

BRIGHT SPOT STEM CAREERS IN SIGHT

## Eagle Galileo's 21st Century Teaching Style



### INDUSTRY'S EXCELLENT EDUCATORS DEDICATED TO STEM - INDEEDS

Each year at the Idaho Technology Council's Hall of Fame event, the organization awards and recognizes innovative leaders who have made a significant contribution to the state's technology community. Innovative educators play a critical role in Idaho's technology future by building the bridge from classrooms to careers with skills that students will need for the future.

Gina Kwid, elementary engineering teacher at Galileo STEM Academy in Eagle, received the Idaho STEM Action Center Industry's Excellent Educators Dedicated to STEM (INDEEDS) Award at this year's Idaho Technology Council virtual Hall of Fame event. INDEEDS is an annual peer-nominated, industry-selected award supported this year by leaders from Vynyl, Micron, Idaho National Laboratories, Syringa Networks, Sparklight, Discovery Center of Idaho, Trailhead and Idaho Technology Council.

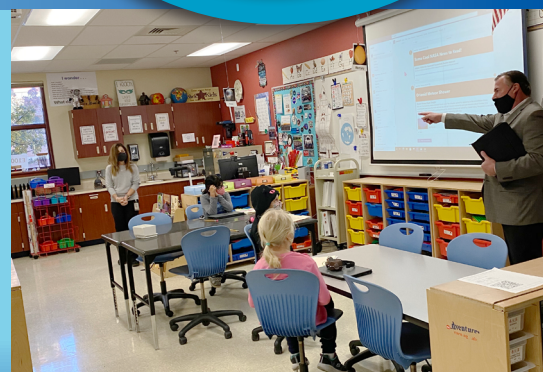
Gina integrates industry and classroom instruction by inviting industry experts into the engineering classroom. Using Skype in the Classroom to host virtual field trips and inviting local computer science experts to share their experiences with students are two ways she accomplishes this. Inviting CS Engineers into the classroom each year during the Hour of Code Week is particularly effective in generating interest!

Gina was accepted into the American Radio Relay League (ARRL) Teacher Institute for amateur radio and electronics training for educators. Her ARRL project required locating and working with an amateur radio team in the area to learn how to successfully create radio communications with the International Space Station.

"Students become problem solvers," Kwid said. "They become self-sufficient. I love watching the light bulbs go on when they use the engineering design process to work through a problem and they discover the answers for themselves. And in elementary school, they are so creative. They're not constricted at this age about thinking about what they can and cannot do. For instance, our girls don't ever think they're not supposed to be doing STEM because they're always doing STEM."

In addition to her role as the elementary engineering teacher, Kwid coaches the after school Botball robotics program, a program provided by and led by Idaho STEM Action Center. She has taught second grade, third grade, and engineering in the West Ada School District for 15 years and is a passionate advocate of early STEM learning.

Ninety percent of all jobs will require STEM skills within the next 10 years. Gina's commitment to providing students with STEM learning opportunities will serve these students through their elementary and secondary education.



Syringa Network's Larry Price, visiting Mrs. Kwid's classroom.



"In the STEM classroom we get kids to think," according to educator Gina Kwid.



**STEM** stands for Science, Technology, Engineering and Math. It's in these subjects that students learn the skills of critical thinking, problem-solving and collaboration—skills that translate to success in many fields. The STEM Action Center is here to support this development and provide Idaho with the talent pipeline it needs for its economy to thrive. Idaho can generate a strong, STEM-competent and competitive workforce that will make us become a prime STEM business destination.





## We build STEM through:

### EDUCATOR ACCESS

to STEM professional development throughout Idaho

**22,000**  
EDUCATOR  
INTERACTIONS

### WORKFORCE

development-focused partnerships with **INDUSTRY** and **UNIVERSITIES**

**8,000**  
STEM EDUCATION  
interactions through  
communities and  
businesses

### Student STEM COMPETITIONS

and camp support

**164,000**  
STUDENT  
INTERACTIONS

Today's students will be tomorrow's workforce, and the STEM Action Center has been created to develop the STEM-skilled talent that Idaho employers need.

### Our Partners



## Galileo's 21st Century Teaching Style



### TODAY'S EFFORTS. TOMORROW'S SUCCESSES.

Industry participation is essential for success, and we're here to help make that participation easier. We've created many ways for Idaho businesses to engage with STEM education. From mentoring and volunteering to donating and partnering, you can help move the economy forward by closing the gaps in Idaho's workforce. Let us help you help Idaho!

### LEARN MORE

To learn more about the STEM Action Center's strategies, success stories, and positive impacts in your community, email: [admin@stem.idaho.gov](mailto:admin@stem.idaho.gov).



802 W. Bannock St., Suite 900  
Boise, Idaho 83702  
Phone: (208) 332-1729

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