

# ICN Insider



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## ITTC Appoints ICN's Executive Director

On September 9, the ITTC (Iowa Telecommunications and Technology Commission) announced the appointment of Dave Lingren to serve as ICN's Executive Director.



The Commission feels strongly that Dave's background, experience, and vision will position the ICN for continued success in the years to come.

"Dave has demonstrated a real passion for the work and mission of the ICN that sets him apart from the other very qualified candidates in contention for the position. We are

confident he will continue to build relationships with lawmakers and private sector providers to ensure that the telecommunications needs of state government, K-12 education, and other customer bases are well-served," said Betsy Brandsgard, ITTC Chair.

Dave's appointment is subject to Senate confirmation when the legislature reconvenes in 2011.

## Iowa's Interactive Broadband Map

*Educators looking for an ICN high school course for their students can post or view "want ads" at [IowaLearningOnline.org](http://IowaLearningOnline.org).*

Iowa's first web-based broadband map is fully interactive and includes powerful tools in improving the technological landscape in Iowa. The way for technology, which will create new jobs, increase Iowa's economic competitiveness, and deliver services that

have been previously unavailable to rural areas of the state. Over 170 broadband providers

offered data showing that 66% of Iowans have access to broadband in their homes. Availability of the map was funded through American

project. Connect Iowa is Iowa's designated entity under the grant award. The Iowa Utilities Board and the Iowa Broadband

Deployment Governance Board are leading the initiative to increase broadband Internet access throughout rural Iowa.



Reinvestment and Recovery Act and is part of the national FCC mapping and broadband planning

The map is available at the Connect Iowa website ([www.connectiowa.org](http://www.connectiowa.org)).



**Message from  
Dave Lingren,  
ICN's Executive  
Director**

*I am humbled by the vote of confidence the Commission has extended to me to be named ICN's Executive Director. It is truly an honor and privilege to serve in the leadership role for the ICN. The employees are hardworking and dedicated, and the users we serve are at the heart of meeting the needs of the citizens of Iowa. I look forward to working closely with Iowa's private telecommunications providers in a partnered role to help serve education, government, and healthcare communities.*

## ICN Partners with Iowa Health System

This summer, Iowa Health System (IHS) received a \$17.7 million BTOP grant to upgrade and enhance the health system's existing fiber network that provides connections to over 200 healthcare facilities.

ICN's role will be to connect 27 sites to IHS's network. This will provide high-speed access to additional communities

statewide, while utilizing IHS's long-haul connection.



The connections will facilitate information sharing between community anchor institutions in Iowa, Chicago, and Denver.

ICN's partnership with IHS will allow a backbone for an Iowa Health Information Exchange to provide better healthcare throughout the state.

With the increase of bandwidth, healthcare facilities can implement Internet applications that require large amounts of bandwidth (i.e. remote radiology reads and specialty consultations by streaming video).

## ICN Begins Preliminary Work for BTOP Grant



ICN established a team to develop an extensive

implementation plan to address the phases which must be completed during the BTOP broadband project to comply with the federal grant process.

Team members have attended training webinars to learn the award conditions and understanding the multiple reporting features that are needed to ensure that ICN displays accountability and transparency. On Friday, September 3, ICN successfully submitted a

preliminary planning package for three designated areas detailing information for BTOP's Environmental Assessment (EA) due December 31, 2010. No funds can be drawn from the federal grant until this EA is completed and approved.

## Pink Ladies Raise Money for a Cause

October is the month for breast cancer awareness, and this is the 5<sup>th</sup> year for ICN's Pink Ladies to raise money for the Susan G. Komen Foundation to support the battle against breast cancer. The ladies raise money for several reasons, but their main motivation is to remember their co-worker, Paula Schultz. Last year they

were able to raise over \$6,000.

The Pink Ladies are ready to make this another successful year. Plans are being made for them to sponsor Wear Pink Wednesdays in the Grimes building, an informational table in the Grimes lobby during the noon hour, a Pink cube for ICN employees, a Pink



Pictured left to right: Jeannie Patterson, Holly Johnson, and Carrie Weigel

Carnation sale, and the popular Silent Auction on October 27.

