

MEDIA RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: Tuesday, December 10, 2019

Nineteen school districts to enhance school and business collaboration with STEM Council Support

CEDAR FALLS, Iowa – The Iowa Governor's STEM Advisory Council directed additional support toward 19 STEM BEST ([Businesses Engaging Students and Teachers](#)) Program partners through the STEM BEST Program Enhancement Fund. The funds will help enhance work-based learning opportunities made available through school and business partnerships during the 2019-2020 academic year.

The STEM BEST Program Enhancement Fund supports previously awarded STEM BEST Programs that demonstrated evidence of how the funds would enrich or expand current STEM BEST Programs, strengthen partnerships, enhance experiences for students and increase participation of students of diversity.

Recipients of the STEM BEST Program Enhancement Fund include:

- Allamakee Community School District
- Ankeny Community School District
- Boone Community School District
- CAM Community School District
- Cedar Falls Community School District
- Central Community School District
- Davenport West Community School District
- IKM-Manning Community School District
- Charles City, New Hampton, Osage and Rudd-Rockford-Marble Rock Community School Districts
- Keokuk Community School District
- Marshalltown Community School District
- Newton Community School District
- Rock Valley Community School District
- Sioux City Community School District
- Southwest Valley School District
- St. Theresa Catholic School (Des Moines)
- Waukee Community School District
- Woodbine Community School District

Building a culture to grow and expand workplace experiences, the STEM BEST Program encourages teachers and industry professionals to work side-by-side on curriculum and projects that give students actual workplace experience and an understanding of the opportunities and required skills for careers in STEM fields. STEM BEST has also laid the groundwork for other successful statewide initiatives such as Future Ready Iowa's Work-Based Learning Clearinghouse.

The Iowa Governor's STEM Advisory Council has named 63 STEM BEST Program awards since the program launched in 2014. For more information about the STEM BEST Program, visit www.IowaSTEM.gov/STEMBEST.

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About the Iowa Governor's STEM Advisory Council: Established in July 2011 via Governor's Executive Order, the Iowa Governor's STEM Advisory Council is a public-private partnership of educators, companies and Iowa students and families addressing policies and programs designed to improve Iowa's educational system focused on science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM). The STEM Council works to engage and prepare students for a career-ready workforce path, regain our state's historic leadership position in education and provide a vital competitive economic advantage now, and for the future, to ensure that every Iowa student has access to world-class STEM education opportunities. The 50-member STEM Council is chaired by Governor Kim Reynolds and Accumold President and CEO Roger Hargens. For more information, visit <https://iowastem.gov/>.