



**Advisory Board Meeting Summary**

Friday, March 27, 2024

11:00 AM to 1:00 PM

Location: West Delaware High School

**Board Members Present**

<b>Bev Burns</b> Keystone AEA	X	<b>Heather Fransen</b> RSM, LLP	V	<b>Marla Loecke</b> IowaWORKS	X
<b>Sue Burrack</b> Waldorf University	X	<b>Vacant</b>		<b>Jeanette Moore-Loggins</b> Alliant Energy	
<b>Lisa Chizek</b> Iowa State University	X	<b>Vacant</b>		<b>Vacant</b>	
<b>Kendra Crooks</b> Extension and Outreach	X	<b>Vacant</b>		<b>Vacant</b>	
<b>Larry Escalada</b> University of Northern Iowa	V	<b>Vacant</b>		<b>Anderson Sainci</b> City of Dubuque	V

X – Present V - Virtual

**Others in Attendance:** Jeff Beneke (Northeast Iowa Regional STEM Hub), Ann Gritzner (Iowa STEM Council), Doreen Hayek (University of Northern Iowa), Jeff Jacobs (TDS Automation), Seth Harms (West Delaware High School) and Allison Plunkett (John Deere Dubuque Works).

**Meeting Summary**

The board meeting was called to order at 11:00 AM.

**Chair/Vice-Chair Report**

Doreen indicated the group has not met since the last advisory board meeting.

### **Communications Working Group Report**

Marla noted the group has not met since the last regional advisory board meeting.

### **STEM Council Youth Advisory Committee**

No update.

### **STEM Council STEM for All Committee**

The committee has not met since the last regional board meeting.

### **Budget/Expenditures**

As of February 29, 2024, the fiscal year 2024 year-to-date expenditures for the Northeast STEM Hub are approximately \$681,251 (approximately 79% of the overall budget).

### **2024-2025 Scale-Up Programs**

The 2024-25 Scale-Up application closed February 28. The Northeast STEM region received 127 applications (804 applications statewide) representing 210 educators and 16,470 students. Total request for the region was approximately \$562,000. According to the STEM Council, the appropriation for the Northeast Region is budgeted at approximately \$550,000 toward Scale-Up programming and STEM festivals during 2024-2025.

A breakdown was provided on the number of applications submitted by program, applications submitted by organization type (Public School, Private School, Home School and Informal) and population served. Highlights includes;

- 97 school buildings/organizations are represented in the application pool.
- 6 (6%) of the organizations were first time applicants.
- 77 applications received from organizations classified as rural.
- 69 applications received from public schools.
- 29 applications received from organization offering informal learning.

Jeff thanked the Board members for evaluating applications. The Board reviewed and discussed the applications for each Scale-Up program. Items discussed for award consideration included; first year applicant, distribution of awards throughout the region, number of awards provided to any given school district, number of awards provided to any given school building/organization, number of awards provided to an educator, has the program been provided to the organization in the past, introduction or expansion of a current program, impact on high need and/or under represented population, number of kids impacted, cost per student, sustainability of the award beyond scale-up and the applicants' explanation on how they will fulfill the expectations of what is required to implement the program successfully.

After review and discussion, 117 applications were recommended to be awarded for Scale-Up programming for the Northeast Iowa STEM Region during 2024-25 academic year.

### **STEM Festivals**

The STEM festival at the UNI Dome was held March 19. The event had 68 exhibits and over 1,800 people attend. The festival report will be provided at the next board meeting. Feedback during and after the event was very positive. This was the second year the festival was held in the UNI-Dome. The next festival will

be on Thursday, April 18 in Dubuque.

### **Iowa STEM Council Updates**

Ann mentioned the Iowa Department of Education hired Justin Lewis as the new Executive Director for the Iowa STEM Council. Justin had started on March 1.

The Iowa STEM Council will be hosting the Iowa Classrooms + Workplaces Summit on April 10 at the Iowa Events Center in Des Moines. Registration is free. The registration deadline is April 3.

Currently have five teacher externs placed for this summer and another nine in process. Still have five businesses looking for externs. Not offering externships to preservice teachers this year.

### **Other Updates**

Jeff mentioned on March 1, Theresa Northouse from Marshal Elementary School in Dubuque was presented the Northeast Iowa Region STEM Teacher Award.

### **Important Dates**

Event/Activity	Date	Time	Location
Scale-Up Program Awards announced	April 8	NA	NA
Iowa Classrooms+ Workplaces Summit	April 10	8:00 AM to 4:00 PM	Iowa Events Center in Des Moines
Dubuque Area Family STEM Festival	April 18	4:00 PM to 7:00 PM	Dubuque County Fairgrounds in Dubuque
Regional Board meeting	May 22	10:00 AM to Noon	TBD

Meeting adjourned at 12:45 PM. followed by a tour of the West Delaware High School Welding Department.

The next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, May 22 from 10:00 AM to Noon.