



## GOVERNOR'S STEM ADVISORY COUNCIL

dedicated to building a strong STEM education foundation for all Iowans

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### **Iowa STEM Council executive director to serve one-year national STEM assignment**

(DES MOINES) – Jeff Weld, executive director of the Iowa Governor's STEM Advisory Council, has accepted a one-year role with the National Science Foundation and the University of Northern Iowa. In this position, Weld will serve as senior policy advisor and assistant director for STEM Education at the White House Office of Science and Technology Policy and staff associate in the Directorate for Education and Human Resources at the National Science Foundation. Weld's assignment is effective immediately and extends through Dec. 10, 2018.

"Jeff is a true champion of STEM, not only in Iowa, but throughout the nation," said Gov. Reynolds. "There is no better individual to serve the Administration on policy issues related to science, technology, engineering, and math education. His experience in Washington will undoubtedly strengthen and advance STEM initiatives here at home."

Cindy Dietz, director of business communications for Rockwell Collins, has been appointed as interim executive director of the STEM Council. Dietz has been integral in expanding STEM education in the state. She contributed to the Iowa STEM Education Roadmap, which ultimately shaped the STEM Council. As one of the original STEM Council members, she has been involved in various working groups and initiatives that have impacted students throughout Iowa.

"We are honored to have Cindy Dietz serve as the interim executive director of the STEM Council," said Roger Hargens, Accumold president and CEO and co-chair of the STEM Council. "She has already proven her leadership in Iowa STEM and we look forward to continued growth and advancements in the coming year."

Carrie Rankin will serve as the managing director of the STEM Council. Rankin has been the STEM Council assistant director for development since 2013.

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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 47-member STEM Council is chaired by Governor Kim Reynolds and Accumold President and CEO Roger Hargens. For more information, visit [www.iowaSTEM.gov](http://www.iowaSTEM.gov).