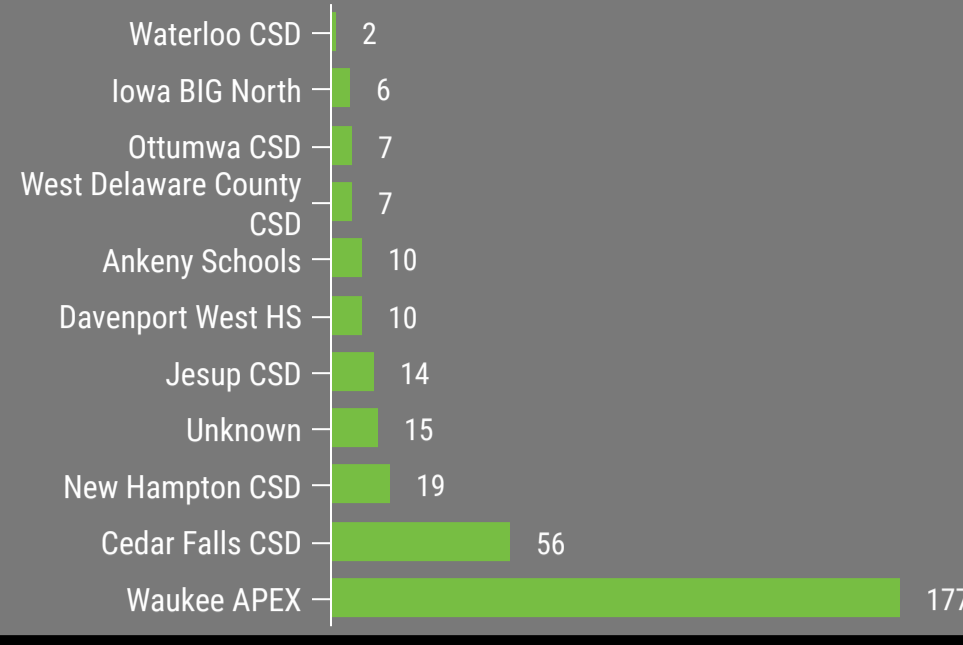


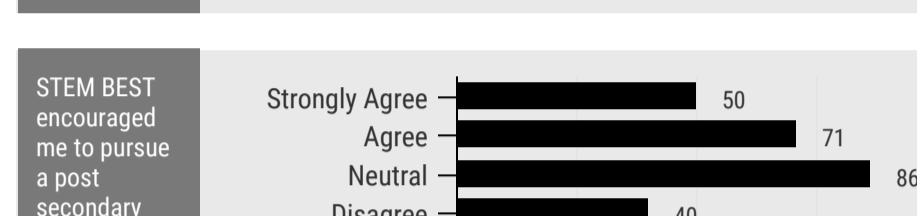
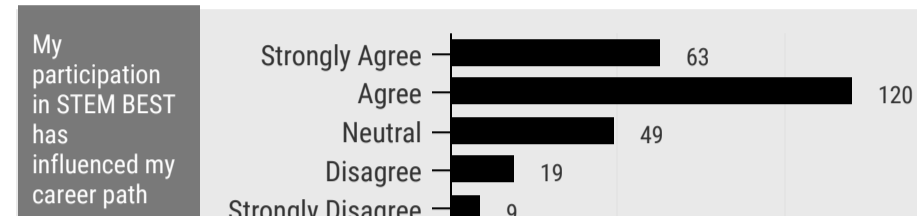
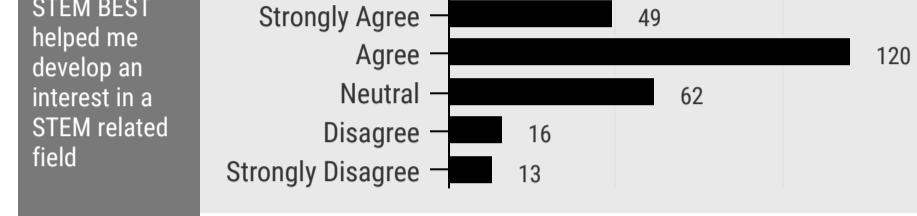
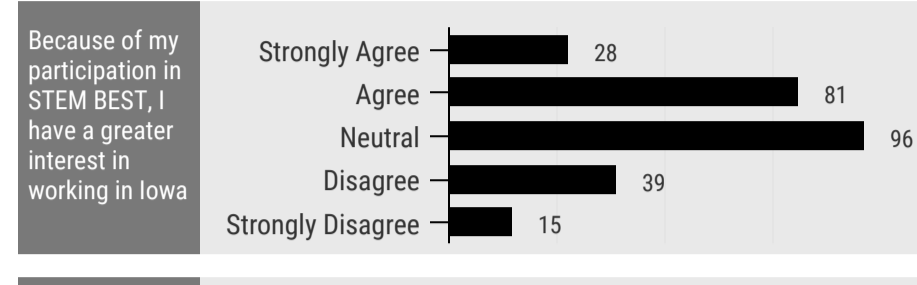