## South Hamilton Benefits from More Bandwidth

The South Hamilton CSD in Jewell, Iowa, recently implemented Apple's 1:1 Laptop program into its 7-12 grades building. As teachers integrate more Web 2.0 tools and students access Moodle, Twitter, and other high bandwidth applications, the school district realized that their available bandwidth needed to

increase. To facilitate their needs, South Hamilton CSD increased their ICN Ethernet circuit from 10 to 20 megabits.

"We have students with 24/7 access to computers. We wanted to provide an unobstructed connection to the world," said Karl Hehr Technology / Curriculum Director. "We

are a small rural school district, but don't feel our education should be limited to a small-rural school world view," Hehr added.

The additional bandwidth capacity means websites load faster and students notice a quicker response to uploading and downloading assignments and files.

*"The ICN is the country's premier fiber-optic Network, committed to continued enhancement of distance learning and providing Iowans with convenient, equal access to education, government, and healthcare."*

## Integrate Interactive Tools for Students

Educators are incorporating alternative learning tools using social media. Using interactive media technology in lessons not only keeps content relevant, but also makes lessons more interesting and easier for students to learn and retain. Through active engagement, students are able to combine interpretation, experience

and interactions, and teachers accommodate various learning styles. Two tools that are increasingly being used in classrooms are "Prezi" and "Wordle."



Prezi, a presentation tool that encourages learning through zooming

storytelling and visuals, allows students to express themselves through audio, video and animation.



Wordle allows the creation of word clouds developed from commonly used words. These methods connect with students who benefit from a combination of teaching approaches.

## Introducing the After Hours Contact Listing

There are times when participants scheduled for a video session cannot access a building or a video site due to the facility being locked. To overcome this obstacle, an after hours contact listing was created. The list is confidential and includes contact information of individuals if

the building or video site is locked and a session is scheduled. A [sign](#) should be placed on the outside facility entrance and on the front door of the video site with the NOC's number (800-572-3940) for participants to call for assistance. ICN would like to thank Kathy Goebel, Dawn Fratzke,

and the regional schedulers who created the listing that will be greatly appreciated to ICN's staff and video participants.

To update your facility's contact listing go to ICN's [Resources for Video Schedulers](#) and look under the Reference Tools and Forms.



*“Do you have new staff, administrators or friends who might be interested in receiving this newsletter? Please pass it on and have them contact [lori.larsen@iowa.gov](mailto:lori.larsen@iowa.gov) to be placed on the distribution list.”*

*Remember to visit ICN’s website at [www.icn.state.ia.us](http://www.icn.state.ia.us) to keep updated on all ICN related news.*



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## Upcoming Video Session for Students and Educator through Iowa Public Television’s Connections

### **i have a plan.** IOWA Using the 10<sup>th</sup> Grade Guideway

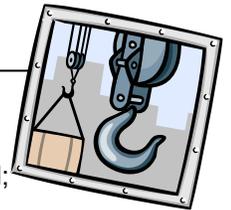
October 28, 2010; Thursday, 3:20 PM - 4:20 PM; Audience: **Teachers**

Iowa Code requires all 10<sup>th</sup> grade students to build on their previously created 8<sup>th</sup> grade plans. This workshop will demonstrate how to assist your students in completing the 10<sup>th</sup> Grade Guideway. The Guideway provides an easy step-by-step process for students to complete the required components identified by the Iowa Department of Education.

**Registration Deadline - Wednesday, October 20, 2010**

### **Gadgets and Gizmos: Simple Machines**

October 20, 2010; Wednesday, 9:00 AM - 10:00 AM; 10:15 AM – 11:15 AM;  
Audience: **Grades 3-6**



Science is fun! Levers, wedges, incline planes, wheels and axles, screws and more are yours to explore when 'Gizmo Glen' is around! In cooperation with the Bettendorf Family Museum, Glen Boyles helps students discover the principles of simple machines and how they make our work easier every day.

**Registration Deadline - Tuesday, October 12, 2010**

### **All About Owls**

October 14, 2010, Thursday, 10:00 AM - 11:30 AM; Audience: **Grades 7-12**



Students investigate the amazing owls of Iowa with a naturalist from Warren County Conservation Board. First, participants enjoy the book, Owl Moon and then the presenter invites students to compare and contrast raptors and birds. The presenter helps students learn about the eating habits of owls by dissecting owl pellets.

**Registration Deadline - Tuesday, October 19, 2010**

### **For More Information about Upcoming K-12 Connections Contact:**

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