



Iowa Sector Connect – Information Technology Group Call Notes

Dial-In Number: 1-866-685-1580, Conference Code: 5152813866

Tuesday, December 10th

8:30 AM – 9:30 AM

Purpose: Opportunity for Information Technology sector partnership teams from across the state to network and share updates about their programs, offer recommendations/best practices, and ask questions of one another so that each program continues to grow and thrive.

Attendance: Gary Vogt (KCC), Silas Hanneman (DMACC), Joe Collins (IDOE)

Team/Program Updates

Kirkwood – The group is working to put the finishing touches on some Hour of Code industry/educator partnership events planned for the 2019 Computer Science Education Week in December. They teamed up with Grant Wood AEA to ensure that every 4th grade classroom in the Cedar Rapids Community School District & Iowa City Community School District can host an Hour of Code event with an industry partner/employer (45 minutes or less). The events have gone really well in the past and this year is looking great so far with over 30 classrooms and 27 employers signed up! Planning to focus a bit more on artificial intelligence this year and are planning on engaging with around 4,000 students.

DMACC – Agile and Scrum courses have been going really well and continue to have steady demand. New classes with Amazon Web Services ([AWS](#)) are set to begin very soon for beginner to intermediate level cloud computing. Lots of interest in cloud computing from employers, with the two biggest players being AWS and Microsoft Azure. Adding some Python programming language classes to the Data Science certificate. Cybersecurity and the App Dev programs/offerings are also holding steady with enrollment. Plan to monitor and continue to adjust as necessary to meet employer needs.

Technology Association of Iowa – Have been traveling to help promote their new [Iowan Project](#) and to attempt to entice Iowans to return home for great IT careers. [Techstream](#) is another effort to connect students, parents, and teachers with exciting tech-focused opportunities and news from across Iowa. Similar to ElevateIowa's goal of centralizing events, news, and other resources for Advanced Manufacturing, this new site will be that resource for IT and related fields. Participation will be critical in building the database and providing better access to these opportunities. Get involved and share your program, event or news post at techstreamiowa.org/submit. Questions about these initiatives or submission process can also be directed to Mollie Ross at mollie@technologyiowa.org

General/State/Misc Updates

2019/2020 Career Pathways Projects: The two industries chosen for career pathway development in 2019 were the [Building Trades](#) and [Transportation, Distribution, & Logistics \(TDL\)](#). Target industries for 2020 are Business & Financial Services and a refresh/reboot for **Information Technology**.

Industry-Specific Work-Based Learning Toolkits: The IDOE is working on a series of industry-themed work-based learning toolkits aimed at helping to build out more work-based learning opportunities across the state for employers. This is often the next step for students interested in a field, such as classroom speakers, job shadows, or internships, but employers and educators often struggle with connecting the dots to put something in place. Toolkits for were released in August for [Health Science](#) and October for [Advanced Manufacturing](#). Similar guides will be produced going forward in the building trades, TDL, and other industries.

Clearinghouse for Work-Based Learning: One aspect of Future Ready Iowa initiative that relates closely with many of the goals of sector partnership teams is a new web site that will act as a clearinghouse for work-based learning opportunities across the state. Employers will be able to post projects online for students from across the state to apply for and begin working on to earn valuable work-skills and experience. The full site and project board are now live at [Clearinghouse.FutureReadyIowa.gov](#). Contact Joe to learn more and to brainstorm idea of how to get local employers more involved.

AmeriCorps Sector Partnership Support: Funding has been secured to assist sector partnership teams with support for their local initiatives surrounding employer engagement, marketing/outreach, and career pathway development. An informative webinar was held in October and can be viewed <https://youtu.be/o7CAOChM9do> online and groups are asked to have [applications](#) ASAP for assistance in 2020.

Sector Partnership Webinar Training Series (July-August 2019): The IDOE partnered with the [Next Generation Sector Partnership](#) team to offer a series of Iowa-exclusive sector partnership webinars for anyone interested in or currently active with sector strategies. Recordings of the 5-part series can be viewed on the main sector partnership [site](#) or on the [Iowa Sector Connect](#) YouTube channel. Each session is 90 minutes, consisting of a 60-minute review of topics by Next Gen national consultants and 30-minute Q&A from the audience.

2019/2020 Call Schedule

*All calls are scheduled for 8:30 AM – 9:30 AM, unless otherwise noted

2019 – 02/12, 04/09, 06/11, 08/13, 10/08, 12/10

2020 – 02/11, 04/14, 06/09, 08/11, 10/13, 12/08