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STEM Educators Invited to Collaborate and Learn at Annual STEM Conference

(BOISE) – Science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) teachers in Idaho will once again have the opportunity to attend the Annual STEM Conference, one of the region's most anticipated events for STEM instructors.

This year's conference will take place on August 1 - 2 at Coeur d'Alene High School. The theme, "Full Steam Ahead," focuses on "future-ready minds, discourse in motion and connections that ignite," and takes participants on a deep-dive into STEM education theory and practice. Registration is now open.

The first 300 educators to register for the conference will receive a free copy of a book based on the membership they choose. Idaho Council of Teachers of Mathematics (ICTM) members will receive "Math-ish" by keynote speaker Jo Boaler, Idaho Science Teaching Association (ISTA) members will receive "Helping Students Make Sense of the World" and Idaho Environmental Education Association (IdEEA) members will receive "What an Owl Knows." Participants can select more than one membership at registration to receive multiple books.

Signups also remain underway for educators who would like to register as presenters. Those accepted as presenters will get the chance to share ideas associated with this year's theme in 60-minute breakout sessions. **The deadline to apply as a presenter is June 10.**

"This annual conference underscores the importance of community and idea-sharing when it comes to effective professional development, especially in complex and often rapidly-evolving STEM disciplines," said Superintendent of Public Instruction Debbie Critchfield. "I hope our educators will see this as an opportunity to build community amongst peers while learning how best to serve Idaho's STEM learners."

The conference is sponsored by the Idaho Council of Teachers of Mathematics, the Idaho Science Teaching Association and the Idaho Environmental Education Association with support

from the Idaho Department of Education and the Idaho STEM Action Center. Local presenters will be joined by this year's keynote speakers, Boaler and Dr. Stephen Pruitt.

Registration for conference <u>attendees</u> and <u>presenters</u> is now open. Please contact Idaho Department of Education Science Coordinator Andrea Baerwald at <u>abaerwald@sde.idaho.gov</u> with any questions.

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