

STEM-IN'

Indiana STEM News



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In This Issue:

- STEM Advisory Council Update
- LETS Program Connects Classrooms to Lilly
- STEM at the Indiana State Museum
- Indiana Pacers STEM Fest 2018
- Spring STEM Taskforce Meeting

Indiana STEM Advisory Council Update The Indiana STEM Advisory Council, chaired by the Superintendent of Public Instruction Dr. Jennifer McCormick, met for the second time on January 10, 2018. The agenda included updates on STEM education work ongoing in the Indiana Department of Education. Also on the agenda was Dr. Jeff Weld, Executive Director of the Iowa STEM program.



IDOE has met with most of the STEM Council members individually to assess each's vision and recommendations for STEM education in Indiana. The responses were prioritized into three buckets: Talent, Instructional Resources, and Infrastructure. These three areas will be central to the STEM plan being developed.

IDOE has also created a Request for Proposal (RFP) for a STEM Acceleration Program. The goal is to launch or accelerate quality STEM programs at schools during the 2018 – 2109 school year. This program would be similar to Iowa's Scale-Up program first offered in 2011. The RFP includes details on curriculum, professional development, and assessments. IDOE wants to release the RFP in the mid-February timeframe.

The Iowa program was started by Dr. Jeff Weld who spoke remotely to the Council from Washington, DC, where he is a special advisor on STEM to the White House. Many of the strong points of the Iowa program will be included in the Indiana STEM Plan.

The Iowa plan was one of three reviewed by the Council, the others being Massachusetts and Tennessee. All three programs began with strong statehouse support, and all have survived politics and missteps to continue to be successful.

IDOE also announced that the STEM School certification program has received 38 applications for the fourth cohort of certified schools.

LETS Program Signups Open

- Would you like to start your summer by making \$500 in 2 days at Lilly's Indianapolis campus on June 12-13, 2018?
- Would you like to meet and collaborate with Lilly scientists and engineers plus other Indiana STEM teachers?
- Would you enjoy creating labs and lesson plans to be shared across the state and the U.S.?
- Would you like a few more great answers to give to students who ask: "When will I use STEM?"

If you answered YES to these questions, then "LETS"—the Lilly Experience for Teachers of STEM—is for you! We are seeking expert STEM teachers from across Indiana to make this innovative program a success. Our goal is to leverage your expertise and talents to create lesson plans to share across Indiana, sparking even greater interest and appreciation for STEM subjects and careers.



LETS COLLABORATE *Lilly*
Lilly Experience for Teachers in STEM

Additional information is provided online at <https://lilly.com/lilly-experience-for-teachers-in-stem>. If you're interested, please fill out the short application form by February 16, 2018. The application will take only 1-2 minutes to complete. Teachers selected to participate in the 2018 Lilly Experience for Teachers of STEM will be notified by March 6, 2018.

STEM at the Indiana State Museum At the Indiana State Museum and Historic Sites, museum staff continues to integrate more and more STEM programming across the museum's statewide system. The blockbuster traveling exhibit "[The Power of Poison](#)" will be at the museum through April 22, and the experience allows guests to learn the difference between a poison and a toxin, medicinal uses for poisons, the legends surrounding certain poisons,

and more. Plus, Feb. 16-18, guests will have an opportunity to learn about gems, minerals, fossils and more at [GeoFest](#) – a special event included with purchase of general admission to the museum. About 20 vendors will be present at the festival to sell their wares, and special activities such as fluorescing mineral demonstrations and a mock dig pit will let guests explore geology and paleontology in a hands-on way.



The museum and historic sites provide special workshops for school groups too, focused on topics such as archaeology, rocks and minerals, weather, and other science- or history-based topics. [Field trips](#) to the museum are free for teachers, chaperones and students in K-12 schools. If school groups are not able to travel to the museum, [outreach opportunities](#) such as education trunk rentals, workshops, and a traveling theater troupe are available as well. Any inquiries about these opportunities should be sent to interpretive programs coordinator Sarah Rapp-Johnson at srappjohnson@indianamuseum.org.

Indiana Pacers STEM Fest 2018 The Indiana Pacers, in partnership with Conexus Indiana will hold an Interactive



STEM Fest on Sunday, February 11, 2018 at Bankers Life Fieldhouse from 11 AM to 1 PM before the Indiana Pacers vs. New York Knicks game at 5:00 PM. Tickets are ONLY \$10 per person for the Interactive STEM Fest & the Pacers game.

Exhibitors are welcome to join the event with interactive STEM activities. For-profit organizations should go to www.pacersgroups.com/stemsponsor to view packages and register. Non-profits and educational institutions should go to www.pacersgroups.com/stemindiana for more information and to register.

Spring STEM Taskforce Meeting The next semiannual Indiana STEM Taskforce will be held in mid-May in the Indianapolis area. This meeting is very important for creating an Indiana STEM Education Plan with the STEM Advisory Council. The meeting will include opportunities to discuss many aspects of the STEM plan with the Council members and IDOE. Additionally, details can be added (or deleted) through this process so the final plan will better reflect the needs you see in Indiana.

Please watch for registration information and additional details coming soon.

A Note From Paul Ainslie Our goals for expanding STEM education in Indiana have taken a big step forward in the past year. Our need to engage the state and make STEM a key component of the state's educational and investment priorities is taking shape via the Indiana STEM Advisory Council. I have confidence in a positive outcome from their work.

I believe I-STEM's role in Indiana is at an inflection point. This is a good time for me to step away from my role as Managing Director for I-STEM. My last day with I-STEM and Purdue will be February 28, 2018.

It's been my pleasure to work with Bob Abrams from IAN on this newsletter over the past four years. I hope you have found the newsletter content useful.

Thank you for your support for STEM education. Please remain engaged as this important work continues.

Paul

This is the last issue of STEM-IN' News to be edited by Paul Ainslie at I-STEM. Please contact Bob Abrams at IAN (babrams@indianaafterschool.org) for newsletter issues and subscriptions.

About STEM-IN' This newsletter is published 12 times per year by the I-STEM Resource Network and the Indiana Afterschool Network. For inquiries and news contributions please email: babrams@indianaafterschool.org.

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EVERY student **EVERY** school **EVERY** day