SC STEM Hub Advisory Board Meeting

April 9, 2018, 2-4PM
Hosted at William Penn University

PRESENT: Breanne Garrett, Jon Holmen, Cindy Dietz, Steven Sieck, Tyler Myerholtz, Amber Pargmann, Sarah Derry, Bob Volp, Donnovan Hill, Mary Bontrager

ABSENT: John Arbuckle, Mauree Haage, Kari Hensen, Ronda McCarthy, Steven Sieck, Stacey Singleton, Laura Williams

1. Welcome by Breanne Garrett, William Penn University math education professor
2. Jim Drost talked about his work with Musco as an engineer and as an instructor at William Penn. He spoke about the importance of communication and relationship-building within STEM.
3. Josh Stutting and students spoke about William Penn’s Digital Impact Team and Scholarship. The group takes on community projects as a free service. “It is a pipeline of diverse people,” said Stutting. “We need more women involved. More diverse groups of people working on STEM projects to make them better. We may recruit some of them into STEM, but we still need those who don’t want to go into STEM. Student leaders: Nicole Craft, Clay Foolman, Collin McConnell The Digital Impact Team Scholarship: <https://www.wmpenn.edu/admissions-aid/scholarships/>.
4. Future Ready Iowa Summit Overview by Cindy Dietz
5. How does FRI fit with STEM? STEM is the foundation and pipeline for developing and sustaining interests. They’ll take some of those pieces from STEM and move over to FRI.
6. Dietz is working on streamlining some of the work that Hub managers already do. Email her anytime at dietz@iowastem.gov
7. Future Ready Conference Highlights and Take-Aways
8. General consensus that it was a wonderful conference with strong content throughout the day.
9. Bontrager
10. Thought Brandon Busteed’s (from Gallup) perspective is thought-provoking. Talked about relevance, data and long-term success of STEM work.
11. Appreciated Steve Gilbert: “Hire to the person; have the patience to develop them.”
12. Attended the breakout—Teacher Externships: what they learned was that today’s workers need to be self-starters. Both employer and teacher had a better idea of work-readiness means. Instead of being a drain on business resources, they found teachers brought value to the business.
13. Pargmann
14. Noted a big push in computer science. Code.org was really interesting. As well as Gallup’s insight on relationships with internship experiences.
15. Noted non-traditional students are really an important to bring into the STEM pipeline. Is there something we should be doing to reach those students?
16. Derry
17. Wondered where do Job Shadow experiences fit? The Hub gets lots of call, but there is really no clearing house for this info. Maybe this is something we can address.
18. Moderated Pella panel. Lots of growth there and interest.
19. Action Items from Future Ready Iowa Conference
20. Computer Science—getting word out across the state.
21. Making sure we’re getting under-represented populations into these communities.
22. Concern: we already have limited resources in schools. Are we making sure we have all the fundamental programs in place before we invest in all of the other opportunities, which are all great and valuable?
23. Concern: it’s really difficult to hire computer science teachers outside the metro, because those people have so many more options that are more lucrative than schools.
24. Derry: Perhaps Scale-Ups can address the computer science teacher shortage. We have to be sensitive to those districts that won’t be able to hire that professional.
25. Bontrager: Iowa Workforce Development is piloting a Virtual Clearing House Program in school schools. It will be used to help with career planning.
26. Add to Advisory Board Wish List: job shadow and internship opportunities for HS kids
27. Scale-Up Update
28. Scale-Up awards go out right away.
29. How can we make them feel connected to Iowa STEM and the Hub?
30. Discussed low-scores that were awarded the Scale Up.
1. Feedback from those who read the applications this year.

2. What are marks of a low and high application.

3. Garrett= What if the follow-up is just write a thank you and take photos? Share photos to other schools who have used the materials successfully. Help with connections to businesses.
4. Garrett= Could each council member adopt a program and check in with schools?

5. Sieck= The strongest applications were the ones that answered the questions the best. The more specific the better. They included a rationale of why they were interested. They had solid implementation plans (ex. If this person left, this person could fill the role.) Also, connect the applicants. If teachers are interested in X, connect with teachers who already do X. Did they have data to support this?

6. Meyerholtz= Strong applicants thought through the big picture and had supporting information. On the weak side, a lot of people didn’t have a plan.

7. Holmen= At the end of the day, why, if we’re having bad results, why are we awarding to the low scores. If they turn into success stories, then it’s not as meaningful if the application is sub-standard.
8. Derry= We need to collect more data.

1. Call for closing thoughts
2. Do teachers have a funnel where to get information? Future Ready Iowa and STEM create a lot of noise for a teacher to funnel out.
3. Next meeting is May 14.