



Governor's STEM Advisory Council
Executive Committee Meeting 28
January 17, 2017
4:30 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. (telephonic)

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT:

Lt. Governor Kim Reynolds, co-chair
Barry Butler (proxy for Bruce Harreld)
Kacia Cain
Rob Denson
Debi Durham
Courtney Greene (proxy for Beth Townsend)
Cathann Kress (proxy for Steven Leath)
Mark Putnam
Paul Schickler
Gary Scholten
Ryan Wise
Jim Wohlpart

AGENDA

Roll Call (Weld)

ITEM I: Scale-Up Program Selection for 2017-18

Lt. Governor Reynolds welcomed everyone and provided a preemptive "...if you should wonder if your time is well spent at these annual Scale-Up decision meetings," ranging from the number of students and teachers served, the evidence of effect, and the number of states replicating the Iowa's Scale-Up model. She acknowledge the devotion of nineteen reviewers who collectively invested 400 hours in setting the table for this moment, who were guided superbly by Dr. Sarah Derry, South Central Regional STEM Manager.

Dr. Derry detailed the process behind delivery of Scale-Up recommendations, featuring a partnership with the national organization Change The Equation and their exemplar database STEMWorks. Programs established through their rigorous review process guided by Design Principals employed by the consulting agency WestEd as independent reviewers to be designated as "promising" or "accomplished" may also be considered for scaling in Iowa. The nineteen Iowa reviewers were trained by WestEd to assure high standards of consistency, so that their reviews not only served Iowa but Change The Equation as well. For scale-up consideration in Iowa, specific state-based questions accompany the STEMWorks application. The following twenty-seven programs were proposed for Iowa. The first nine, highlighted in green, were recommended by reviewers for scaling in Iowa in 2017-18:

Ramps & Pathways

Curriculum for Agricultural Science Education

Engineering is Elementary

Engineering the Future

FIRST Robotics Competition

Making STEM Connections

Power Teaching Math

Project Lead The Way Launch

Spatial Temporal Math

Bedtime Math Parent Engagement Program

C-STEM

Camp Invention

CodeHS

Destination Imagination

DreamBox

EverFi's STEM Career Readiness

HyperStream

Iridescent

Learning Blade

NextGenReady

Pint Size Science

Reasoning Mind Smarter Solving

Recharge Labs

Science Education for Public Understanding Program

STEM 101

TEN80

Water Rocks!

Brief discussion ensued, ranging from cost considerations (Denson), to the set-point of nine programs as appropriate (Scholten), to significance of score tallies (Denson). Responses were provided to the satisfaction of members (cost was an evaluated factor that led to the point total as well as qualitative determination of confidence in the recommendation; the number nine is a close approximation to years past ranging from the low teens to 8 scalars; and scores were a strong factor in forming today's recommendations but qualitative considerations including span across K-12, complimentary not competitive selection, span across S-T-E and M, scalability, and track record figured prominently in today's recommendations; respectively). Director Weld invited a motion to proceed to vote on approval of the recommendations as presented. Cathann Kress made the motion. No further discussion ensued. Gary Scholten seconded the motion. A roll-call vote tallied each member's affirmation for unanimous approval of the recommendations as presented.

ITEM II: STEM Professional Development Fund

The co-chairs and executive director bring this item to the executive committee in recognition that the Council's STEM BEST[®] program is leading an emergent demand across Iowa for a unique brand of professional development that prepares educators to connect their subject areas with the world of work that awaits students. A year six budget draft was presented which proposes to identify \$100,000, to be matched by private sector sources in order to drive the

expansion of STEM professional development in FY2018. Sources include current scale-up, public awareness, and conference funds combined.

Each executive committee representative was asked to comment (not a voting item, but a recommendation to the co-chairs and executive director). Jim Wohlpart voiced support. So did Ryan Wise, with an advisory to leverage the state's Teacher Leaders in crafting and scaling such P.D. Gary Scholten generally supported the recommendation, noting that fundraising the other half ought to be carefully weighed against other essential private sector investments in STEM programming. Paul Schickler acknowledged the careful consideration of fund redistributions that must have preceded this recommendation and on that basis supported it. Mark Putnam voiced his support. Cathann Kress recognized the importance of STEM professional development for Iowa and registered her support. Courtney Greene concurred. Deb Durham supported the recommendation, echoing Ryan Wise's advice to leverage current human resource assets. Rob Denson asked if this were a one-year request to which the executive director replied affirmatively. Denson approved. Barry Butler registered his support. Kacia Cain cautioned that the nature of STEM professional development could tend toward untenable broadness (across disciplines and across grade levels) if care is not exercised, but entrusts her support. Lt. Governor Reynolds summarized collective sentiments by encouraging forward movement while being sure to tie the initiative in to current programs, assets, and resources whenever possible.

Lt. Governor Reynolds concluded the meeting by thanking members and proxies for investing their precious time in guiding Iowa's STEM program forward.

ADJOURNED: 5:00 PM

NEXT MEETING: Webinar Update for Governor's STEM Advisory Council, March 27, 2017, 3:30-4:30pm

Compiled by Jeff Weld