**"Where Are You Now?" 2021 Survey Results**



**Schools/Programs with one response:**  
Belle Plaine CSD  
IKM-Manning CSD  
MMCRU HS  
Newton HS  
Northeast CSD  
Spencer HS

**329 Total Respondents**



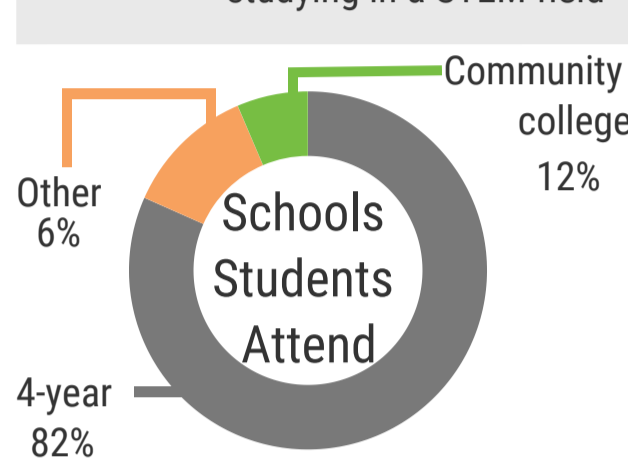
**329 graduates told us where they are today...**

**41%** are students studying a STEM field

**9%** are employed in a STEM field

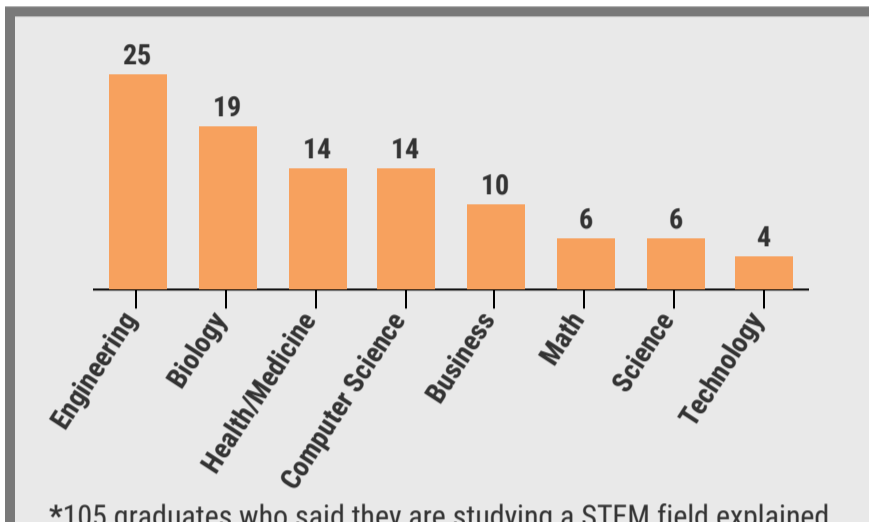
**1%** are looking for jobs in a STEM field

**48%** are neither working nor studying in a STEM field



Percentages above are reported out of 109 students. Although 136 respondents are students, 27 did not specify a school type.

**\*Top Areas of Study (n=105)**



\*105 graduates who said they are studying a STEM field explained which field(s) they are studying. 3 respondents are double majors with areas across 2 fields. They are reflected twice in the field counts, although they are only counted once in the 105 total item responses.

**"Other" Schools (out of 109)**

- Community college transfer to 4-year (n=1)
- 5-year program (n=2)
- Graduate school (n=3)
- 18-month film program (n=1)

**\*Other Study Areas (out of 105)**

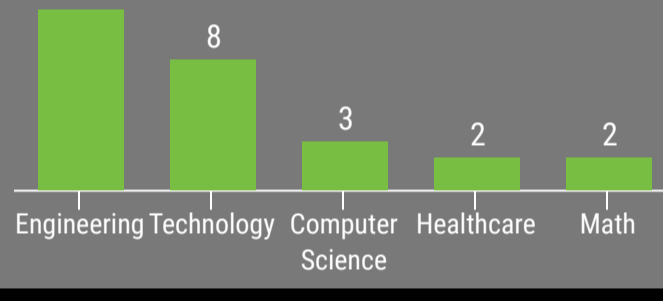
- Architecture (n=3)
- Arts (n=2)
- Environmental Science (n=2)
- Chemistry (n=1)
- Physics (n=1)
- Education (n=1)

