



GOVERNOR'S STEM ADVISORY COUNCIL

dedicated to building a strong STEM education foundation for all Iowans

Northeast Iowa STEM Advisory Board Meeting

Thursday, August 21, 2025

10:30 AM to Noon

LOCATION:
Virtual

AGENDA

- A. Welcome
- B. Introduction of the STEM Youth Ambassadors representing Northeast Iowa
- C. Budget/Expenditures
 - a. FY25 Year End
 - b. FY26 YTD July 31
- D. FY25 Year-End Report – Northeast STEM Region
- E. Update on Scale-Up Awards
- F. STEM Festivals
 - a. Cedar Valley Family STEM Festival – October 16 in Waverly
- G. Appointment of Chair and Vice Chair
- H. FY26 meeting dates
- I. Iowa STEM Council updates
 - a. Scale-Up Request for Proposal, STEM Teacher Award, STEM Best application opens, Iowa STEM Summit
- J. Announcements

NORTHEAST REGION OF THE IOWA GOVERNOR'S STEM ADVISORY COUNCIL

Jeff Beneke, STEM Regional Manager • University of Northern Iowa • 214 East Bartlett Hall • Cedar Falls, Iowa 50614-0396
Telephone: 319-273-7397 • E-mail: jeff.beneke@uni.edu • neiwastem.com
Facebook: NEIASTEM • X: @NE_IA_STEM

Upcoming Events:

- August 17 STEM Day at the State Fair
- September 2 Goal to open the Program Provider Scale-Up Request for Proposal
- September 3 STEM BEST application opens
- October 16 Cedar Valley Family STEM Festival - Waverly
- October 17 STEM Summit
- October 22 STEM Teacher Nomination closes
- November 10 STEM BEST application closes

STEM Review Committees:

Scale-Up Program Selection

Review period: October

Time commitment: approximately 15-20 hours

Review STEM program applications from companies who present a PK-12 program for the Iowa STEM Scale-Up 2026-27 program menu.

Current committee members (4): Doreen Hayek, Allison Plunkett, Heather Fransen, and Barb Ehlers

IOWA STEM Teacher Award Selection

Review period: November-December

Time commitment: approximately 3-12 hours

Evaluate nominations/applications to select the IOWA STEM Teacher awardees. Six educators selected (one per region).

Current committee members (3): Lisa Chizek, Larry Escalada, and Jeff Jacobs

STEM BEST Selection

Review period: December – January

Time commitment: approximately 3-12 hours.

Evaluate applications for Iowa STEM Business Engaging Students and Teachers (BEST) proposals from across the state. Proposals provide you a chance to work with business partners on real-world projects.

Current committee members (3): Bev Berns, Doreen Hayek, Marcy Seavey and Allison Plunkett

Scale-Up Awardee Selection

Review period: March

Time commitment: approximately 2-4 hours

Evaluate applications submitted by educators throughout region requesting Scale-Up programs on the 2026-27 menu.

Current committee members (11): All board members

NORTHEAST REGION OF THE IOWA GOVERNOR'S STEM ADVISORY COUNCIL

Jeff Beneke, STEM Regional Manager • University of Northern Iowa • 214 East Bartlett Hall • Cedar Falls, Iowa 50614-0396
Telephone: 319-273-7397 • E-mail: jeff.beneke@uni.edu • neiwastem.com
Facebook: NEIASTEM • X: @NE_IA_STEM