

EXECUTIVE ORDER NUMBER SEVENTY-FOUR

WHEREAS, strong science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) education is essential to prepare the young people of Iowa for a competitive, global economy; and

WHEREAS, scientific literacy is also the foundation of being a good citizen; and

WHEREAS, the Iowa Constitution encourages a strong educational foundation by providing that, “[t]he General Assembly shall encourage, by all suitable means, the promotion of intellectual, scientific, moral, and agricultural improvement” (Iowa Const. art. IX, 2d, § 3); and

WHEREAS, the General Assembly has encouraged math and science education, including engineering and technology education, through several Acts of the General Assembly; and

WHEREAS, raising achievement in STEM subjects from preschool through higher education opens doors to STEM careers and strengthens Iowa’s workforce; and

WHEREAS, an emphasis on reaching out to minority, low-income and other underrepresented students to encourage interest in STEM is vital; and

WHEREAS, innovative STEM research at colleges and universities and by private business and industry is key to creating jobs for a more vibrant economy; and

WHEREAS, the people and State of Iowa will be well served by a statewide advisory council charged with establishing a collaborative vision to promote STEM education.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Terry E. Branstad, Governor of the State of Iowa, declare that science, technology, engineering and mathematics education should be strengthened as part of providing a world-class education, encouraging innovation and enhancing economic development. I hereby order the creation of the Governor’s Science Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (“STEM”) Advisory Council.

1. **Purpose:** The Governor’s STEM Advisory Council shall advise the Governor on ways to improve STEM education, STEM innovation and STEM careers in the public and private sectors.
2. **Organization:** The Council shall be composed of no more than 40 members appointed by the Governor. Each member will serve at the pleasure of the Governor without compensation and in an advisory capacity. The Council shall be led by an Executive Committee. In addition to the Executive Committee, the Governor shall appoint to the Council:
 - a. representatives with STEM qualifications from the following sectors, including but not limited to: advanced manufacturing, agribusiness, biotechnology, clean energy, engineering, healthcare and information technology; higher education, post-secondary training institutions, early childhood, elementary and secondary education; and vocational-technical education.
 - b. additional qualifying members, including up to three representatives of national STEM organizations.
 - c. two members of the Iowa Senate to serve as non-voting, ex-officio members, one majority party member and one minority party member.
 - d. two members of the Iowa House of Representatives to serve as non-voting, ex-officio members, one majority party member and one minority party member.

The Governor’s STEM Advisory Council shall be co-chaired by the Lieutenant Governor of Iowa. The other co-chair shall be selected by the Governor from among the Council members for a two-year term. After that, the Lieutenant Governor will continue as co-chair with the other co-chair position to be selected by the Governor and to rotate on a biennial basis.

The co-chairs, or the executive director with the approval of the co-chairs, may direct the Council to form subcommittees to address particular issues facing STEM education and other STEM matters in the State of Iowa. The makeup and nature of each committee shall be determined by the co-chairs.

Administrative operations of the Council shall vest with an Executive Director who will serve at the pleasure of the Council. The Executive Director and Staff shall be housed at the University of Northern Iowa, unless otherwise transferred to another location by Governor. The Department of Education shall provide staff support to the Council, as needed, to enable the Council to fulfill its responsibilities.

3. **Executive Committee:** Membership for the Governor's Science Technology, Engineering and Mathematics Advisory Council Executive Committee shall include the following members, or their respective designees:
 - a. Lieutenant Governor of the State of Iowa
 - b. Director of the Iowa Department of Education
 - c. Director of the Iowa Partnership for Economic Progress (Department of Economic Development)
 - d. Director of the Iowa Department of Workforce Development
 - e. President of Iowa State University
 - f. President of the University of Iowa
 - g. President of the University of Northern Iowa
 - h. Community college president
 - i. Independent college president
 - j. Two representatives of preschool, elementary or secondary education
 - k. Two representatives of private employers who hire job candidates with STEM skills, appointed by the Governor.

The Executive Committee shall conduct business on behalf of the full Advisory Council including, but not limited to, launching initiatives, making final recommendations and scheduling meetings.

4. **Goals:** The Council shall have the following objectives:
 - a. collaborate with participants and parties from the public and private sectors to promote STEM education, innovation and careers statewide; and
 - b. work to dramatically increase students' interest and achievement in STEM subjects so they will have a greater opportunity to pursue STEM careers; and
 - c. recommend how to better recruit and prepare teachers to teach STEM; and
 - d. map STEM education to economic development with an emphasis on fostering innovation in research and entrepreneurship; and
 - e. build on the outstanding work of the Iowa Mathematics and Science Education Partnership and the Iowa STEM Education Roadmap to advise on development and implementation of a statewide STEM plan with clear goals; and
 - f. reach other goals and objectives as requested by the office of the Governor.
5. **Activities:** The Council shall undertake the following actions:
 - a. make recommendations on creating a campaign to generate public support for STEM subjects and careers by reaching out to parents, students and others; and
 - b. the Council shall report any findings or recommendations to the Governor, at the request of the Governor, and at such periods as determined by the Co-Chairs; and
 - c. commission reports on issues related to STEM education, innovation and careers to promote an important public conversation about STEM issues; and
 - d. recommend policy changes that will better position Iowa's young people, educational institutions and business and industry to compete in STEM areas; and
 - e. undertake other activities as requested by the office of the Governor.

All agencies, departments and boards of the State of Iowa shall cooperate fully with the Council. The Council may seek the expertise and services of individuals and entities outside its membership for research, advice and other needs, as required to accomplish its mission.

**IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I HAVE
HEREUNTO SUBSCRIBED MY NAME
AND CAUSED THE GREAT SEAL OF
THE STATE OF IOWA TO BE AFFIXED.
DONE AT DES MOINES THIS 26th DAY
OF JULY IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD
TWO THOUSAND ELEVEN.**

**TERRY E. BRANSTAD
GOVERNOR OF IOWA**

ATTEST:

**MATT SCHULTZ
SECRETARY OF STATE**