



Advisory Board Meeting Summary

Monday, March 27, 2023

10:00 AM to 11:30 AM

Location: Viking Pump in Cedar Falls

Board Members Present

Sue Burrack Waldorf University	V	Gena Gesing Northeast Iowa Community College	X	Vacant	
Lisa Chizek Iowa State University	V	Seth Harms West Delaware High School	V	Vacant	
Kendra Crooks Extension and Outreach	X	Doreen Hayek (Chair) University of Northern Iowa	X	Allison Plunkett (Vice-Chair) John Deere	V
Larry Escalada University of Northern Iowa	V	Vacant		Vacant	
Heather Fransen RSM, LLP	V	Marla Loecke IowaWORKS	X	Anderson Sainci City of Dubuque	V

X – Present V - Virtual

Others in Attendance: Jeff Beneke, Northeast Iowa Regional STEM Hub.

Meeting Summary

Doreen called the board meeting to order at 10:00 AM.

Chair/Vice-Chair Report

Doreen noted, the STEM Day at the Capitol and the Mega Board meeting on February 8 went well.

Communications Working Group Report

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

STEM Council Youth Advisory Committee

Allison mentioned the committee is planning to host a half day conference this summer. The target audience is students and teachers. The social media channel has been approved.

STEM Council STEM for All Committee

Anderson noted, the group is still discussing opportunities with NAPE.

Budget/Expenditures

As of February 28, 2023, the fiscal year 2023 year-to-date expenditures for the Northeast STEM Hub are approximately \$887,500 (approximately 88% of the overall budget).

2023-2024 Scale-Up Programs

The 2023-24 Scale-Up application closed February 28. The Northeast STEM region received 269 applications (1,382 applications statewide) representing 444 educators and 32,650 students. Total request for the region was over \$1.2 million. 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 2023-2024. Additional funding may be available through private investments.

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;

- 171 school buildings/organizations are represented in the application pool.
- 26 (15%) of the organizations were first time applicants.
- 170 applications received from organizations classified as rural.
- 178 applications received from public schools.
- 27 applications received from community libraries.

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, 134 applications were recommended to be awarded for Scale-Up programming for the Northeast Iowa STEM Region during 2023-24 academic year. If private funds are available additional applications may be awarded.

STEM Festivals

The STEM Festival at the UNI Dome was held March 21. The festival report will be provided at the next board meeting. Feedback during and after the event was very positive. This was the first year the festival was held in the Cedar Valley after COVID-19. The regions next festival will be on Thursday, April 20 in

Dubuque.

Important Dates

Event/Activity	Date	Time	Location
Scale-Up Program Awards announced	April 7	NA	NA
Dubuque Area Family STEM Festival	April 20	4:00 PM to 7:00 PM	Clarke University, Dubuque
Iowa STEM executive and Advisory Council meeting	April 20	1:00 PM to 4:00 PM	Ankeny
Regional Board meeting	May 16	10:00 AM to Noon	Jackson Junction
STEM Day at the Iowa State Fair	August 20	All Day	Des Moines

Meeting adjourned at 11:30 AM. followed by a tour of Viking Pump

The next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, May 16 from 10:00 AM to Noon. The meeting will be held at Turkey Valley High School.