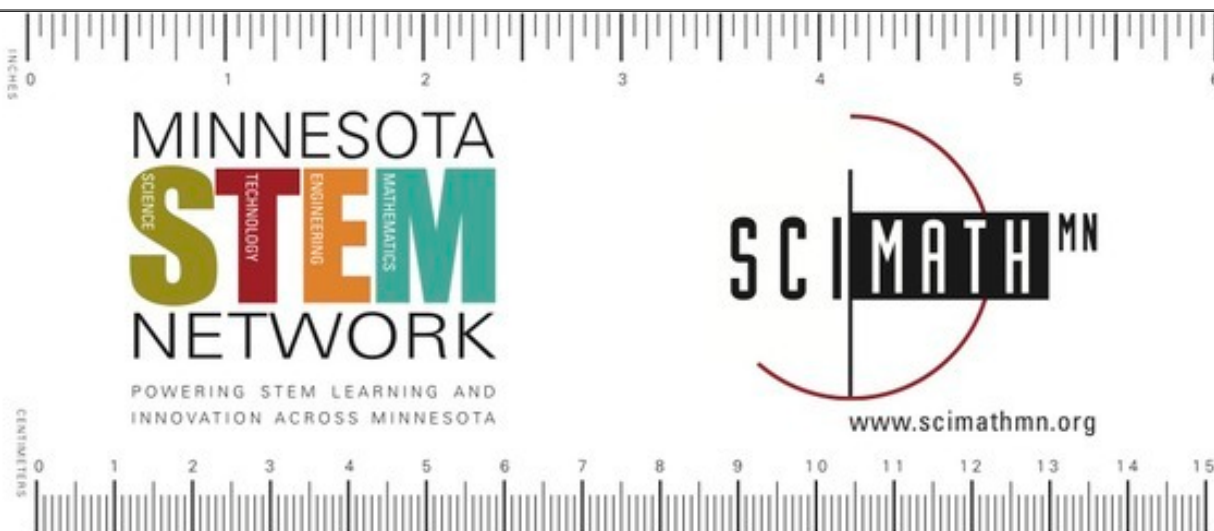
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Reply-To: SciMathMN/MN STEM Network <reply-0768e3faf6-216960ab96-09c4@u.cts.vresp.com>

To: ahornick@umn.edu



July 2012 Newsletter



Produced with the Support of



Register for the July Social Hour

*Our next social hour will be held at [STARBASE Minnesota](#) on **Wednesday, July 25th, from 4:30 - 6:30. Plan to attend if you haven't seen its recently renovated facility and classrooms! Register by Monday, July 23rd. See full article below.***

SciMathMN is a non-profit, statewide education and business coalition advocating for quality K-12 science, mathematics and technology

education based on research, national standards and effective practices.

Major initiatives include policymaker briefings, the [STEM Teacher Center](#) online resource and the Minnesota STEM Network.

Third Annual Meeting of the Minnesota STEM Network Held on May 1st

The third annual meeting of the Minnesota STEM Network took place on May 1st at Boston Scientific. Nearly 200 attended the meeting, including representatives from corporate foundations gathered to discuss the potential of a STEM Funders Network. The meeting gave a recap of the year, featuring outcomes of strategic planning for the network. Ben Aase of CliftonLarsonAllen presented the research methodology and key recommendations. A summary is available at mnstemnet.org.

Breakout sessions included a report on the achievement gap in Minnesota, best practices for out-of-school time STEM learning, research on STEM schools, strategies for business-school partnerships, and an exploratory discussion on needs assessments for regional STEM networks.

After informal networking over the lunch hour, Jeffrey Weld, executive director of the Iowa Governor's STEM Advisory Council gave the keynote. He began with not just a reference to the Sputnik era.





SciMathMN seeks its next part-time Executive Director. The successful candidate will be a highly organized individual with strong communication skills and a passionate interest in STEM. The successful candidate must be able to operate independently; manage a diverse set of tasks; work with the Board of Directors to articulate and advance a clear vision in support of high quality STEM standards, teaching, and learning in Minnesota; and communicate effectively with diverse audiences, including educators, legislators, and business leaders.

