



## GOVERNOR'S STEM ADVISORY COUNCIL

dedicated to building a strong STEM education foundation for all Iowans

August 22, 2022

Members in attendance: Mauree Haage, Mike Pedersen, Sara Nelson, Anne Tedore, Yen Verhoeven, Jared Brown, and Matt Stephen

### Minutes:

- Yen and Jared were introduced as this year's co-chairs for the advisory board
- Mauree shared updates of Scale-Up PD and the feedback she has gotten from participants as well as how the STEM Day at the Fair went
- Important dates:
  - Future Ready Iowa Summit (Sept 20-21)
  - STEAMfest at Iowa Central Community College (Oct 8 from 1-4)
  - TechTalk (November 15, more details to come)
- Advisory board discussed STEM Best and approaches/strategies we may be able to use to increase the numbers in our region. The goal is to increase by two programs this year.
  - Need to identify barriers
    - Organization of schools and who would oversee STEM Best varies so much in each district
      - Some STEM Best programs in our region have gone away because teachers already have a lot on their plate. The tasks of organizing and supervising these programs are often falling on teachers or there is not enough administrator support. We need to find ways to help this communication and perhaps act as a liaison
    - Necessary to get the appropriate parties on board
    - Potential for STEM Best outside of the school district? Libraries, after school programs?
    - So much to take in at first - is there a way to provide a playbook, "menu" of what already exists
    - Would mini/pilot STEM Best be a possibility in the future? Help bring the experience to smaller districts potentially
    - Sustainability especially if a key person leaves a job - how do we support this transition?
  - Find ways to bridge existing externships to STEM Best
    - Smaller version of externship with the purpose being to be a bridge
    - Advertise/market this bridge with an example
    - Go to the businesses who want to create these experiences and ask them to sponsor field trip for students
    - Offer CE credits for the PD involved in both programs or offer some sort of teacher incentive money due to some districts having constraints on making STEM Best be on a teacher's own time
- Advisory board members then toured the BioCentury Research Farm