Welcome and acknowledge guests

Board Chair

STEM Engagement Reports

Board Members

Report from Board Chair Meeting(s)

Heidi Lowthorp

Report from PI Meeting(s)

Tom Lesan

Old Business

Deb Frazee

- Financial Report through April 30th
- STEM Day at the Capitol February 13th with SW BEST Awardee CAM Digital Literacy exhibiting
- STEM Festivals Completed STUDENT to date - 19 to date 2 more to come (over 4300 attendees to date)
- STEM for Girls/Women special event - very well received. Headed by Erin Wetzel as a goal from her Kemin Award 4 years ago.
- STEM Festival Completed ADULT - 6 groups (5 schools, 1 Extension) (99 educators)
- SW STEM Check-Out program - calling in all materials for year-end in May so that materials can go out for summer programs.
- Iowa Communications Alliance Conference March 26/27; Invitation and support through partners statewide. Kevin Cabbage of Stanton, Dave Duncan of Waukee, GHAEA Authentic Learning, Intermediary Ann Schlapia and Deb Frazee working on 12 partner models for STEM Managers around Iowa.
- STEM Education + Workplace Partnerships Summit April 30th - great attendance and participation (Woodbine, IKM-Manning x 2 participated)
- Computer Science is Elementary Awardee in SW Region – East Union Elementary (Afton IA)
20 minutes

**New Business**

- **Scale-Up** moving forward. Letters have gone out; 34 waiting listed applications still in the wings. Professional Development now being scheduled (holding $15K for those costs)
- **Trivia information** - Scale-Ups in the SW Region from 2012-13 year through 2017-18 funded at $2,235,587; adding current 2019-20 awards $2,693,206 cumulative total
- Closing out the current year (report document done by Deb Frazee for Operations Center) contribute your thoughts and assessments of events and programs; Will be due in mid-July
- **Requests for STEM Festivals new FY already coming in**, both student and adults events
- Three county-wide conversations continue with economic development group involvement (Woodbine, Decatur [Lamoni and Central Decatur]), and IKM-Manning.
- **Re-appointment process** for 6 seats. Due by (no date on the communication) but the sooner the better.
- **New items on the horizon** - Computer Science, new Career and Technical regs [Perkins V](fall 2019) and Financial Literacy (Spring 2020)

15 minutes

**STEM Report**

Jeff Weld

10 minutes

**Announcements**

Advisory Board

2 p.m.

**Adjournment**

Board Chair

Telephonic meeting participation may be arranged by calling the SWCC Office in Red Oak (712.623.2541) at least 24 hours in advance of the scheduled meeting.
The scheduled meeting of the SW STEM Regional Advisory Board was called to order by Chair Heidi Lowthorp. Those in attendance included: [9 of 14 is a quorum]

Misty Grey (telephonic), Dr Jason Plourde (telephonic), Dr Alan Ladd, Tom Lesan (telephonic), Kathy Somers, Larry Johnson (telephonic) Luann Langel, James Holwegner (telephonic).

Guests in attendance included Nadine Jessen and Dr Jeff Weld.

STEM Engagement reports from the membership included:
Misty Grey reported on attending the STEM Summit on April 30th. The STEM Showcases were hard to hear with large groups and room noise but the speakers and panels were informative.

Jason Plourde reported on the growth of ALN (Authentic learning Network) and the background work being completed on the Clearinghouse which should roll out July 1.

Jim Holwegner reported on the retirement of Major Orr and uncertainty about the continued STEM support as it currently exists. He also reported on the Guthrie County STEM Festival at Panorama on March 30th. He helped at the Registration table.

Larry Johnson reported that he is excited about the STEM Innovator program coming up and that the partner group for the Incubator in Decatur County is already fixing up their off-campus location.

Tom Lesan reported that SWCC graduation is May 10th so campus is preparing for that and the summer schedule.

Heidi Lowthorp reported that Fremont County partners are working on activities for summer programs.

