



GOVERNOR'S STEM ADVISORY COUNCIL

dedicated to building a strong STEM education foundation for all Iowans

Governor's STEM Advisory Council Executive Committee Teleconference Meeting December 12, 2018 | 2:45 to 3:30PM

Members of the Executive Committee of the Iowa Governor's STEM Advisory Council were convened by Co-Chairs Governor Kim Reynolds, Accumold President and CEO Roger Hargens and Managing Director Carrie Rankin by telephone conference on December 12, 2018, 2:45 to 3:30 p.m. to discuss and act upon two recommendations.

1. ROLL CALL. Managing Director Carrie Rankin took roll call. The following Executive Committee members were present during the teleconference meeting making it a quorum.

Governor Kim Reynolds, Co-Chair

Co-Chair Roger Hargens, President and CEO, Accumold, L.L.C.

Ms. Kacia Cain, College Genetics and Microbiology/College Anatomy & Physiology High School Educator, Des Moines Central Campus and DMACC adjunct professor

President Rob Denson, Des Moines Area Community College

Ms. Cindy Dietz, STEM Council Interim Executive Director

Director Deborah Durham, Iowa Economic Development Authority

Ms. Kathryn Kunert, Vice President for Business and Community Development, MidAmerican Energy Co.

Provost Patrick Pease (for UNI President Nook), University of Northern Iowa

President Mark Putnam, Central College

Mr. Gary Scholten, Executive Vice President and Chief Information Officer, Principal Financial Group

Director Beth Townsend, Iowa Workforce Development

Mr. Steven Triplett (for UI President Bruce Harreld), The University of Iowa

Major Jennifer Williams (for General Timothy Orr), Iowa National Guard

Director Ryan Wise, Iowa Department of Education

2. GOVERNOR'S WELCOME. Governor Reynolds thanked everyone for joining the call. She indicated there were some exciting STEM Scale-Up Program providers to consider for the 2019-2020 academic year. She noted the STEM Scale-Up Programs are carefully and thoroughly vetted and include some of the top STEM curriculum opportunities available across the nation. The Governor noted that in the current 2018-2019 school year, 1,247 educators are taking part in Iowa's world-class STEM Scale-Up Programs. An estimated 80,996 pre-kindergarten through 12th-graders are participating in one or more Scale-Up programs. Since 2012, an estimated 543,774 pre-kindergarten through 12th-graders have participated in Scale-Up programs. The impact of this program has

been significant. She is thrilled with the difference it is making in the lives of Iowa students.

Governor Reynolds extended her appreciation to the application reviewers and to Sarah Derry, the South Central Regional STEM Manager, for all her work overseeing this process.

3. STEM SCALE-UP PROGRAM RECOMMENDATIONS FOR THE 2019-2020 MENU. South Central Regional STEM Manager Sarah Derry indicated the list of STEM Scale-Up Program providers is selected in partnership with a national organization called STEMworks at WestEd. Each submission first goes through the STEMworks rigorous process; then, there are additional questions specific for Iowa. For each submission, there are pairs of reviewers – one from WestEd and one from Iowa. The two reviewers come to a consensus score based upon the set rubric. Following this process, the STEM Network Team reviews the scores and starting with the top scorers begins a process to ensure balance of grade levels, in-school/out-of-school and distribution as to content area. The STEM Council was asked to help the STEM Network Team recruit more math-focused programs.

The recommended STEM Scale-Up Programs for 2019-2020 follow. There are six new to the Iowa STEM Scale-Up Program among the list. Applications are scheduled to open to educators January 21, 2019.

