



GOVERNOR'S STEM ADVISORY COUNCIL

dedicated to building a strong STEM education foundation for all Iowans

Northeast Iowa STEM Advisory Board Meeting

Thursday, October 23, 2025

10:00 AM to 11:30AM

LOCATION:
Virtual

AGENDA

- A. Welcome
- B. September YTD Expenditures
- C. Update on Scale-Up
 - a. Deadline for the Scale-Up Program Provider Request for Proposals
- D. Cedar Valley Family STEM Festival
- E. IOWA STEM Teacher Award
 - a. Nominations closed on October 22
- F. STEM BEST
- G. Iowa STEM Council updates
- H. Announcements

NORTHEAST REGION OF THE IOWA GOVERNOR'S STEM ADVISORY COUNCIL

Jeff Beneke, STEM Regional Manager • University of Northern Iowa • 214 East Bartlett Hall • Cedar Falls, Iowa 50614-0396
Telephone: 319-273-7397 • E-mail: jeff.beneke@uni.edu • neiwastem.com
Facebook: NEIASTEM • X: @NE_IA_STEM

Upcoming Events:

- November 5 IOWA STEM Teacher Award application deadline
- November 5 STEM BEST Enhancement application deadline
- November 10 STEM BEST application closes
- December 16 NE Regional STEM Advisory Board meeting

STEM Review Committees:

Scale-Up Program Selection

Review STEM program proposals from companies who present a PK-12 program for the Iowa STEM Scale-Up 2026-27 program menu. Review will be conducted internally this year.

IOWA STEM Teacher Award Selection

Review period: November 7-December 7

Time commitment: approximately 3-12 hours

Evaluate nominations/applications to select the IOWA STEM Teacher awardees. Six educators selected (one per region).

Current committee members (3): Lisa Chizek, Larry Escalada, Chelsie Byram, Stacey Snyder, and Jeff Jacobs

STEM BEST Selection

Review period: November 13 – December 7

Time commitment: approximately 3-12 hours.

Evaluate applications for Iowa STEM Business Engaging Students and Teachers (BEST) proposals from across the state. Proposals provide schools with the opportunity to work with business partners on real-world projects. Evaluators will be assigned to a team of 3, they score individually and then discuss discrepant questions only at a Confidence meeting where each team coordinates scheduling. Teams are assigned 3-5 proposals for review. They are assigned to either review New Schools or Returning School applications, not both.

Current committee members (3): Bev Berns, Doreen Hayek, Marcy Seavey and Allison Plunkett

Scale-Up Awardee Selection

Review period: March

Time commitment: approximately 2-4 hours

Evaluate applications submitted by educators throughout region requesting Scale-Up programs on the 2026-27 menu.

Current committee members (11): All board members

NORTHEAST REGION OF THE IOWA GOVERNOR'S STEM ADVISORY COUNCIL

Jeff Beneke, STEM Regional Manager • University of Northern Iowa • 214 East Bartlett Hall • Cedar Falls, Iowa 50614-0396
Telephone: 319-273-7397 • E-mail: jeff.beneke@uni.edu • neiwastem.com
Facebook: NEIASTEM • X: @NE_IA_STEM