**Top Fields Graduates are Working In (n=29)**

**Other Fields (n=1 for all)**

- Architecture
- Automotive Mechanics
- Insurance
- Plumbing

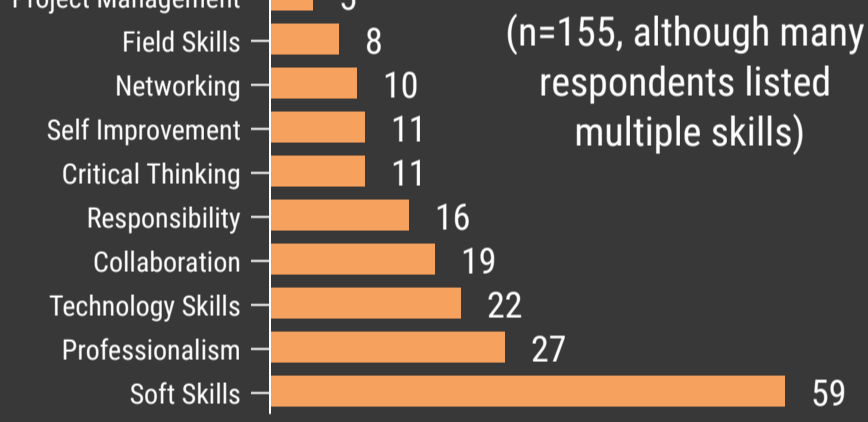
2 graduates are reflected twice in the field counts, although they are only counted once in total item responses (n=29)



Graduates are looking for work in these fields...  
City Planning (n=1), Science (n=1), Technology (n=1)

**Top STEM BEST Skills**

Graduates Use Daily



(n=155, although many respondents listed multiple skills)

**Other Skills**

- Leadership (n=3)
- Lab Skills (n=3)
- Documentation (n=2)
- Adaptability (n=2)
- None (n=2)
- Budgeting (n=1)
- Independent Learning (n=1)

**Top Skill Definitions**

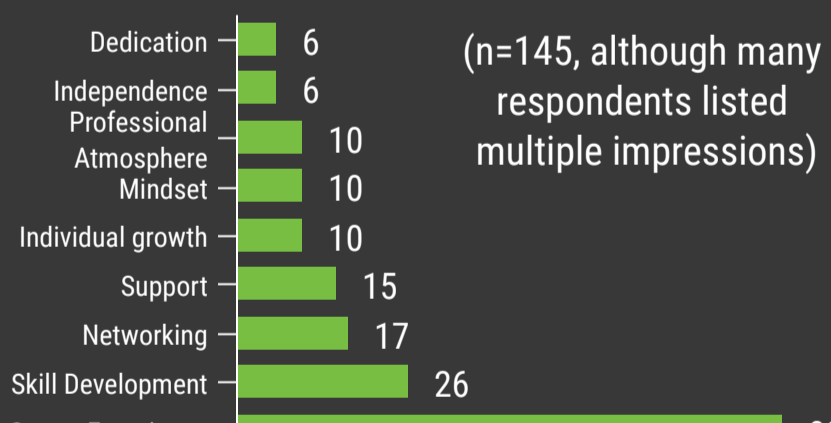
**Soft Skills**

Soft skills include references to improved communication, resume, or interview skills.

**Professionalism**

Professionalism includes any reference to increased knowledge about professional skills, including etiquette and professional dress.

**Lasting STEM BEST Impressions**



(n=145, although many respondents listed multiple impressions)

**Other Impressions**

n=1 for all

- "Resume Builder"
- NA
- Became more self conscious

**Top Impressions Definitions**

**Career Experience**

Graduates gained hands-on, real-world experience related to their field. The STEM BEST program helped them explore different STEM paths, strengthen their career path, prepare them for their vocational endeavors, or helped them identify their vocational interest.

**Skill Development**

Graduates appreciated the skills they learned in the program, with some referencing the roles these skills play in their lives today. Common skills included programming, problem solving, teamwork, and communication.

**Exemplary Quotes**

**Soft Skills**

"I learned amazing communications skills through the STEM BEST program. I had to give presentations and solve for real world solutions. With this, I was given critiques to better myself."

**Professionalism**

"Apex taught me the fundamentals of professionalism and how to act in the work place. It put me miles ahead once I entered into college and was applying for internships."

**Career Experience**

"I really appreciated the fact that I got to work with real organizations. It gave me a good insight as to what workplace projects could look like in my future. I also like that I got to experience a variety of roles, from graphic designer to project coordinator, I got to be involved in many projects in different ways."

**Skill Development**

"STEM BEST has provided me the skills and techniques necessary to handle a large variety of problems in my life, as well as improved my social skills. It is what forged me into the person I am today, and has prepared me for college."