Fort Madison Community School District for making the award possible and said it’s more of an award for the district. He just gets the trophy.

“It’s like winning the Manager of the Year award in baseball, you just manage a great program. I’m logistically minded and manage systems well, but Greg Smith is the master of culture here,” Lamb said.

“He knows kids and I think that’s why we work so well together. He’s taught me a lot about nurturing and the role that plays in helping kids feel value, welcomed and accepted.”

Lamb, as part of the Associate Principal tasks, is also the security director for the district and has been in that role for the past five years. He took over for Bill Maupin and said the state has increasingly required more and more from schools in terms of security planning.

See LAMB, page 8

Fort Madison Association Principal Patrick Lamb was honored with one of three National School Safety Awards at a week-long school safety conference in Las Vegas.

Lamb was honored with National safety award

BY CHUCK VANDENBERG
PCC EDITOR

FORT MADISON – Las Vegas is a place for the lucky, but sometimes you go out there and earn some good fortune.

Fort Madison High School Associate Principal Patrick Lamb is in Vegas this week at a School Safety Convention at the Tropicana and was honored to have been nominated… and then win one of three national school safety awards.

Lamb said he was aware that he had been nominated by School Resource Officer Cory Brown and then got a message in late June that he had won one of the awards.

“Cory informed me in June that he had nominated me and several weeks later I got another message from him that I had been named one of the award winners,” Lamb said.

“It was little bit of surprise at first. It’s very humbling and it’s not something that I do on my own. This is really a collective award. I really need to be giving credit to people that make it possible.”

Lamb credited the staff and administration of FMCSD gets “clicking” on a computer science initiative

$50K award from STEM council being put to good use

BY CHUCK VANDENBERG
PCC EDITOR

FORT MADISON – A focus on a district-wide computer science learning model is underway at Fort Madison schools after Richardson School received a $50K grant in partnership with the Governor’s STEM advisory council.

Kim Harmon, the district’s director of curriculum and student services, said the district applied for the grant in March and was notified at the end of April that it was one of six schools in the state to receive the award.

The money is not in the form of a direct contribution to the school’s coffers however. The money is set aside for reimbursement for purchases or to help offset training and teacher pay associated with enhanced computer science programming.

Harmon said the district wrote the grant in a broad framework and now the extra financial support can be used across all grades in the district. Tentative plans include a four-year roll out of a K-12 enhanced computer science program. Iowa has six STEM regions across the state basically divided by Interstate 80 with three regions below the interstate and three across the top of the state. Harmon said funds have increased in the privately supported STEM advisory council, so going forward each region will have two school awarded funds.

“Why did we get involved?… because of the importance of how computers are changing our lives and there is this need to teach kids computer science. We see it only in isolation at elementary levels.”

See COMPUTERS, page 8
OBITUARIES

JACK GOETZ

Jack Goetz, 85 of Keokuk, IA died Sunday, July 21, 2019 at Great River Hospice House in West Burlington, IA.

He was born August 25, 1933 in Keokuk, IA the son of Edward and Dora Dietz Goetz. On May 5, 1956 he was united in marriage to Mary Ann Savacool at St. Peters Church in Keokuk. She survives.

Other survivors include five children, John Goetz (Kim) of Keokuk, Dan Goetz (Vicky) of Excelcior Springs, MO, Martha Riney (Randy) of Keokuk, Father Marty Goetz of Burlington, IA and Joseph A. Goetz of Keokuk, grand children, Jennifer Goetz, Austin Goetz, Matt Goetz (Jan), Sara (Tyler) Owen, Jessica Goetz, Michael Goetz (Ashley), David Riney (Leigh Ann), Daniel Riney (Kelli), Martin “Chuck” Riney, Jesse Clark (Brandon), Nickie Lynn (Jesse) and Patrick Goetz, twelve great-grandchildren, and several nieces, nephews and great-nieces and great-nephews.