LuAnn Langel reported that the HS BEST program had a display and presentation at the Summit on April 30th. The IKM-Manning Gala Committee was also a Showcase feature and had a great exhibit of their artifacts. The Middle School STEM Festival was held at Manning on April 11th around a theme of Wonder Park. It was a daytime making festival with an evening exhibition and guests of about 290. The Elementary Festival will be at the Irwin Center on May 9th for grades PK - 3.

Alan Ladd reported that he had been at the registration table assisting at the Riverside Festival which did an Earth Day theme with great success. He also reported that the Atlantic Public Library has been rolling out their Making Space which was started with a Making STEM Connections Scale-Up Award.

Kathy Somers reported that the Construction and Building trades program which is a part of the Atlantic BEST Program is starting a foundation to support scholarships for students who have financial needs. They are anxious to get the new instructors in-house.

Heidi Lowthorp reported from the Board Chair call that there was conversation about establishing priorities for Scale-Up programing. She also reported that a Math Working Groups has been meeting to discuss options for seeking funds and rolling out some assistance in that program area.
Tom Lesan that Carrie Rankin led the one PI call but there was not much business to be discussed.

Old business was presented from the Agenda. The winter weather was a factor in some events. The Girls in STEM Festival at Southwest Valley was a very successful event with many requests to consider some future event to support this theme. There was a collection of artifacts on the tables in the meeting room reflecting the plentiful media coverage from the STEM Festival Season (with 2 more to complete.)

Computer Science is Elementary grant for the SW Region was awarded to East Unions Community School district. The implementation plan will be rolling out soon with a state-wide call of all partners.

Manager Deb Frazee presented a cumulative report on the Scale-Ups awarded from the SW Region, including the current cycle which reflects $2,693,206 over 7 years. She also reported that contact has been made with and from the Governor’s Appointing Staff and the six folks who received notices should respond as soon as possible with their decision so that the seats may be opened if not to be refilled by the current Board member. The Community College Seat was officially marked as open. July 1 is the start date for the new appointments.

The guest presenter for the meeting was Dr Jeff Weld who offered a STEM Retro and Forecast. The STEM Education mission now deals with computer science, career and technical areas, teacher preparations and community engagement. He reports that the team is “strategically attacking all.” He also reported that Dr. Alan Ladd was recently featured in the STEM State Newsletter describing his years of service in many capacities. Iowa is almost coming to a 10 year anniversary of the STEM Road Map (which is available in the STEM Website.)

Dr Weld spoke of indicators of success at both a micro and macro level. There were recently 100 person in attendance at the STEM Education + Workplace Partnerships (Governor’s 2019 Future Ready Summit).

The Iowa Legislature has provided an extra $1 million for STEM programs in the 2019 appropriation. The Evaluation team that is part of the STEM program has completed the annual random survey to find that of the over 1,000 folks interviewed 60% recognized the STEM word. The question now being tackled is where does the program go from here? The demand exceeds the supply. Three main goals are:

1. Seek out under-represented populations
2. Preps for the world of work
3. Continue to work on STEM literacy

Dr Weld referenced the STEM National Policy “Charting a Course for Success: America’s Strategy for STEM Education”. He referenced the need to consider the convergence of disciplines and measuring everything the STEM program does. There is a section in the plan that references mathematics as a magnet in the national plan.

Dr Weld stated that he anticipated a STEM Council Meeting in June or July of 2019. That groups will be considering the need for mathematics education and expanding digital literacy.

Weld also commented on the Scale-Up program which has been going on for 7 years. Now it is time to see if it has made a difference. The State will be rolling out the “where are they now” trying to see where students have gone post high school graduation. Iowa Testing Program at University of Iowa is undertaking this study.
With a plan for the first meeting of the new SW STEM Advisory Board to be held in mid-July, Manager Frazee will contact all members for potential dates and locations. STEM Scale-Up PD is already on the calendar during that month so there are limited days for options.

With no further business or discussion the meeting adjourned at 1:45 p.m.

**Deb Frazee**
Deb Frazee Note taker