- CASE Food Science and Safety - new
- Computer Science Discoveries (code.org) - new
- Computer Science Fundamentals (code.org) - new
- Computer Science Principle (code.org)
- Engineer Your World - new
- Making STEM Connections
- Pint Size Science
- STEM in Action
- STEM Innovator - new
- UNI CEE Light and Shadow - new

MOTION TO APPROVE THOSE RECOMMENDED FOR THE 2019-2020 STEM SCALE PROGRAM: President Rob Denson
SECOND TO THE MOTION: Mr. Steven Triplett
ROLL CALL VOTE:

- YES - Ms. Kacia Cain
- YES - President Rob Denson
- YES - Director Deborah Durham
- YES - Ms. Kathryn Kunert
- YES - Provost Patrick Pease
- YES - President Mark Putnam
- YES - Mr. Gary Scholten
- YES - Director Beth Townsend

YES - Mr. Steven Triplett
YES - Major Jennifer Williams
YES - Director Ryan Wise

Motion passed unanimously by those present on the call.

4. CS is ELEMENTARY PROJECT. Managing Director Carrie Rankin shared a few updates regarding the Computer Science projects being coordinated by the Iowa STEM Council.

She noted that at the May 16, 2018, meeting the Executive Committee approved \$100,000 in unrestricted funds to be used for a cost share for the DOE SEED grant. This grant was denied; therefore, those funds no longer need to be reserved.

Moving forward, the Computer Science is Elementary project has been making significant progress. A goal of raising \$350,000 was set. This includes six \$50,000 one-time awards for each of the selected schools and \$50,000 for Loess Hills Computer Programming School to serve as a resource.

Gary Scholten of Principal Financial and Georgia Van Gundy of the Iowa Business Council have been tremendously instrumental in identifying corporate partners for this project. To date, \$284,000 of the \$350,000 goal has been received in commitments from corporate partners, including Google, Microsoft, Collins Aerospace, MidAmerican Energy, Principal Financial, Paragon IT, Linc Kroeger, TAI, Alliant Energy, AT&T, Verizon, ITC Midwest, Kemin Industries, SAI, Merchant Bonding and Pella/Rolscreen Foundation. \$66,000 in commitments are needed in order to reach the goal before the RFP opens in January 2019. There are a few outstanding asks which are expected to be finalized in the near future. While there is great optimism in meeting the goal, to ensure it is reached by the end of the year, the Executive Committee is asked to authorize \$30,000 of those previously committed unrestricted funds earmarked for the DOE SEED grant to go towards Computer Science is Elementary, if there is a need.

MOTION TO AUTHORIZE \$30,000 IN UNRESTRICTED PRIVATE FUNDS TOWARD THE CS IS ELEMENTARY PROJECT IF NEEDED: Mr. Gary Scholten
SECOND TO THE MOTION: Director Ryan Wise
ROLL CALL VOTE:

YES - Ms. Kacia Cain
YES - President Rob Denson
YES - Director Deborah Durham
YES - Ms. Kathryn Kunert
YES - Provost Patrick Pease
YES - President Mark Putnam
YES - Mr. Gary Scholten
YES - Director Beth Townsend
YES - Mr. Steven Triplett
YES - Major Jennifer Williams
YES - Director Ryan Wise

Motion passed unanimously by those present on the call.

5. **COMMENTS.** President Rob Denson informed the Executive Committee of an event held in rural Jefferson, Iowa, on December 8, spotlighting a partnership of Silicon Valley leaders with Pillar Technology's initiative in Jefferson to provide intensive training for students who could then land high-paying tech jobs at the company's office in Jefferson, a town of 4,200. DMACC and Iowa Central Community College are providing computer science coursework for this project. This, President Denson, indicated is the best jump start to the "Empower Rural Iowa Program."
6. **CONCLUDING REMARKS.** In closing, Co-Chair Hargens expressed his appreciation for the Committee members' time today and for their consideration of the items discussed. He added that the STEM Scale-Up Program has proven to be an effective program. Students who participate in the STEM Scale-Up Program continue to perform better on the Iowa Assessments compared to all students statewide. 91% of educators taking part in STEM Scale-Up programming agreed that they have more confidence to teach STEM subjects and have increased their STEM knowledge. There is a significant need for computer science skills in the workforce and creating opportunities for students to access training and education at a young age is critical to Iowa's employers.

Mr. Hargens added that he is excited for the roll out of the Computer Science is Elementary RFP in January. This project has great potential to positively impact students, schools and communities to ripple throughout our state.

The meeting concluded at 3:30 p.m.