He was preceded in death by his parents, two brothers and sisters-in-law, Edward and Maxine Goetz and Jim and Lois Goetz, one sister and brother-in-law, Sue and Bob Miller, one daughter-in-law, Karen Goetz and mother and father-in-law, Jess and Neal Savacool.

Jack graduated from St. Peters High School with the Class of 1952. He attended Southeastern Community College in Keokuk.

He was a veteran of the United States Army and proudly served his country.

He had been employed by Hubinger/Heinz/Roquette in Keokuk for forty and a half years until his retirement in 1993.

Jack was a member of All Saints Catholic Church and the Knights of Columbus.

Jack was an avid Washington Redskins and Milwaukee Brewers fan. He volunteered at the Catholic Schools, served meals in the cafeteria and called Bingo at Cardinal Stritch for twenty-five years.

He was the first lay Eucharistic minister at St. Peters and All Saints Catholic Church. He was a Jack of all trades at Cardinal Stritch for twenty-five years. He was the first lay Eucharistic minister at St. Peters Church in Keokuk. She survives.

Memorials may be made to the Keokuk Catholic Schools, or Great River Hospice House in West Burlington, IA.

www.vigenmemorialhome.com

OBITUARIES

DUANE EUGENE STIGALL

Duane “Toby” Eugene Stigall, 84, of Keokuk, died Tuesday, July 23, 2019 at the Great River Medical Center in West Burlington, IA.

He was born on January 4, 1935 in Fort Madison, IA, the son of Talton and Hattie Lee Stanton Stigall. He graduated from Fort Madison High School with the Class of 1952. During his high school years Toby played football, basketball and ran track. He attended the University of Iowa where he participated in gymnastics and diving.

Toby enlisted in the United States Army on February 3, 1955 and proudly served his country, receiving his Honorable Discharge on January 31, 1963 with the rank of Sergeant.

On May 9, 1992, Toby was united in marriage to Ann E. Hagmeier in Racine, IL. She survives.

He is also survived by two daughters, Terri (Lynn) Mason and Shari Meyers all of Keokuk, three step-daughters, Theresa (Tom) Kline and Suzanne Modrovsky (Scott Jenkins) all of Mountaintop, PA, and Lisa Robertson (Kurt Schultz) of Tulsa, OK, fourteen grandchildren, Mike, Sara and Lindsey Mason all of Keokuk, Amy (Brandon) Underwood of Des Moines, IA, Lauren (Scott) Roman, Jason and Anammarie Kline, Catherine (Bill) Noble, Luke, Noah, and Grace Modrovsky all of Mountain Top, PA, Phoebe (Reid) Stinson of Midland, TX, Jillian Robertson of Tulsa, OK, and Erin Robertson (Rodigo Ayala) of Chicago, IL, eight great-grandchildren, Dylan Roman, Carmen and Brecken Underwood, Olivia and Mason Swindler, Katielynn Helenthal, Thomas Noble and Landon Mason. He is also survived by one sister-in-law, Doris Stigall of Fort Madison, IA, and nieces and nephews.

He was preceded in death by his parents, two brothers, Vincent Stigall and Glenn Stigall (Rosma), one sister, Eva Britton (Dick) and one grandchild, Kegan Robertson.

He had been employed at Hubinger/Roquette in Keokuk for thirty-one years retiring in 1996.

He was a member of the Keokuk Elks Lodge #106 and in 2003, received the Elks National Veterans Certificate of Appreciation. He was also a member the Keokuk American Legion Post 41.

Toby was an avid golfer and played in many tournaments. He won first place in the 2003 Keokuk Savings Bank Men’s City Tournament, Super Senior Division.

An Elks Memorial Service will be held at 1 p.m. Friday at the Elks Lodge, 2200 Lincoln Avenue in Keokuk. Burial with military rites will be held in the Keokuk National Cemetery.

