



GOVERNOR'S STEM ADVISORY COUNCIL

dedicated to building a strong STEM education foundation for all Iowans

Northeast Iowa STEM Advisory Board Meeting

Tuesday, May 5, 2026

10:30 AM to 11:00 AM STEM BEST Presentation

11:00 AM to Noon Board meeting

LOCATION:

Edgewood-Colesburg High School, Edgewood

AGENDA

- A. Welcome
- B. YTD Financial Statement
- C. FY27 Scale-Up Programming
- D. IOWA STEM Teacher Award
- E. STEM Festivals
 - a. Report on Northeast Iowa Family STEM Festival – April 9 in Waukon
 - b. FY27 festivals
- F. Iowa STEM Council updates
- G. 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:

- June 14-16 STEM BEST Symposium – Earlham School
- November 6 Iowa STEM Summit – Des Moines

STEM Review Committees:

IOWA STEM Teacher Award Selection

Review period: November 7-December 7

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 (5): Lisa Chizek, Larry Escalada, Chelsie Byram, Stacey Snyder, and Jeff Jacobs

STEM BEST Selection

Review period: November 13 – December 7

Time commitment: approximately 3-12 hours.

Evaluate applications for Iowa STEM Business Engaging Students and Teachers (BEST) proposals from across the state. Proposals provide schools with the opportunity to work with business partners on real-world projects. Evaluators will be assigned to a team of 3, they score individually and then discuss discrepant questions only at a Confidence meeting where each team coordinates scheduling. Teams are assigned 3-5 proposals for review. They are assigned to either review New Schools or Returning School applications, not both.

Current committee members (4): 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