Interested applicants should submit materials electronically to Richard Hudson, SciMathMN Board Chair. Materials should be emailed to execdirsearch@scimathmn.org

A fuller position description is available at the [SciMathMN website](#).

The Minnesota STEM Network is aimed at addressing critical issues in improving STEM education in Minnesota. By articulating and aligning strategies, and effectively communicating the value of STEM, the network is committed to powering STEM learning and innovation across Minnesota.

[MN STEM Network](#)

Join the MN STEM Network on LinkedIn

Post news and events so that everyone in the network can stay up-to-date on STEM activities and news in Minnesota. Hurry- Join us today. [MNSTEM group](#)



but a comparison of concerns and conditions around the time of Sputnik and today. There were such remarkable similarities that it was difficult to discern the two! He then enumerated the calls to action for STEM from business and government and gave an overview of Iowa's statewide effort. Iowa's approach to statewide network development will include regional development, a scale-up of proven programs for building interest and achievement in STEM, and promotion of STEM. Potential programs for scale-up have applied in April for consideration of scale-up. The Iowa University Consortium of Evaluation and Assessment will work closely with the scale-up to gauge the effectiveness of the program implementation.



The afternoon plenary sessions engaged attendees in refining goals and strategies based on the strategic planning outcomes and metrics for network activity. See separate article below. The Leadership Team is revising the executive summary based on feedback at the meeting. It will also develop a draft concept for STEM promotion by the network and then post it on the website for comment.

A committee is forming to continue refining the metrics for gains in student achievement in STEM, improvements in STEM programming, and progress in Network development. The committee may meet in person occasionally, but will likely meet via conference call. If interested, contact [Anne Hornickel](#).



SciMathMN thanks Boston Scientific—especially Marilee Grant, Jerry Sosinske, and Brooke Sampone--for hosting the annual meeting. Thanks also to all who attended and participated in the strategic planning activities.

Plan to attend the July Social Hour for a chance to see STARBASE Minnesota!
Wednesday, July 25, 4:30 – 6:30pm

[STARBASE Minnesota](#) is an exciting STEM program that serves over 3300 students annually in and around the Minneapolis and St. Paul Public School districts.

Their hands-on curriculum, aerospace resources, and dynamic instructors create a powerful combination that brings out the best in grade 4-6 students. STARBASE is a program of the Department of Defense and is located inside the MN Air National Guard Base at Fort Snelling.



Location: 659 Mustang Avenue, St. Paul, MN 55111

[Link to registration.](#)

Note: Advanced registration is **required** to gain access to the Minnesota Air National Guard Base. The registration deadline is Monday, July 23rd. Registering by **Thursday, July 19th** would be most helpful to the security clearance process.

About 30 Network members and devotees of Leonardo's Basement attended the social hour at [Leonardo's Basement](#) on June 28. Leonardo's Basement creates imaginative learning environments for girls and boys ages 6 to 16 and adults where they design and build their creative ideas, mixing art, science and technology.

Thanks to Jerry Sosinske of Boston Scientific for coordinating the Network Social Hours.

UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA
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HUMPHREY SCHOOL OF PUBLIC AFFAIRS

Center for Science, Technology & Public Policy

Energizing Open Innovation: Education, Business and Government

Wednesday, July 25, 2012, 1:00 - 5:00pm

Crowdsourcing and Open Innovation have come a very long way since the words were first introduced into the vernacular years ago. Today, competitive global communities are thriving and when paired with nuanced & mature productivity platforms, the outputs and innovations in the arenas of education, business and government are consistently strong and quite innovative. We invite you to this exclusive ½ day event that is focused on energizing Open Innovation.

Agenda includes: *Crowdsourcing with Kids: How Gaming & Contests are Energizing STEM Education.* Educators, mentors, and students are gravitating toward STEM education initiatives that are anchored in competition and propelled by Open Innovation practices. Understand this cultural shift and explore some of the most ambitious initiatives changing the lives of the students participating.