Memorials may be made to the Spina Bifida Association of Iowa, 8525 Douglas Avenue, Urbandale, IA 50322.

The Vigen Memorial Home in Keokuk is assisting the family with arrangements. On-line condolences may be sent to the family at www.vigenmemorialhome.com.
Fort Madison Police Report
07/19/19 – 3:11 a.m. – Fort Madison Police responded to a report of vandalism in the 500 block of 19th Street.
07/19/19 – 2:08 p.m. – Fort Madison Police responded to a report of property damage accident in the 2000 block of 303rd Avenue.
07/19/19 – 3:11 p.m. – Fort Madison Police responded to a report of a property damage accident in the 1200 block of 37th Street.
07/19/19 – 6:12 p.m. – Fort Madison Police responded to a report of property damage accident in the 1700 block of 35th Street.
07/19/19 – 4:12 p.m. – Fort Madison Police responded to a report of a property damage accident in the 2000 block of 303rd Avenue.
07/19/19 – 7:54 p.m. – Fort Madison Police responded to a report of burglary in the 800 block of Avenue E.
07/19/19 – 3:19 a.m. – Fort Madison Police responded to a report of vandalism in the 2200 block of Avenue L.
07/19/19 – 10:57 p.m. – Fort Madison Police responded to a report of vandalism in the 2700 block of Avenue O.
07/19/19 – 9:30 p.m. – Fort Madison Police responded to a report of a burglary in the 230 block of 2nd Street.

For the Record
Dr. Heyland is pictured with her husband, Chad, and their two children.

Dr. Mark C. Pothitakis Family Dentistry is proud to welcome
Dr. Stephanie Heyland

Dr. Heyland will see patients on Tuesdays, and Thursdays at Fort Madison West & our West Burlington office on Mondays and Wednesdays beginning August 12th

Scheduling Patients Now
Dr. Mark C. Pothitakis
Family Dentistry
www.drmckdds.com
Fort Madison Family Dentistry West
319-372-4882
Burlington Dental Associates 319-783-2030

Pen City Current encourages you to respond responsibly.

Pen City Current - Wednesday, July 24, 2019 - 3
No Plastic Bags in the recycling bins

When recycling, be it at one of our convenient drop off sites, or putting out your residential recycling bin for the pickup, please DO NOT put items in plastic bags. They are not recyclable at Great River Regional Waste Authority.

For a complete listing of what we do recycle, contact your local City Hall, or one of our facilities for a service guide. Check with your local retail stores such as Hy-Vee or Walmart for their recycling capabilities. Thank you for your understanding and cooperation concerning this issue!!

Joseph “Joe” Lloyd O’Shea, 70 of Keokuk, IA died Monday, July 22, 2019 at his home. He was born June 28, 1949 in Keokuk, IA, the son of Joseph and Flossie Lloyd O’Shea. He was first united in marriage to Barb Greenslaugh. To this union two children were born. They later divorced. On February 12, 1987, he was united in marriage to Holly Bell in Keokuk. She preceded him in death on February 6, 2017.

Joe graduated from Keokuk High School with the Class of 1967. He was a veteran of the United States Marine Corp and proudly served his country during the Vietnam War.

Joe had been employed by ADM Ogilvie Mills and most recently at Henniges Automotive, both in Keokuk.

Joe was an avid Chicago Cubs and Iowa Hawkeyes fan. He enjoyed bowling and golfing. Joe loved socializing with his friends. Most of all, he loved spending time with his family. Joe was a very casual man, so casual attire and Cubs attire would be appreciated at his funeral.

He is survived by his children, Tracy O’Shea, Troy O’Shea, Calvin Stevens all of Keokuk and Sally O’Shea Page (Will) of Marion, IA, step-daughter, Amanda Elliott-Nichols (Vince) of Columbia, MO, grandchildren, Taylor, Trenton, Ava, Brely, El, Parker, Alayna, Kallen and Dalton, one sister, Dinah Meinhardt (Jim) of Keokuk, one brother-in-law, Bubby Hauff of Keokuk, faithful four legged companion, Noodles and grand dog, Deeks and numerous nieces and nephews.

