

Central Coast STEM Collaborative  
General Meeting  
November 15, 2011

Advisory Group Lead Steve Kliewer, Meeting Facilitator, started the meeting by playing the song, "We've Got to be That Light" by Jeff Goldstein, which can be found on [blogontheuniverse.com](http://blogontheuniverse.com). It was written as a gift to America's teachers.

Those in attendance:

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Steve encouraged members to:

- Spread the word and invite others
- Attend meetings
- Join working groups, or start a new one
- Refer to and contribute to the website
- Subscribe to the CCSTEM calendar of events
- Submit events for posting to the calendar

Working Group Reports:

1. Communications Working Group—Tanja Kehler reported the group has been meeting with Eric Doster of iFixit to learn how to use Joomba to operate the new website. Added items include a clearinghouse or database of events, a calendar, a newsletter/blog of submitted articles, and email subscriptions.

2. STEM or Science in the Classroom—Anne Marie Bergen reported that a small group met. The group seeks to connect educators and move STEM education forward in our community. There is a concern that early exposure to STEM education that can open eyes and create excitement is not happening. Lola B. Jimenez is operating a program for 3<sup>rd</sup>-5<sup>th</sup> grade teachers, which is now in its third year. Other interested people are encouraged to join this working group.
3. Out-of-School Time Programs Working Group—Linda Wingert presented a written update dated November 15, 2011. The other members are Steve Kliewer, Tanja Kehler, Linda Pierce, Dawn Hinchman, Traice Muguira and Jane Lehr. They meet on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday of each month at 5:00 p.m. Other interested supporters are asked to attend. Their purpose is to increase opportunities and quality of STEM education in out-of-school programs for youth and for staff who teach STEM subjects. A list of needs include:
  - Funding for project-based STEM curriculum, materials and events
  - Training for staff who teach STEM subjects
  - Developing a local materials/resource library
  - Connecting available resources and ideas with staff and kids
  - Investigating opportunities for after-school programs and local higher education to partner to develop “Teachers in Training” programs in which student applicants could receive credit for teaching/working in after-school programs.
 Seven events/notices were listed in an Updates section. Seven Resources were listed.  
 The next meeting will be Thursday, December 8<sup>th</sup> at 5:00 p.m. at the YMCA Bach House, 340 Pomeroy Ave. in Pismo Beach.
4. Advocacy Working Group—Brad Schultz reported the group (including Walt Reil and Ray Weymann) has been meeting by Internet and phone. A letter has been prepared for our senators and representatives that requests that the Education Secondary and Elementary Act aka “No Child Left Behind” be fully funded and implemented. They want science education to be given the same priority as math and literacy education.
5. Fund-Raising Working Group—Paul Murphy—the group has not yet met. However, he reported Allan Hancock College received a \$4.3 million grant for innovative programs. They hope to continue the Friday Night Science Programs, create a mobile STEM showcase to bring to the community, create a STEM center and hold a Summer of Science Program for middle and high school students.
6. STEM Events—Steve announced that Balloon Fest, which is hosted by the Endeavour Institute, received funding. He shared a flyer on the event. Mentor volunteers are needed. The event will be held May 5<sup>th</sup>.

#### Old Business

1. CSLNet Planning Grant Proposal—this is a proposal to the California STEM Learning Network. A draft document titled “Request for Proposal &

Guidelines for Submission of CSLNet Regional Alliance Start-Up Grant” was presented. John Keller is the acting communication link with Chris Roe of CSLNet. Edmund Burke, Steve Kliewer, Brad Schultz and Patti Garrett have reviewed it to date. Pages 1 and 2 will not be submitted, so it will start with page 3. Page 4 has the abstract or the summary of the proposal. The plan is to start with San Luis Obispo and Santa Barbara Counties working together. Later, Kern and Ventura Counties may join the regional alliance. The planning grant objectives of CSLNet are in alignment with the anticipated work of the Central Coast STEM Collaborative, which started in May of 2011. The three goals of CSLNet are stated in paragraph 3. Page 6 lists our regional stakeholders. Patti Garrett volunteered to add to the initial list. Page 7 states the lead organization will be the San Luis Obispo County Office of Education. (It was noted that the second annual forum might be held in Santa Barbara County.) Pages 8 and 9 have a list of our working groups. Input is welcome. Page 10 has a project timeline. Again, input is welcome. Page 11 is titles Budget Summary and Budget Narrative. Page 12 is a table with the Budget Summary. The numbers are not yet final. Information concerning mini-grants (examples: equipment and student travel) is welcome. The current plan is for both counties to share a coordinator. Patti Garrett announced her personal goal of having the grant proposal completed by December 1<sup>st</sup>.

2. Brad Schultz will be meeting with 4 assistant superintendents on November 28<sup>th</sup>.  
The next CSLNet meeting will be December 13<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup> in Riverside. The group indicated John Keller from SLO and either Susan or Jane from SB should attend as our representatives.
3. A discussion of the group’s acronym was held. “CCSTEM” was chosen.
4. Teresa Lees suggested we attempt to reach out to local teachers to get involved. Judy G. suggested we issue a personal invitation to a teacher and bring a teacher to a meeting. We also might find a person to act as a point of contact at each school.
5. Publicity—blog proposal.
6. George Pudlo suggested we develop a way to present our STEM concept to others. He presented a document titled “Clarify ‘STEM’ education in less than two pages”. He stated it is open to editing and input. It was suggested to spread the word through a Viewpoint article and via Dennis Young to get it to Cal Coast News.

#### New Business

1. December 13<sup>th</sup>/14<sup>th</sup> CSLNet Regional Meeting in Riverside.
2. January 11, 2012 CCSTEM Advisory Committee meeting to be facilitated by Patti Garrett. Time and location to be announced.
3. February 7, 2012 CCSTEM General Meeting. Facilitator, time and location to be announced.

4. Annual CCSTEM Forum—coordinate date with host Santa Barbara County. A planning committee will be formed.
5. Sharing time--open microphone:
  - a. Steve asked for mentor volunteers for Balloon Fest.
  - b. Tanja met a UCSB geology teacher who might become involved in the Elks Summer at the Pool Program.
  - c. Walt Reil mentioned the NPP Satellite Educator's Launch Conference held at Vandenberg Air Force Base. He suggested we find a way to meet with the local school superintendents to promote science education. He suggested Cal Poly develop a mobile STEM lab. He also reported Endeavour Institute would like to be involved in the new Nipomo Central Coast Tech High School.

Julie Reil