



For Immediate Release

Urbandale Students Share STEM Insights With Lt. Governor Reynolds

Six Urbandale High School students share results and recommendations about how to overcome challenges for STEM implementation with Lt. Governor Reynolds

URBANDALE, Iowa – March 26, 2013 – Six students from [Urbandale High School](#), Will Admussen, Michael Clinkscales, Parker Howard, Sam Johnson, Aaron Jones, and Steve Maynard, had the opportunity to meet with Lt. Governor Kim Reynolds on Wednesday, March 13, and share their findings about STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics) implementation in the [Urbandale Community School District](#). Their findings were a result of a three-day Student TEAMS (Teams Evaluating, Analyzing and Measuring Systems) training in January. The students determined that STEM classes needed to work interdependently to give future workforce applicable knowledge.



1. Michael Clinkscales, Sam Johnson, Steve Maynard, Parker Howard, Lt. Governor Reynolds, Aaron Jones, and Will Admussen

Supporting the Urbandale vision of being a district that brings learning to life, Urbandale has partnered with the [Iowa Quality Center](#) to better prepare students for entering an increasingly competitive global workforce. Student TEAMS training, facilitated by the Iowa Quality Center, focuses on students learning quality and critical thinking principles, processes, and tools, in order to collaborate, analyze, and solve a set problem.

As the Co-Chair of the Governor's STEM Advisory Council, Reynolds has a keen interest in Iowa's STEM initiative. She is an advocate for growing student interest and achievement while making STEM programs more readily available for students all across Iowa. Reynolds was so impressed with the six Urbandale High School students that she invited them to speak at the next [Governor's STEM Advisory Council](#) meeting.

"Because of the Student TEAMS project, the students were able to learn new principles and methods for problem solving and innovative thinking that ultimately resulted in sharing their findings about

STEM implementation with the Lt. Governor. It was a tremendous learning experience that demonstrated how capable and insightful students can be about their own learning,” said Dr. Doug Stilwell, Superintendent, Urbandale Community School District.

Solving challenges through quality and critical thinking, collecting and assessing data, and implementing insightful and innovative tactics, are at the foundation of the Urbandale district’s aim to transform education. To learn more about Student TEAMS, visit:

<http://www.iowaqc.org/content/Education/StudentTeamsVideo/tabid/519/Default.aspx>

About Iowa Quality Center

Formed in 1993, the Woods Quality Center began as a shared vision of a total quality environment for the entire community, including business and industry, schools, government, nonprofit organizations, labor unions, and the service and retail industries. In 2001 the name was changed to the Iowa Quality Center (IQC) as a result of a new state-wide focus. Today, IQC has over 180 member organizations with more than 48,000 individual members representing government, manufacturing, business, education, labor, retail, service, and healthcare organizations. While the IQC staff is based in Marion, its networking groups, consultation, and membership activities take place throughout the state. For more information, visit: www.iowaqc.org

Iowa Quality Center
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About Urbandale Community School District

The Urbandale Community School District includes portions of Des Moines and Urbandale, Iowa. The district serves over 4,000 students in six elementary schools, one middle school and one comprehensive high school. The Urbandale district supports an increasingly diverse student population where 44 languages are spoken. Building on the existing foundation of excellence in education, Urbandale is transforming education throughout the district. By implementing innovative Quality/Continual Improvement tools and tactics that create learning environments that more fully engage, challenge, and motivate students, Urbandale is taking transformation from theory into practice. Urbandale prepares students for becoming life-long learners and is a school district that brings learning to life for everyone. To learn more, visit: www.urbandaleschools.com

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