Besides his wife, Joe was also preceded in death by his parents, sisters, Patty Moore, Sally Hauff, and Mary Grimes, brothers, Jim Mortimer, Michael O’Shea and Andy O’Shea.

A funeral service will be held at 10 a.m., Friday at the Vigen Memorial Home in Keokuk, IA with Calvin Stevens officiating. Burial with military rites will be held in the Keokuk National Cemetery.

Visitation will be held after 1 p.m., Thursday, at the funeral home with family meeting with friends from 5-7 p.m.

Memorials may be made to Keokuk Animal Services.

Online condolences may be left for the family at www.vigenmemorialhome.com.

ANDREA LEA ARNOLD

Andrea Lea Arnold, 77, of Dallas City, IL passed away at 12:10am Tuesday, July 23, 2019 at the LaHarpe-Davier Health Care Center in LaHarpe, IL.

She was born November 2, 1941 in Pilot Grove Township, Hancock County, IL, the daughter of James Henson and Betty Marsden. She was first married to Joe Herriman. They later divorced. On July 3, 1987 she married Joseph Arnold in Natchua, IA. Andrea was a 1960 graduate of the Dallas City High School. She operated and operated Andy’s Snack shop in Dallas City for several years. She also worked at Methodist in Carthage, IL and was the first manager at Casey’s Convenience Store in Dallas City.

She enjoyed people, cooking, drives in the country and her dog, Josie. The most important thing in her life, was her family.

Surviving are her husband, Joe, five children, Jeff (Christy) Herriman of Carthage, IL, Scott Herriman of Fort Madison, IA, Don (Stephanie) Herriman of Dallas City, Chris (Jenny) Herriman of Dallas City and Joey (Amanda) Arnold of Mt. Union, IA, 13 grandchildren, 3 great-grandchildren. She is survived by her parents, and infant son, Ronald Herriman, 2 sisters, Gloria Sue Bowman and Peggy Hoening.

Steffen
APARTMENTS FOR RENT

Chateau Apartments
Extra Clean & Quiet
Apartments for Rent

Extra clean & quiet with free YMCA membership included. 2 bedrooms, some with decks/patio. 200 sq. foot units. All electric, Water, sewer, trash furnished. Laundry rooms have new coin-operated washers & dryers (located in all buildings). On-site manager. Call 319-372-9409 for appointments. Owned by Alli- or 319-750-3115 for appointments.

FULL-TIME GENERAL LABORER

COMPANY
Baxter Construction Company is a national construction management firm that features a great work environment and provides room for employee growth. For over 70 years Baxter has fostered a balanced family-work culture and as we continue to grow we strive to remain as adaptable, motivated, and responsive to our employees, both new and old, as we do to our clients. Our employees are our most important and greatest asset and it is our MISSION to develop leadership that creates excitement, fulfillment, and lasting relationships with the people, communities, and markets that we serve.

POSITION SUMMARY
Baxter Construction Company is a fast-paced commercial builder that is seeking full-time, General Laborer. Occasional part time National travel to and from project sites.

Qualified candidates will be required to have a CDL license, or the ability to obtain and maintain and CDL license.

Candidates must understand the general construction process and required field labor associated with driving and moving large trucks, trailers, miscellaneous job site equipment, and the setup of that equipment.

- Job responsibilities will include safety as a top priority, national travel, handling over the road requirements, knowledge of operating general job site equipment, ability to lift over 30 pounds at times, work in a construction environment, assist in setting up jobsite trailers and equipment, and be able to perform general shop labor.

