

MEDIA RELEASE

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Six Iowa schools win \$30,000 in technology awards for "Hour of Code" participation

STEM Council, Google and Code.org award one school in each STEM region

CEDAR FALLS, Iowa – The Iowa Governor's STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics) Advisory Council partnered with Code.org in its third, international challenge called the, "[Hour of Code](#)," to award a combined \$30,000 to six schools across the state.

This partnership, referred to as "[Code Iowa](#)," localizes Code.org's effort to introduce 100 million students around the world to at least one hour of computer coding. In Iowa, more than 800 schools and organizations amounting to thousands of students will take part in the "Hour of Code" during [Computer Science Education Week](#), beginning today through December 13.

Each year, Code.org awards one school in each state with a \$10,000 technology award based on its proposal that outlines how the school plans to implement an hour of computer coding into its curriculum this week for every grade level. With the support of [Google](#), the STEM Council partnered with Code.org to award \$4,000 each to five more schools – one in each STEM region that did not win the Code.org award.

The following five recipients of the Google-sponsored, Code Iowa awards will use it to purchase new instructional technology. Each school will welcome any media representatives who are interested in watching students participate in the event at the following dates and times. Please contact Angel Mendez, communications manager, if interested in attending any of the below mentioned "Hour of Code" demonstrations at [785-741-5267](tel:785-741-5267):

- West Fork Middle School, Rockwell — Wednesday, Dec. 9 from 9:00 to 10:30 a.m.
- Spring Creek 6th Grade Center, Pleasant Hill — Friday, Dec. 11 from 7:40 to 8:40 a.m.
- Griswold Community School District, Elliot — Wednesday, Dec. 9 from 8:30 to 10:30 a.m. at the Elliot Elementary building
- Loess Hills Elementary School, Sioux City — Wednesday, Dec. 9 from 9:00 to 10:00 a.m.
- Lowell Elementary School, Waterloo — Thursday, Dec. 10 from 1:55 to 2:30 p.m.

This year's Code.org award recipient will be announced tomorrow by the awarded school. All public and private schools in Iowa that registered for the "Hour of Code" will become Certified Code Iowa Partners through the STEM Council and receive information about free K-5 Computer Science educator workshops to be offered in early 2015.

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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 Lt.

Gov. Kim Reynolds and Kemin Industries President and CEO Dr. Chris Nelson. For more information, visit www.iowaSTEM.gov.

About Code.org

Launched in 2013, Code.org® is a non-profit dedicated to expanding access to computer science, and increasing participation by women and underrepresented students of color. Our vision is that every student in every school should have the opportunity to learn computer science. We believe computer science should be part of core curriculum, alongside other courses such as biology, chemistry or algebra.