Speakers include: Jason Crusan, Director, Advanced Exploration Systems Division at NASA; Shawn Pearson, Director, Technology at Ameriprise Financial Services, Inc.; Richard Hudson, Twin Cities Public Television; Ananth Pai, Matoska International IB World School; and Thomas Baden, CIO at the Department of Human Services, State of Minnesota.

[Register via this link.](#)

10 Best Days at The Bakken July 13th through July 22nd, 2012

Visit The Bakken Museum for the 4th Annual 10 Best Days of The Bakken, occurring from July 13th through July 22nd, 2012. This is a FREE event that coincides with the Minneapolis Aquatennial. All 10 days are uniquely themed, so visit often throughout the event to participate in museum activities and programming with community partners!

The Bakken will also feature a brand new Green Energy Art Garden where each day local artists will work with visitors to create eco-electric art and music atop the museum's Green Rooftop.

Location: The Bakken
3537 Zenith Avenue South
Minneapolis 55416



STEM Day at the State Fair Gears Up for Thursday, August 23, 2012

The STEM Day at the State Fair committee is working toward plans for the 3rd annual STEM Day at the State Fair. Stage performers include The Bakken Museum and the Physics Force, Alpha Chi Sigma chemistry fraternity, and Raptor Center from the University of Minnesota. Twenty-six exhibitors from industry, elementary, secondary and post-secondary schools and community organizations plan to participate:

3M
Bell Museum
Cedar Park STEM Elementary School
Eagan FIRST Robotics
FIRST Tech Challenge/FIRST Robotics
High Tech Kids
Minneosta Future City Competition
Minnesota High Tech Association
Minnesota MATHCOUNTS
Minnesota 4-H
Minnesota State High School League
MTS Systems Corp.
Emerson Process Management
Shattuck-St. Mary's School
St. Catherine University
St. Cloud State University
STARBASE Minnesota
The Bakken Museum
Raptor Center, University of Minnesota
The Works



PBS Kids on IPI
 SciGirls on TPT
 Society of Women Engineers
 Project Lead the Way
 Minnesota Space Consortium
 ATK

Download our promotional flyer from the mnstemnet.org webpage to distribute to your audiences.

Thanks to the STEM Day at the Fair committee:
 Katie Staub, chair; Tim Barrett, Ron Bennett, Dennis Harvey, Anne Hornickel, Julie Michener, Cheryl Moeller, Carolyn Williams.



STEM Day is supported financially by our sponsors: An individual gift from Mike and Becky Thyken and corporate support from 3M, ATK, H.B. Fuller and MTS Systems.

Discussion of Metrics for Network Activity

In the afternoon plenary sessions at the annual meeting, attendees discussed potential metrics of Network activity. The following ideas are some of the leading suggestions for what gauges progress on strategic directions recommended by CliftonLarsonAllen.

Public Awareness and Support of STEM

- Community survey at baseline and repeated over time to measure awareness, support for STEM and changes following Network interventions
- Public and private investment over time as knowledge and awareness of STEM changes
- Trends in participation in the STEM workforce
- Number/percentage of schools with public/private partnerships
- Number/percentage of STEM professionals who mentor or serve as a role model for youth in STEM

Regional STEM Network Development

- Local ownership of developing regional networks
- Local leadership teams form
- Increase in philanthropic giving toward STEM activity
- Regional goals established based on needs assessment
- Public portal established featuring inventory of regional programs



Teacher Professional Development

- Statewide inventory developed
- Increased participation of teachers
- Increased number of program collaborations across sectors

Promote research and high quality STEM education practices

- Degree of experimentation and implementation of programs promoted by network
- Growth of STEM programming across community or region
- Evaluation to determine which types of programs had the greatest effect in STEM engagement or retention

If you would like to continue refining metrics for the Network, please join the ad hoc committee. If you have comments on individual metrics, please give feedback to [Anne Hornickel](#).

SciMathMN

www.scimathmn.orgEmail: info@scimathmn.org

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St. Paul, Minnesota 55102
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