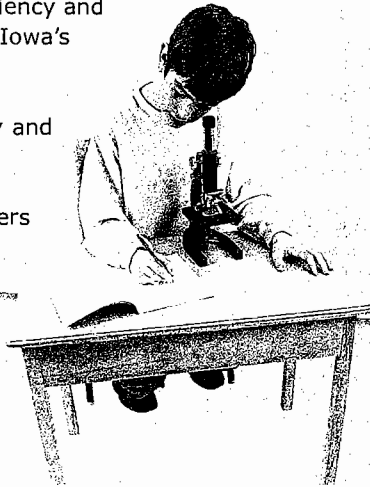




## CSI Goals

Teams have been created to push these activities forward. They meet regularly to explore ways of advancing STEM education in the Corridor and they have set the following goals:

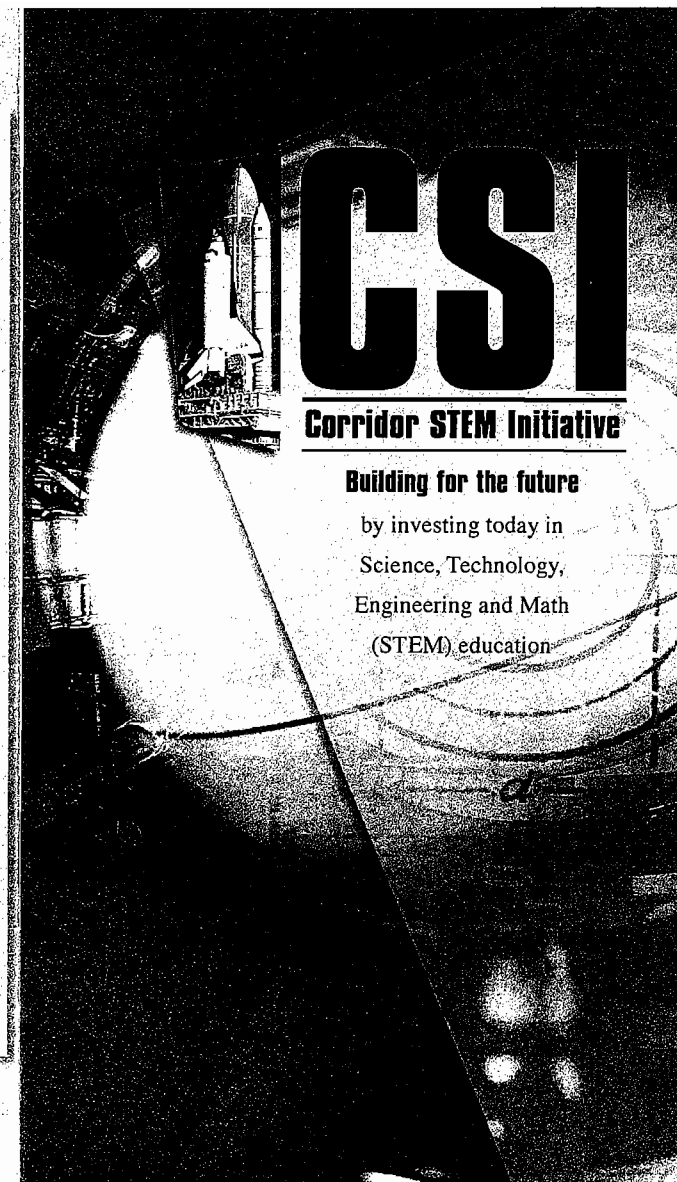
- ★ Plan initiative to increase awareness and recognition of the need for quality math, science and technology education for all learners in Iowa
- ★ Increase knowledge that the workforce must possess the math, science and technology proficiency and skills to enhance Iowa's economy
- ★ Cultivate quantity and quality of math, science and technology teachers



## CSI Participants

The following businesses and organizations have committed to participating in CSI:

- Alliant Energy
- Cedar Rapids Community School District
- Cedar Rapids Chamber of Commerce
- Cedar Rapids Metro Catholic Schools
- College Community School District
- Grant Wood Area Education Agency
- Iowa City Chamber of Commerce
- Iowa City Community School District
- Kirkwood Community College
- Linn-Mar Community School District
- Marion Independent School District
- Rockwell Collins
- The University of Iowa



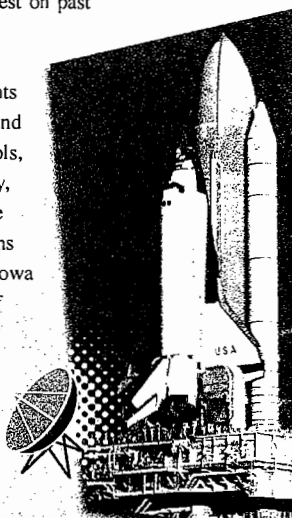


## A coalition committed to meeting the challenge of global competition

**CSI** is a new initiative aimed at engaging Iowans to help shift the culture and mindset around math, science and technology so that Iowa is recognized as the premier state in delivering this important brand of education. The group was formed from an Iowa Business Council commitment made at the 2005 Iowa Summit on Math and Science, with the purpose of meeting the increasing challenge of global competition in technology development from around the world.

From a global perspective in the 21st Century, this group of business and educational leaders realizes that Americans – and especially Iowans, who have been known for receiving quality education – can no longer rest on past achievements.

The group consists of superintendents from five Corridor school districts and Cedar Rapids Metro Catholic Schools, Grant Wood Area Education Agency, Kirkwood Community College, The University of Iowa, Rockwell Collins and Alliant Energy, along with the Iowa City and Cedar Rapids Chambers of Commerce. CSI will focus educational efforts to enhance student learning in these critically important areas.



## The group has established six areas of activity in order to meet this goal:

- Public awareness – information clearinghouse/speakers' bureau
- Student performance
- Active collaboration among schools regarding curriculum and graduation requirements
- Increase after-school, weekend, and summer math/science learning activities
- Improve quantity and quality of professional development for teachers
- Fund raising/grant procurement

## Report underscores the need to improve STEM education

An alarming report, "Rising Above the Gathering Storm," by the National Academy of Sciences, provides evidence that math and science must become a priority in our schools. The report states that America faces a serious and intensifying challenge relative to our future competitiveness and standard of living.

### Some of the findings from the report include:

- Fewer than one-third of U.S. fourth graders and eighth graders performed at or above a proficient level in mathematics.
- Only 15 percent of all U.S. undergraduates receive their degrees in natural science or engineering. In China, the figure is 50 percent, and 67 percent in Singapore.
- The United States is a net importer of high-technology products today. Its trade balance in high-tech manufactured goods shifted from plus \$54 billion in 1990 to negative \$50 billion in 2001.
- During 2004, China overtook the United States to become the leading exporter of information technology products.

By combining the strengths of area business, government, educators and parents, CSI's goal is to be a model for others in bringing achievable ideas to realization and to be a force in meeting this challenge of global competition.