AI meeting summary:

- Peggy Myers, a middle school teacher from Michigan, discusses her use of Vex robotics in the classroom and her goals for STEM education. She hopes to host a competition and provide students with marketable skills for their future careers. However, logistical issues and difficulty navigating the Vex website have posed challenges. Peggy values allowing students creativity through free build time and collaboration but has not had any lessons go terribly wrong due to her non-traditional teaching style. Overall, she is grateful for the opportunity to participate in the survey at the Veteran Products Educators Conference.

Outline:

Chapter 1: Introduction

- Timestamp: 0:00 - 0:05
- Content: Peggy Myers introduces herself as a middle school teacher at Hancock Middle School in Michigan and shares the Vex products used by the students.

Chapter 2: Goals with STEM Education

- Timestamp: 0:45 - 2:01
- Content: Myers discusses the goals of STEM education at her school, which includes hosting a robotics competition, preparing students for future employment, and implementing coding and computer science skills.

Chapter 3: Impediments to Achieving Goals

- Timestamp: 2:02 - 3:06
- Content: Myers shares some of the challenges faced in achieving their STEM education goals, including logistics of attending competitions and difficulty troubleshooting technical issues with Vex.

Chapter 4: Improvements to Vex and STEM Implementation

- Timestamp: 3:07 - 4:27
- Content: Myers suggests improvements to Vex and STEM implementation, including spare parts for classroom kits, troubleshooting flowcharts, and easier navigation of the Vex website.

Chapter 5: Success Stories with Vex and STEM Education

- Timestamp: 4:28 - 5:06
- Content: Myers shares the success of their first robotics competition and highlights the importance of team collaboration.

Chapter 6: Challenges Faced in Teaching with Vex

- Timestamp: 5:07 - 6:01
- Content: Myers explains that her classroom structure is not traditional and focuses on student-led learning, which makes it difficult to identify specific failed lessons.

Chapter 7: Conclusion and Thanks

- Timestamp: 6:02 - 6:24
- Content: Myers expresses her gratitude for the opportunity to participate in the survey and thanks the organizers for their work to improve Vex and STEM education.

Notes:

- Peggy Myers is a middle school teacher at Hancock Middle School in the Upper Peninsula

of Michigan.
- They use Vex from elementary all the way through high school.
- The middle schoolers and elementary schoolers use Vex IQ, while the high schoolers use Vex EXP.
- Their goals with STEM education include hosting a competition this upcoming October, having marketable skills for students, and changing the perception of what manufacturing looks like.
- They are working on professional development for their teachers and sent one teacher to a conference last year.
- Impediments to achieving their goals in STEM education include the distance to competitions and difficulty navigating the website.
- They suggest having a troubleshooting flowchart to help students.
- They allow for free build time and encourage creativity in the classroom.
- At their first competition, the team collaborations from other schools were the best part.
- They don't have a lesson that failed because they structure the classroom in a non-traditional way.
- They suggest having spare parts for the classroom kits and having more than one competition kit.
- They would like to hear more success stories and share that they allow their students to create their own competitions.
- The survey was for internal purposes to improve their products.

Action items:

- Follow-ups:
- 1. What are your goals with STEM education?
- 2. What are the impediments to achieving your goals in STEM education?
- 3. If you could change one thing about either Vex or your STEM implementation, what would make your life easier as an educator?
- 4. Is there anything else that you want to share with us?

Action Items:

- 1. The respondent expressed interest in hosting a competition in Michigan, so providing information and mentorship on that could be helpful.
- 2. The respondent suggested that a troubleshooting flowchart would be helpful for students facing issues with Vex.
- 3. The respondent suggested providing classroom kits with spare parts and having the kids do different labs on gear ratios.
- 4. The respondent expressed that the Vex website was difficult to navigate at times, suggesting that simplifying the interface could be helpful.
- 5. The respondent noted that robotics is important for manufacturing and that community leaders and manufacturers would like their workforce to have skills in STEM, so providing resources to accomplish this could be useful.
- 6. The respondent noted that team collaborations from other schools were the best part of the competition, suggesting that encouraging collaboration among teams could be helpful.
- 7. The respondent did not have a lesson that failed in a traditional sense, as the classroom structure is student-centered and elective-based.