- Job Type: full-time
- Salary: dependent upon experience
- Benefits: 401k, Additional Retirement Package, Health Insurance, Paid Vacation
- Traveling required: all traveling paid plus daily per diem
- Required education: high school or equivalent
- Required experience: CDL and general construction knowledge

To apply, email your full resume to careers@baxterconstructionco.com

BAXTER CONSTRUCTION

HELP WANTED

QUALITY PLUS FEES

FULL-TIME SHORT HAUL TRUCK DRIVER
HOME EVERY NIGHT

Class A CDL required • Ag background preferred. Local daily trips • Capable of lifting 50 lbs. and climbing bulk bins. Certified Motor Vehicle Record Required. Pre-Employment Drug Screen. Entry Level Drivers Considered.

Benefits Include: Health & Disability Insurance, Retirement Program. PTO Time, Annual Bonus, Paid Vacation

Apply In Person
2933 Loust Street
St. Paul, IA 52657
Contact Sherron at (319) 469-3167

SCHOOL BUS DRIVERS NEEDED

The FMCSD is taking applications for daily regular route school bus drivers.

- Must possess an Iowa Driver’s License and have or be willing to obtain the following endorsements: CDL, Air Brake, School Bus and Passenger.
- Applicant must pass a background check, drug test and DOT physical.
- Successful completion of the STOP training course is required within 6 months of hire date.

To apply:
- Submit your completed application to brenda.graham@holytrinity-schools.org.
- The FMCSD reserves the right to conduct an interview or additional testing. If interested, send a resume and cover letter to careers@benedictineschools.org.

APARTMENTS

Holy Trinity Catholic High School
FULL-TIME POSITIONS

• High School Science Teacher
• High School Spanish Teacher
• High School English Teacher
• High School Social Studies Teacher
• IT Coordinator

All positions are full-time and eligible for full benefits.

Holy Trinity Catholic School System in Ft. Madison, IA is a faith-based college preparatory learning community. We inspire lives of service, courage, personal integrity, and intellectual curiosity. We are distinguished by our welcoming community, excellent academic programs, and our commitment to meet the needs of our students and faculty.

Interested applicants send resumes and cover letters to brenda.graham@holytrinity-schools.org.

APARTMENTS

FULL-TIME DENTAL HYGIENIST

Mark C. Pothitakis Family Dentistry currently has a position available for a Full-Time Dental Hygienist.

Complete an application or mail your resume to 1223 S. Gear Avenue, Eastman Plaza, Suite 302 West Burlington, IA 52655 Or email burldental@gmail.com

Dr. Mark C. Pothitakis and associates

Family Dentistry
W. Burlington • Ft. Madison • New London
Medical Park • Burlington

FULL-TIME DENTAL ASSISTANT

Mark C. Pothitakis Family Dentistry currently has a position available for a Full-Time Dental Assistant.

Complete an application or mail your resume to 1223 S. Gear Avenue, Eastman Plaza, Suite 302 West Burlington, IA 52655 Or email burldental@gmail.com

Dr. Mark C. Pothitakis and associates

Family Dentistry
W. Burlington • Ft. Madison • New London
Medical Park • Burlington

YOUR AD HERE
Call Brian
(319)470.9151

Download our free mobile app today.
Take Pen City Current with you wherever you go!
**PROFESSIONAL SERVICES**

**Claw’s and Paws Pet Grooming**

Your dog deserves to be pampered. While your dog is enjoying their spa day in our grooming area, shop our healthy selection of dog foods & treats, collars & leashes, super fun toys, and other unique items and gifts you won’t find anywhere else!

**Spruce N’ Divas**

Great Atmosphere! Fabulous Food! Quality Handcrafted Brews!

duckbrewing.com  319-372-8355

Kitchen Open 3:00-9:00 pm
Wednesday thru Saturday

Make a Drink Call!!!

**Stewart Automotive**

- Brake/Chassis Repair
- Alignment
- Cooling/Heating Systems
- Tires

Here your dog will get one-on-one attention with lots of TLC.

