



## Monthly Newsletter

### March 2019

*This newsletter is designed to be an informational tool for K-12 school district educators, post-secondary and higher education institutions, and businesses for STEM Forward programming. You are receiving this because your district or organization is a partner of Southeast Service Cooperative and/or STEM Forward.*

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## Breakout Sessions Announced for Spring Educator Forum

The Spring Educator Forum will be unlike anything you've experienced at a STEM Forward forum before! Nasco, a lead STEM/STEAM curriculum, supplies, and solutions company, will bring down the STEM Playground for our educators to make, play, tinker, and learn the latest and most popular curriculum, lessons, activities, tools, and technology available for our educators. All STEM experience levels welcome from beginner to expert and elementary through high school.

### Break Out Sessions

Enjoy peer-to-peer breakout sessions on lessons and activities that the 2018 Outstanding Educator, Mark Nechanicky (Albert Lea) and Nasco's February grant recipients that will showcase Escape Room Challenges: Rock Classification and Tiny House Building. There will also be an emphasis on the upcoming changing science standards, virtual reality, and much more!.

[Register to Attend](#)

[View Program](#)

## In The News

[Fifth graders to mayor:  
ban plastic bags](#)

[What training should a  
Minnesota teacher have?  
New licensure proposal  
ignites old debate](#)

[Dassel-Cokato, New  
London-Spicer high  
schools receive pollinator  
grants](#)

[STEM Remains Strong  
Contender for  
DonorsChoose Dollars](#)

[AI in Education Shows  
Most Promise for the  
Repetitive and Predictable](#)

[Relieving Test Jitters  
Leads to Better Science  
Course Outcomes](#)

[Blockchain Deployment  
Checklist](#)

# Even Amidst Storms, Two Local Organizations Team Up to Surprise Educators with Classroom Supplies

Nasco, a leader in STEM/STEAM education curriculum, supplies, and solutions, collaborated with Southeast Service Cooperative's STEM Forward consortium to surprise Byron seventh grade educator, Hannah Blumenshein, and Kasson-Mantorville first grade educator, Jessica Marquardt, with science, technology, engineering and math (STEM) resources for their classrooms to support their Tiny House and Escape Room Challenge projects that increase STEM awareness and excitement with students.



"Students in in both classrooms exuded excitement. How cool is it that something so relevant, like the Tiny Home movement or an Escape Room Challenge, is applicable to a first and seventh grade classroom! This ingenuity coupled with each teachers ability to meet many of the state science and math education standards is incredibly innovative!" Sarah Ness, STEM Forward Program Manager.

Hannah and Jessica will create a video of the lessons taught in the classroom with the grant supplies along with student testimonials of the lesson. In April, Hannah and Jessica will present the video taped lesson and a short presentation to her peers from around southeast Minnesota at the STEM Forward Spring Educator Forum on April 10, 2019 at Southeast Service Cooperative in an effort to spark STEM innovation in other classrooms.

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## Career Pathways Summit

## Upcoming Events

[03/19/2019 Career Pathways Summit @ Zumbrota Mazeppa](#)

[04/10/2019 Spring Educator Forum](#)

[05/08/2019 U of M's Physics Force Demonstration](#)

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## Awards

[Aspirations in Computer Awards Program](#)

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## Join STEM Forward

Are you interested in teaming up with educators and businesses who want to help your district succeed in prepping the future workforce of tomorrow? Join today to connect with resources and people in the STEM community, enhance STEM professional development and workforce development initiatives for educators and stakeholder. Apply now to join STEM Forward.

[Apply to Join STEM Forward](#)

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## STEM Forward Partners

# Rescheduled for 3/19

After stellar reviews from the February Career Pathways Summit, day two of this event has been rescheduled due to weather for Tuesday, March 19th at Zumbrota High School. Based on feedback from educators at the first event, Plainview-Elgin-Millville will now join us to represent rural career pathway programming. Take a look at this short video below from the Career Pathways Summit from Chatfield in February.



## Teacher Advisor with Watson Offers Remedial Assistance Due to Record Number of Snow Days

Teachers have indicated extra stress to meet district goals in teaching planned curriculum due to a record number of snow days. Some teachers have turned to Teacher Advisor with Watson to help with remediation and re-teaching in K-8 math in southeast Minnesota.

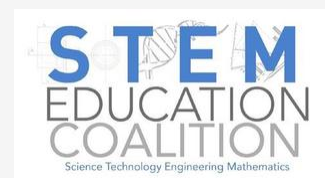
IBM's Teacher Advisor with Watson delivers targeted resource recommendations to educators within Teacher Advisor (for specific math concepts, topics, skills and techniques).

Watson can understand the meaning behind K-8 math teachers' search queries, and use its cognitive capabilities (specifically, the Watson Discovery Service API) to quickly recommend high-quality and relevant resources to meet real teacher needs.

It's very easy to sign up for a Teacher Advisor account — it's 100% free and takes only about 30 seconds to get access to everything we offer. Teachers and others can sign up directly and need to provide only limited information about themselves and their focus area.



## STEM Forward Associations



Finally, Teacher Advisor is free, confidential, nonjudgmental, and vetted to align with 21st century standards:

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## Free Career Awareness Resources to Educate Students and Families

STEM Forward partner, Workforce Development, Inc., has created 11 x 17 posters on the top career sectors of need in Minnesota for your schools to post throughout the school, or highlight at parent teacher conference, to post on your website or social media.

**[View Posters](#)**



**Sarah Ness**  
STEM Forward Program Manager  
[sness@ssc.coop](mailto:sness@ssc.coop)

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