



NORTHWEST STEM ADVISORY BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Tuesday, October 25, 2016

Prairie Lakes AEA 8 Office, Conference Room C
Spencer Administration Building, 23 East 7th Street
Spencer, Iowa

Members in Attendance: Teresa Alesch, John Bedward, Derek Brower, Beth Bunkers, Dr. Eric Forseth, Linda Gray, Nancy McDowell and Wade Weber.

Guests: Angel Mendez, Communications and Marketing Manager of Iowa Governor's Advisory Council; Leslie Pralle Keehn, Instructional Technology Consultant from Prairie Lakes AEA; Janet Leifeld.

Members Absent: Kathy Bottaro, Sherry McGill, Mary Trent and Mark Zabawa

1. Code Iowa

Angel Mendez, Communications and Marketing Manager of the Iowa Governor's STEM Advisory Council, presented updates on Code Iowa. This year marks the third year of the partnership between the STEM Council and Code.org to promote "Hour of Code" in Iowa during Computer Science Education Week, December 5 – 9, 2016. This year school districts and other informal organizations throughout the state are encouraged to submit an application to receive one of six \$3500 technology awards. There will be one recipient per STEM Region. The deadline to submit an application is **November 18, 2016**. During Computer Science Education Week, the STEM Council will host a media tour to showcase the six awardees involved in "Hour of Code" activities.

All school districts and informal organizations that submit an application will become "Certified Code Iowa Partners". In addition to receiving a certificate of their partnership, these organizations will be invited to participate in free computer science trainings conducted by the following organizations in Iowa during Spring 2017: [Kodable](#), [Oracle Academy](#) and by [Dr. Ben Schafer](#) (Computer Science Department, University of Northern Iowa).

A media kit produced by the STEM Council to promote Code Iowa will be sent out to NW STEM Advisory Board members. The target audience for Code Iowa is informal and formal educators across the K-12 spectrum. Check out <http://iowastem.org/codeiowa> for more information.

2. Scale-Up Professional Development Wrap-up

Professional development sessions for the 2016-17 Scale-Up Programs have now concluded. Based on participation numbers, it appears that most educators awarded a Scale-Up this year were able to attend the scheduled trainings, a requirement in order to receive the award.

3. Scale-Up Program Time Line & Upcoming Meeting Dates

The evaluation schedule for the 2017-18 Scale-Up Programs is now underway, with 27 programs submitting applications by the October 10 deadline. NW STEM Advisory Board members Linda Grey and John Bedward, acting as volunteer evaluators, are currently involved in the training process. Evaluators will have until the first week in January to finalize their scoring before sending the results on to the state for final selection. The Scale-Up selection and application time line is listed below:

- January 24 2017-18 Scale-Up Programs announced
- January 24 Application period opens for educators
- Jan 30 – Feb 3 Scale-Up Program provider training for NW STEM educators
- March 3 Deadline for submitting applications (5pm)
- March 6-31 NW STEM Advisory Board application review and selection
- April 3 2017-18 Scale-Up Awards announced

NW STEM plans to host two training sessions within the region for educators to learn more about the selected Scale-Up Programs prior to submitting an application. Remote access to training is being considered. The STEM Council is working on the development of a 5-7 minute video to walk applicants through the Scale-Up Program Application. A suggestion was made to invite NW STEM Advisory Board members to be on hand at the training sessions to explain what evaluators look for in an application.

NW STEM Advisory Board members will begin reviewing applications on March 8. Each application will be reviewed and scored by three board members. Results will be compiled for final review in a group setting on Monday, March 20 from 2-5pm at Northwestern College in Sioux Center.

Upcoming Meeting Dates

- November No meeting
- December 6 Dordt College, Sioux Center. 11:30am – 1:30pm. (Eric host)
- January 30 Sanford Museum, Cherokee. 10am -12pm. (Wade & Beth hosts)
- February 20 Zoom meeting, 10 -11:30am.
- March 20 Northwestern College, Orange City. 2 - 5pm (Derek host)
- April No meeting
- May 1 Rosenboom Manufacturing, Sheldon. 10am – 12pm (Nancy host)
- June 5 Buena Vista University, Storm Lake. 10am – 12pm (John host)

4. STEM BEST

The STEM Council Operation Teams will begin reviewing STEM BEST applications on October 26. Announcements will be made November 2.

5. Upcoming Festivals, Events & Opportunities

November 12 – STEM Fest at Northwest Iowa Community College, Sheldon. 120 students registered for the event. Hosted by Northwest Iowa Community College and ISU Extension and Outreach.

6. Representative from Prairie Lakes AEA

Leslie Pralle Keehn, Instructional Technology Consultant for Prairie Lakes AEA, provided information on the following STEM resources/assistance available to educators:

- Development of maker spaces
- Promotion of Computer Science “Hour of Code”
- Expansion of Lending Library resources to include robotics, circuitry items. Working with educators to integrate use in classrooms
- Establishment of monarch waystations at area schools
- Young Investigator trainings, nature-based early childhood teacher training program (Nature Connections)
- EiE Curriculum, ISU modules connected with schools.
- Parent night training for STEM activities.

Next Meeting

Tuesday, December 6; 11:30 am – 1:30 pm – Dordt College. Lunch will be provided.

To join by computer, please click the following: <https://uni.zoom.us/j/2973548501>. To join by phone, dial +1 (415) 762-9988 and enter Meeting ID: 297 354 8501.