**THE ART OF YOGA**

Sylvia Thomas
Yoga Instructor
319-470-1082

617 Avenue G, Fort Madison
www.selowayoga.com

**REHABILITATION & SKILLED NURSING**

WHEN GOING HOME
AFTER A HOSPITAL STAY
ISN’T AN OPTION.

**GRRWA**

Help GRRWA Keep Your Community Hazard-Free!

Household Hazardous Waste Unit is open Monday through Friday 8am - 4pm
800-216-2370
Call for an appointment

**Boulders Inn & Suites**

by Cobblestone Hotels

4901 Avenue O, Ft Madison, Iowa

**Premier Partner with Melissa & Doug**

Some products and services not available in all areas.

**State Farm Bank**

Like us on Facebook

1701 41st Street Fort Madison, IA 52627

319-372-2341

**State Farm Agent**

Thomas Klann RICP LTCP LUTCF, Agent

Private Insurance, and Private Pay Accepted

NMLS #139716, NMLS MLO #1359992

State Farm Bank, F.S.B., Bloomington, IL

319-372-8021

**The Art of Yoga**

NMLS MLO #24290

319-372-8021

319-470-1082

**Pen City Current**

Reach your customers wherever they are with digital ads.

Call Brian today! (319)470.9151

**PROFESSIONAL SERVICES**

**HIll Side Inn**

Wednesdays 7:00pm

1135 Ave. E • Wednesday – Saturday 5:00pm

**The Art of Yoga**

Sylvia Thomas
Yoga Instructor
319-470-1082

617 Avenue G, Fort Madison
www.selowayoga.com

**REHABILITATION & SKILLED NURSING**

WHEN GOING HOME
AFTER A HOSPITAL STAY
ISN’T AN OPTION.

**GRRWA**

Help GRRWA Keep Your Community Hazard-Free!

Household Hazardous Waste Unit is open Monday through Friday 8am - 4pm
800-216-2370
Call for an appointment

**Boulders Inn & Suites**

by Cobblestone Hotels

4901 Avenue O, Ft Madison, Iowa

**Premier Partner with Melissa & Doug**

Some products and services not available in all areas.

**State Farm Bank**

Like us on Facebook

1701 41st Street Fort Madison, IA 52627

319-372-2341

**State Farm Agent**

Thomas Klann RICP LTCP LUTCF, Agent

Private Insurance, and Private Pay Accepted

NMLS #139716, NMLS MLO #1359992

State Farm Bank, F.S.B., Bloomington, IL

319-372-8021

**The Art of Yoga**

NMLS MLO #24290

319-372-8021

319-470-1082

**Pen City Current**

Reach your customers wherever they are with digital ads.

Call Brian today! (319)470.9151
This little piggy went to market
--- AND NEVER LOST MONEY! ---

Banking on the market to fund your retirement can be risky. I can help you lock in solid gains and protect yourself from downside risk. Call me today.

Patrick Profta
General Manager

Keokuk Auto Credit
We Tote the Note
No Credit Check - Low Weekly Payments
www.keokukautocredit.com

1728 Main
Keokuk, IA 52632

Office: 319-524-2334
Fax: 319-524-2373

How can chiropractic therapy help you?

**BENEFITS OF CHIROPRACTIC**

- Improved joint mobility, function, and health
- Decreased degeneration of joints and connective tissue
- Improved circulation
- Increased energy, vitality, and improved sleep
- Increased mobility, range of motion, and range of motion

**DR. ROBERT BROCKMAN**

Brockman Chiropractic
2391 Avenue G, Suite 3
Fort Madison, IA 52627

http://brockmanchiropractickeokuk.com/

- Extravagant Adjustment
- Cranial Adjustment
- Myofascial Release
- Muscle Facilitation

**Carlos Capdevila Agency, Inc.**

Email: MVICE@AmFam.com

American Family Insurance

(319) 837-6151

Click this ad or call for a quote today!

www.kempkerstruevalue.com

Fort Madison • Burlington • Mount Pleasant

**LEND A HAND**

623-640-4177

JASON RUNGE
NO JOB TOO SMALL

 Ft. Madison • Keokuk • Hamilton

**Griffin Muffling**

319-372-2478

www.griffinmuffling.com

EARN an EXTRA $20.00 on your Gratitude Card with your July visit!

**WEDDING & EVENT CENTER**

www.griffinmuffling.com

Pen City Current - Wednesday, July 24, 2019 - 7
Honor is reflected in FMCS&D culture

“"When kids walk through the front doors do they feel like they belong. There’s some scary research on stuff like that. I heard one yesterday at the conference – if a student doesn’t hear their name used positively within the first 20 minutes of arriving, the chances of them having a successful day are very low." He said.

The district implemented a threat assessment team two years ago that involves members from inside and outside the district to evaluate most information that could be threatening to the students and staff. The district also implemented an anonymous online and social media reporting system for students to use to let district staff know about any possible situation that could affect a student or building’s safety. That program, called “P3” has been instrumental in the district getting in front of issues before any escalation occurred.

Lamb said the district is currently in the process of digitizing and making things accessible both electronically and physically, but he said culture is the one key component to keeping a safe and welcoming environment at the schools.

"Honestly it’s culture. Are our students welcome? Are they accepted? Are they valued? Are we doing that everyday?" he said.

COMPUTERS  -  Continued from Page 1

HARMON hopes to have full implementation by 2023

and not to the breadth we would like even at the secondary level, but it needs to happen," Harmon said. She said it’s also important at the secondary level for students to have access to computer science programming because statistics show application numbers for those jobs are pretty low.

Harmon also believes that girls and minority students aren’t seeing the potential for them in futures involving computer science.

“That’s where we wrote the grant targeting that group simply because girls develop a bias about what occupations are appropriate for them, regardless of the non-sexist society that we try to create,” she said.

Focusing on female and minorities could help them understand that this is a creative tool for problem solving and hopefully they’ll learn those fundamental skills for computer science and start to understand the career possibilities.

“By the time they get to middle and high school, the idea of computer science doesn’t interest them, and so if we can start them early we think we can ignite that interest.”

Harmon said there is a team of 13 administrators, teachers, and coaches that are part of the planning and implementation team that is charged with how the district will embed computer science into the curriculum because it’s a packed day at the elementary level.

She said a rough plan is already being framed out where a group of four teachers representing grades K-3 will form the first teacher planning and development group, or cohort.

The tentative plan outlined has a planning and development committee comprised for four teachers one from each K-3rd. The upcoming school year will be the training and planning year for that group, which Harmon called "Cohort 1". In the 1920-21 school year, those four teachers will start implementing and at the same time another cohort will come in from the next four grade levels.

The goal would be by 2022-23 implementation is going on in all schools and at all levels.

She said the implementation wouldn’t just focus on coding, although that is part of the proposed programming. Other areas will include software, networking, and data analysis pieces. The other areas will focus on the cultural, ethical, and safety issues associated with today’s computing.

Harmon said the other pieces help align the computer science curriculum with the district’s goals of a rigorous curriculum, higher order thinking and problem-solving, and then preparing students for successful life after graduation.

“We see a really close tie to that so we hope others do as well,” she said.

She said all students may not want a career in computer programming, but they need to understand that computers will be part of their lives.

“The goal is that it’s happening in every classroom, but that’s tentative. We have to gauge interest not only from the teacher’s side, but the students’ side and family side as far as what should that look like for Fort Madison because it needs to be unique for us.”

Harmon and Superintendent Dr. Erin Slater presented to all the buildings in June with a heads up to staff as to what this was about. She said it could ultimately impact all teachers.

The district has had meetings with STEM advisory people and supporters engaged with computer science, including the 11 other schools in the region, to brainstorm what the program will look like.

“Anybody in our generation, and by our generation I mean 40 and over, the world we graduated into is not the same world our kids are graduating into and the career opportunities are so vastly different that we have to get past the notion that the way I was educated and the way I went to school is going to be ok for my child,” Harmon said.

Harmon said the $50,000 Richardson Elementary was granted is not a blank check, but is a reimbursement for approved planning.

From the Front/Weather

HARMON hopes to have full implementation by 2023

“Honestly it’s culture. Are our students welcome? Are they accepted? Are they valued? Are we doing that everyday?” he said.

Harmon said the $50,000 Richardson Elementary was granted is not a blank check, but is a reimbursement for approved planning.

HARMON hopes to have full implementation by 2023

and not to the breadth we would like even at the secondary level, but it needs to happen,” Harmon said. She said it’s also important at the secondary level for students to have access to computer science programming because statistics show application numbers for those jobs are pretty low.

Harmon also believes that girls and minority students aren’t seeing the potential for them in futures involving computer science.

“That’s where we wrote the grant targeting that group simply because girls develop a bias about what occupations are appropriate for them, regardless of the non-sexist society that we try to create,” she said.

Focusing on female and minorities could help them understand that this is a creative tool for problem solving and hopefully they’ll learn those fundamental skills for computer science and start to understand the career possibilities.

“By the time they get to middle and high school, the idea of computer science doesn’t interest them, and so if we can start them early we think we can ignite that interest.”

Harmon said there is a team of 13 administrators, teachers, and coaches that are part of the planning and implementation team that is charged with how the district will embed computer science into the curriculum because it’s a packed day at the elementary level.

She said a rough plan is already being framed out where a group of four teachers representing grades K-3 will form the first teacher planning and development group, or cohort.

The tentative plan outlined has a planning and development committee comprised for four teachers one from each K-3rd. The upcoming school year will be the training and planning year for that group, which Harmon called "Cohort 1". In the 1920-21 school year, those four teachers will start implementing and at the same time another cohort will come in from the next four grade levels.

The goal would be by 2022-23 implementation is going on in all schools and at all levels.

She said the implementation wouldn’t just focus on coding, although that is part of the proposed programming. Other areas will include software, networking, and data analysis pieces. The other areas will focus on the cultural, ethical, and safety issues associated with today’s computing.

Harmon said the other pieces help align the computer science curriculum with the district’s goals of a rigorous curriculum, higher order thinking and problem-solving, and then preparing students for successful life after graduation.

“We see a really close tie to that so we hope others do as well,” she said.

She said all students may not want a career in computer programming, but they need to understand that computers will be part of their lives.

“The goal is that it’s happening in every classroom, but that’s tentative. We have to gauge interest not only from the teacher’s side, but the students’ side and family side as far as what should that look like for Fort Madison because it needs to be unique for us.”

Harmon and Superintendent Dr. Erin Slater presented to all the buildings in June with a heads up to staff as to what this was about. She said it could ultimately impact all teachers.

The district has had meetings with STEM advisory people and supporters engaged with computer science, including the 11 other schools in the region, to brainstorm what the program will look like.

“Anybody in our generation, and by our generation I mean 40 and over, the world we graduated into is not the same world our kids are graduating into and the career opportunities are so vastly different that we have to get past the notion that the way I was educated and the way I went to school is going to be ok for my child,” Harmon said.

Harmon said the $50,000 Richardson Elementary was granted is not a blank check, but is a reimbursement for approved planning.

Brilliance

Dedicated to brilliance in diamonds as Iowa's only 4th generation jewelry store, serving the tri-states by making comparable the incomparable for 96 years.

Dana Bushong Jewelers
805 Avenue G, Fort Madison, Iowa 52627
www.danabushong.com
319-372-1423
skypoon@yahoo.com
Find us on Facebook